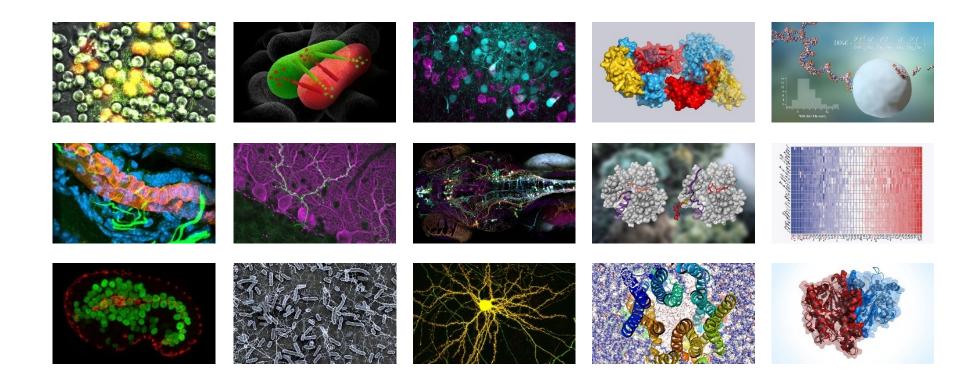
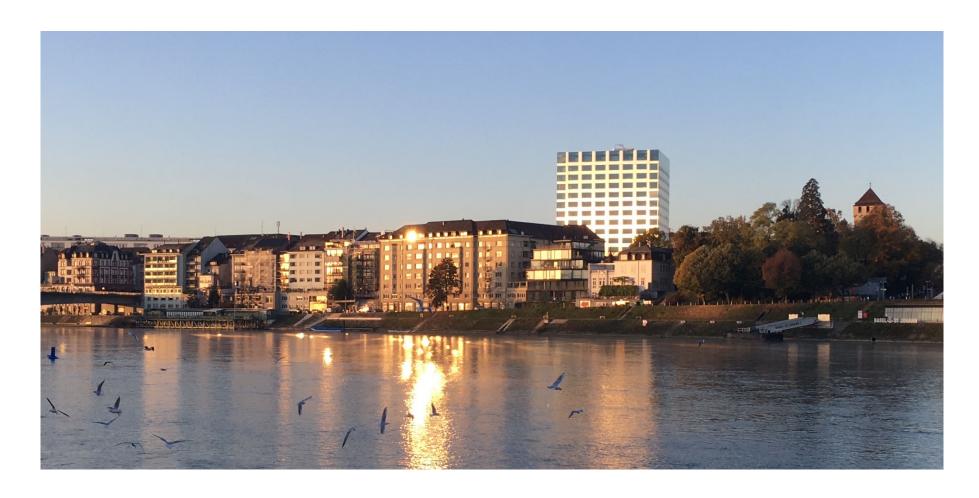
# **MASTER IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY**



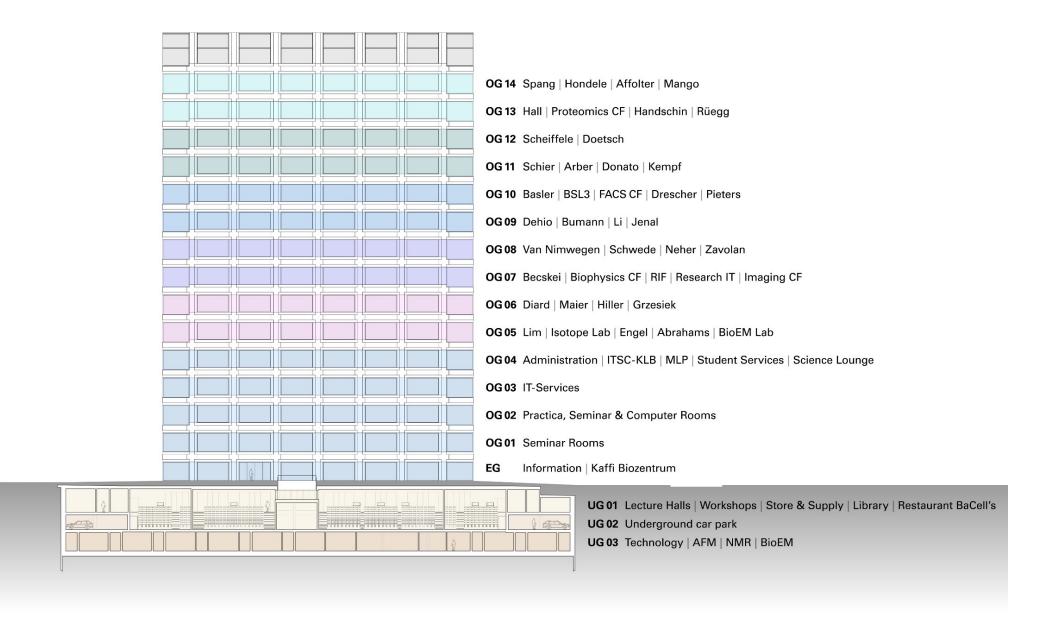
Information event – University of Basel – 20 March 2025









