PSC-Syngenta: the collaboration

In March 2003, the ETH Zürich, the University of Zürich, the University Basel and Syngenta have signed an agreement for a long-term research collaboration. The research projects are allocated through annual announcements. An Advisory Committee which consists of representatives of the three universities as well as Syngenta, was created for the selection of the projects. A total of 16 PhD and 6 Post doc projects were funded so far.

Agenda

Welcome 9:00-9:30
Dr. Alain Gaume, Syngenta
Prof. Sam Zeeman, President PSC

Presentation of Fellows

Roman Kellenberger, UZH 9:30-9:50
Does heritable epigenetic variation contribute to the interplay between herbivory, floral phenotype, and pollinator interaction in Brassica rapa?

Bruno Müller, UZH 9:50-10:10
The role of purine permeases in controlling the cytokinin signaling domains

Anja Hermann, UZH 10:10-10:30
Epigenetic contributions to hybrid vigor in apomictic offspring

Coffee break

Dr. E. McCallum, ETHZ 11:00-11:20
Novel chimeric receptors inducing programmed cell death for resistance against the plant pathogenic Xanthomonas genera in model and tropical crop species

Dr. Khalid Amari, Uni Basel 11:20-11:40
Temporal analysis of the regulatory activities of small RNAs during the cell-to-cell spread of tobamovirus infection

David Seung, ETHZ 11:40-12:00
Functional characterization of newly identified starch granule-associated proteins

Lunch

Workshop: Emerging trends in (plant) biotechnology

Keynote Speak: Dr. Eric Ward, AgBiome 13:00-13:30

Dr. Hannes Vogler, UZH 13:30-13:45
Determining biophysical forces in living cells

Prof. Buno Studer, ETHZ 13:45-14:00
Towards understanding the structure and function of (forage) crop genomes

Dr. Etienne Bucher, Uni Basel 14:00-14:15
Transforming agriculture through the epigenome

Dr. Geert Plaetink, Sr. Director of Research Devgen, Syngenta 14:15-14:30
RNAI solutions in support to agriculture

Dr. Alain de Mesmaeker, Principal Chemistry Expert Syngenta 14:30-14:45
Phytohormones: an new start for old challenges!

Coffee break

Small group discussions, all participants 15:00-15:45
Chances and risks of new technologies, including policy and stakeholder assessments

Panel discussion (Moderation, Eric Ward) 15:45-16:15
Apero