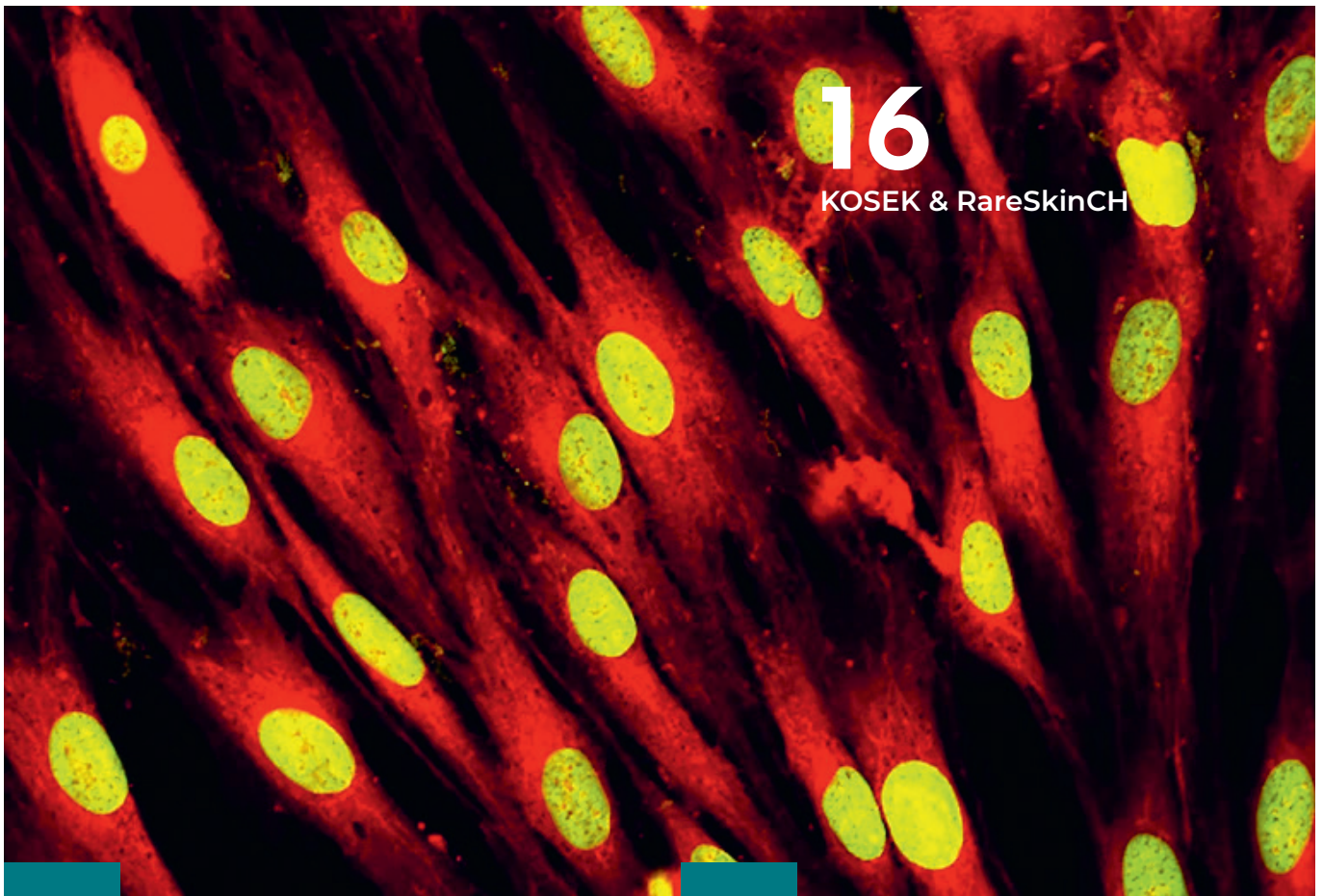


DERMATOLOGICA HELVETICA



16

KOSEK & RareSkinCH

21

DNA repair disorders:
genodermatoses prone
to cancer in childhood

51

Vorstellung des Generalsekretariats
Le secrétariat général de la SSDV
se présente



Société Suisse de Dermatologie et Vénérologie
Società Svizzera di Dermatologia e Venereologia
Swiss Society of Dermatology and Venereology
Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Dermatologie und Venerologie

REVIEW

SKINTEGRITY.CH meetings bear fruit

Maarten Schledorn. *From May 31 until June 1, 2024, the members of the SKINTEGRITY.CH consortium met for their sixth Annual Retreat. In 25 talks of exceptionally high quality, the 84 participants were presented with the state of the art of skin research in Switzerland.*

Greater than the sum of its parts

Shreds of clouds in the Nidwalden mountains of Emmetten and a recurring fog over the Vierwaldstättersee provided the decor of this year's meeting, but the science was crystal clear, thanks to the excellent presentations by the SKINTEGRITY.CH researchers. The main event started on a Friday at noon and finished at noon on the following day. As a result, the 25 presentations of the meeting took place within 24 hours, which included several coffee breaks, dinner and an overnight stay. But «it is exactly those breaks in between the presentations, that are essential for discussion and the forging

of collaborative research plans», says Sibilla Sander, PhD student in mass spectrometry-based proteomics at the University of Fribourg. Dr. Aline Bauer, one of the researchers who presented their findings in Emmetten, adds:

«The vibrant program is like a highly concentrated injection of constructive exchange and scientific inspiration.»

The presented data predominantly result from research projects that would not have been possible without the interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaborations that the consortium promotes. Twelve universities and hospitals across Switzerland are represented in the consortium that includes almost fifty professors and their teams. «With the interdisciplinary collaborations of SKINTEGRITY.CH, my group can now do projects I had never dreamed of some years ago,» says Prof. Sabine Werner, co-director of the initiative.

Fruitful exchange

Over a hundred publications have emerged from the consortium's collaborative efforts, and the numbers of PhD and MD dissertations as well as intellectual property patents that have their roots in SKINTEGRITY.CH collaborations also keep rising. For such successful joint research, mutual inspiration and exchange are key ingredients. Owing to the open and familiar atmosphere at the annual meetings, both of those were plentiful in the discussions in plenum as well as in the conversations in smaller groups.

These respectfully critical, yet constructive and supportive discussions have already started to bear fruit: several of the researchers mentioned in their presentations that they showed results from collaborations initiated at SKINTEGRITY.CH Annual Retreats of previous years. It will be exciting to see in the upcoming years, which collaborative projects commenced this time in Emmetten.



Group picture of members of the SKINTEGRITY.CH consortium at their Annual Retreat.