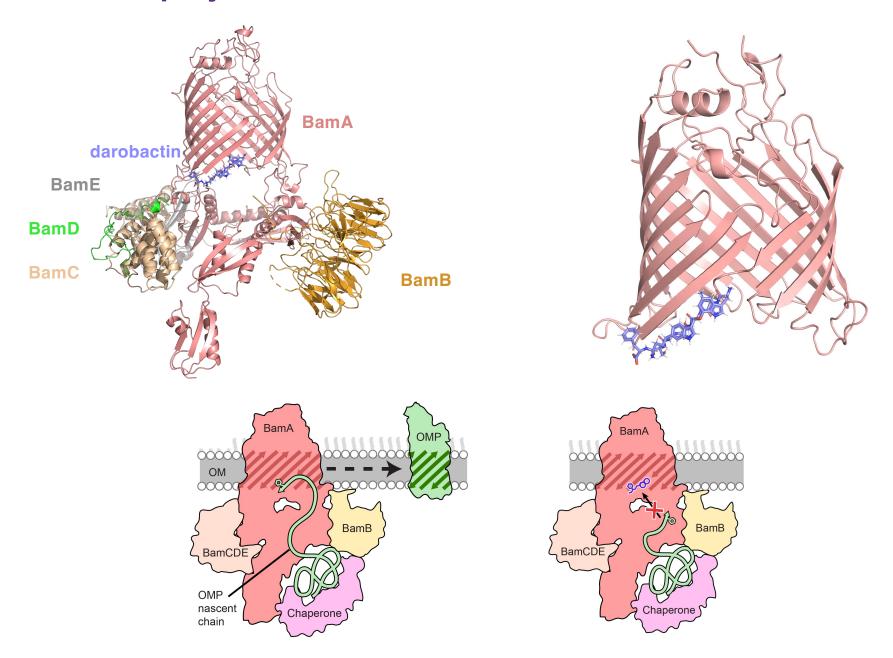








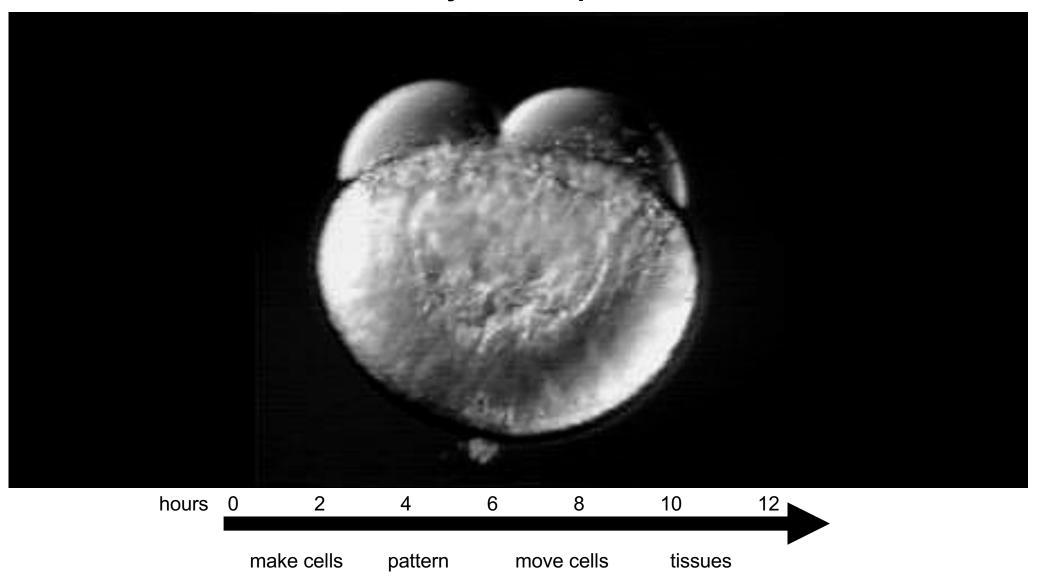
## Research projects: The antibiotic darobactin



### Structure, function and dynamics of Type VI secretion systems

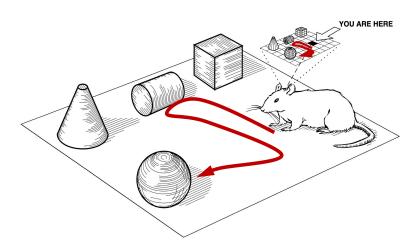
T6SS dynamics in *V. cholerae*, *E. coli* killing, prey sensing by *P. aeruginosa* **Cryo-electron tomography of T6SS** Fast contraction of the sheath powers the secretion HONOR OF THOSE OF Structure of the sheath solved by cryo-EM Structure/function Screens - mechanisms of target cell killing

## **Embryo development**

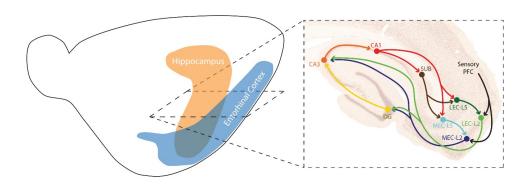


### A sense of space in the brain: the cognitive map

Rats can find shortcuts through mazes

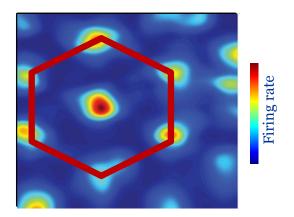


The hippocampus as a cognitive map

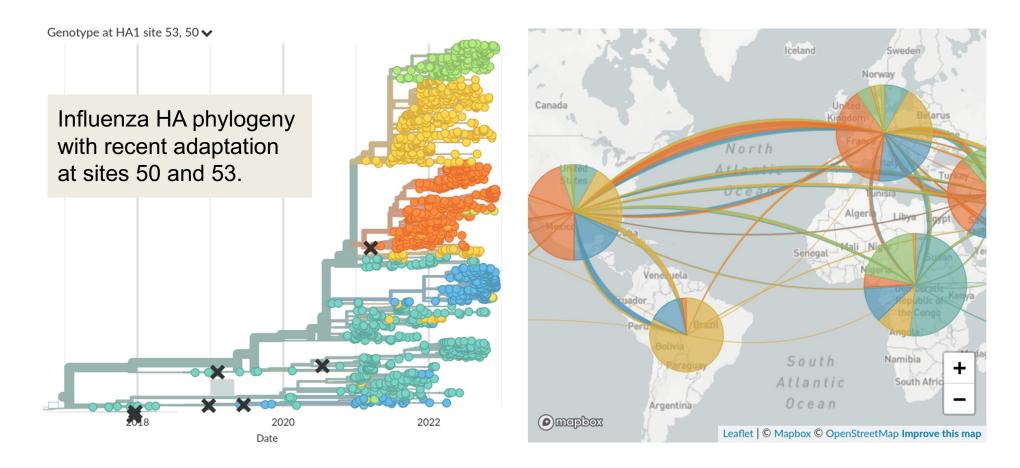


The neural correlates of the cognitive map: the Grid Cell





### Computational analysis of virus evolution and spread



- Develop methods to analyze and visualize evolution of pathogens
- Predictions of what strains will dominate the future to optimize vaccines
- Respiratory viruses are model system of host-pathogen co-evolution

## Master of Science in Molecular Biology: Key Features

 Spend 3 semesters / 1.5 years in one of the labs at Biozentrum on a research project

Course structure and ECTS

Master thesis50

Master examination10

in-depth professional studies

total: 90 credit points

- Start of program
  - anytime possible upon mutual agreement with supervisor
- Language
  - English

#### Research at the Biozentrum: Main Research Areas

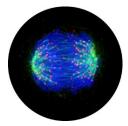
We investigate how molecules and cells create life – from atom to organism



Computational and Theoretical Biology



Microbiology, Infection Biology and Immunology



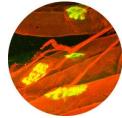
Developmental, Regenerative and Stem Cell Biology



Molecular and Cellular Biology



**Evolution and Ecology** 



Molecular Medicine, Physiology, Metabolism and Aging

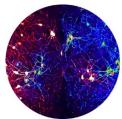


**Genetics and Genomics** 



**Multicellular Dynamics** 

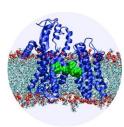
#### Research: Main Research Areas



**Neuroscience** 



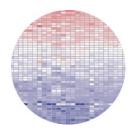
**Physics of Life** 



Signaling and Gene Regulation



Structural Biology, Biochemistry and Biophysics



**Systems and Synthetic Biology** 

## Master of Science in Molecular Biology: Research Groups

### Research groups at the Biozentrum: 34 research groups



Jan Pieter Abrahams



Markus Affolter



Silvia Arber



Marek Basler



Attila Becskei



David Brückner



Dirk Bumann



Christoph Dehio



Médéric Diard



Fiona Doetsch



Flavio Donato



Knut Drescher



Ben Engel



Stephan Grzesiek



Michael N. Hall



Christoph Handschin



Sebastian Hiller



Maria Hondele



Urs Jenal



Claudia Keller Valsecchi



Anissa Kempf



Yuping Li



Roderick Lim



Timm Maier



Susan Mango



Richard Neher



Jean Pieters



Markus Rüegg



Peter Scheiffele



Alex Schier



Torsten Schwede



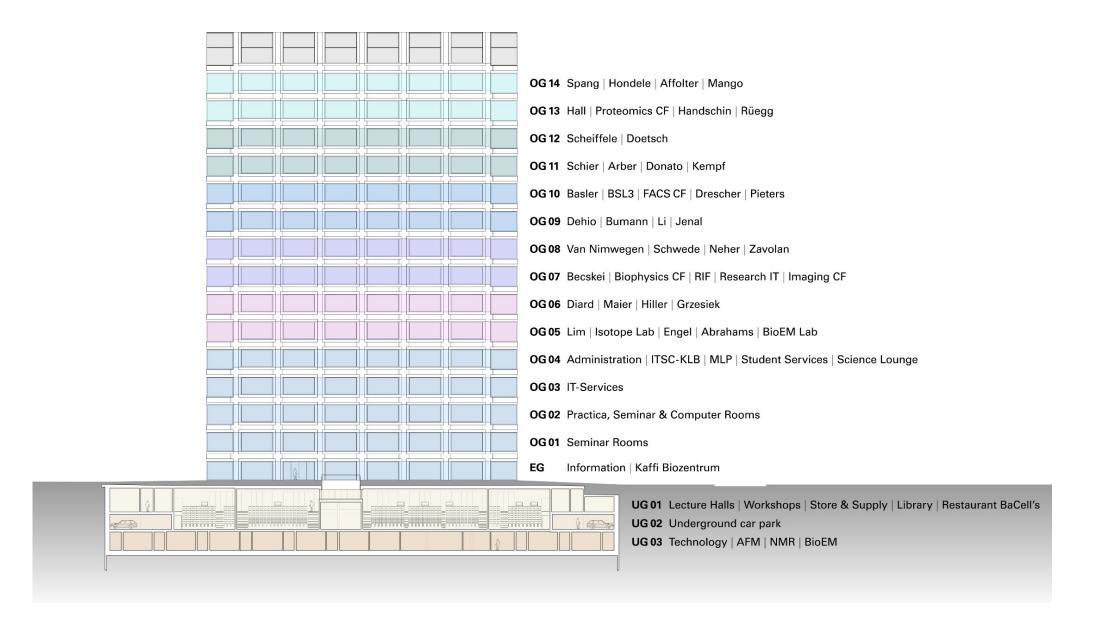
Anne Spang



Erik van Nimwegen

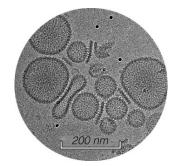


Mihaela Zavolan



### **Biozentrum Technology Platforms**

Support of the research with state-of-the art technology and expertise



BioEM Lab
Investigation of structures using electron
microscopy



Biophysics Facility
Measurement of interactions, stability
and size of molecules

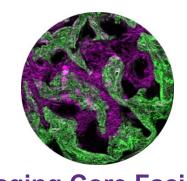


BSL-3 Laboratory
Biosafety lab to study highly contagious bacteria and viruses



**FACS Core Facility**Flow cytometry and cell sorting

### **Biozentrum Technology Platforms**



Imaging Core Facility
Light microscopy and imaging analysis



Proteomics Core Facility
Analysis of proteins using mass
spectrometry



Research IT
Bridging Research and IT



Research Instrumentation Facility
Catalyzing instrument development

### **Associated University Facilities**



Genomics Facility Basel
Sequencing techniques in genomics and
epigenomics



Life Sciences Training Facility
Deep-sequencing and microarray
technologies



High-performance computing and data management

### **Technology Ventures**



### **NXI Therapeutics** (2021)

Development of a new generation of immunosuppressive drugs for autoimmune diseases and organ transplantation.



### **SEAL Therapeutics AG** (2021)

Development of an innovative gene therapy for the treatment of congenital muscular dystrophy.



### **Aukera Therapeutics GmbH** (2021)

Development of therapies for mTOR-related tumors.



### T3 Pharmaceuticals AG (2015)

Simple and fast method for the targeted delivery of therapeutic proteins into cells. Development of the technology for its use in cancer treatment.

## **Technology Ventures**



### **ARTIDIS AG** (2014)

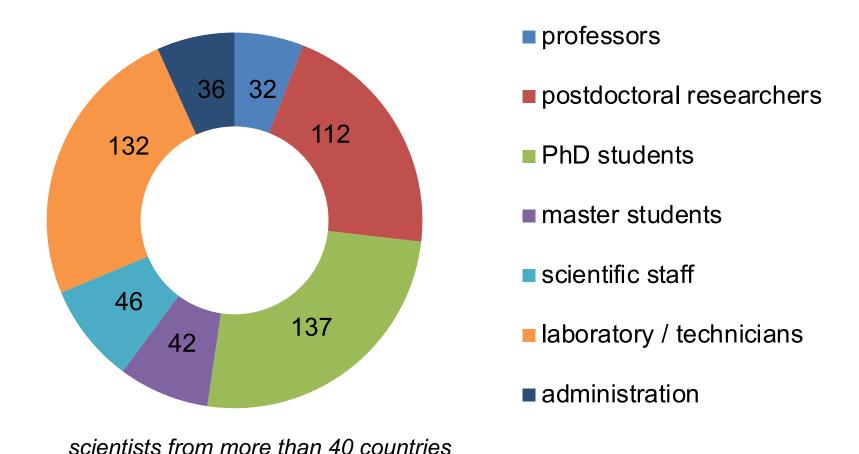
Novel nanotechnology for tissue diagnostics, cancer diagnostics and prognosis.



### **Santhera Pharmaceuticals AG** (2000)

Development and commercialization of drugs for the treatment of rare diseases.

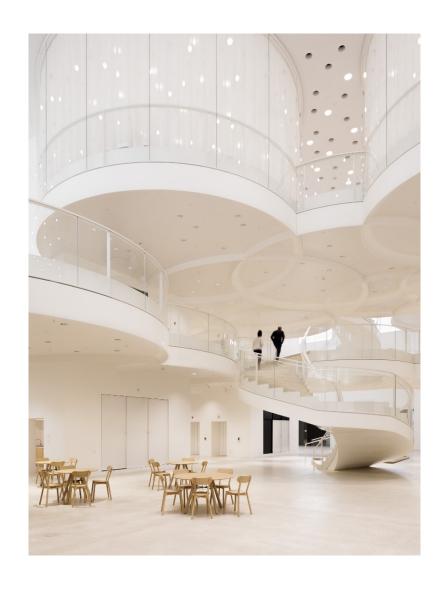
#### Members of Staff 2023: 537



Largest department in the Faculty of Science at the University of Basel

#### The Biozentrum – The Center for Molecular Life Sciences

- A new future-oriented home state-of-the-art infrastructure for groundbreaking research.
- One of the world's leading institutes in molecular biology.
- Consistently publishing over 200 high-impact scientific articles annually in leading journals.
- Strong focus on:
  - A research-driven and discovery-oriented approach.
  - Personalized mentorship for students.
- A key collaborator for academia and industry, driving innovation through patents and spinoffs.



### Master of Science in Molecular Biology: Admission

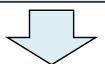
#### **BSc in Biology**

**Duration**: 3 years

#### **Choice of majors:**

- Molecular Biology \*
- Animal and Plant Sciences
- Integrative Biology

\* access to Master's degree program Molecular Biology



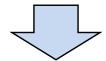
#### **BSc in Computational Sciences**

**Duration:** 3 years

#### **Choice of majors:**

- Computational Biology \*
- Computational Chemistry
- Computational Mathematics
- Computational Methods
- Computational Physics

<sup>\*</sup> access to Master's degree program Molecular Biology



#### MSc in Molecular Biology

**Duration:** 1.5 years

The Master program focuses on introducing students in cutting-edge research:

- → hands-on laboratory work for their Master thesis
- → advanced courses in molecular biology.

### Master of Science in Molecular Biology: Admission

#### Students of the University of Basel

- degrees which allow for direct admission:
  - BSc in Biology, Major in Molecular Biology
  - BSc in Computational Sciences, Major in Computational Biology
- → no official application needed
- → students will be informed by the Student Office Biology

#### Students of other Swiss and international Universities

- degrees approved by the Faculty of Science and the Biology Teaching Committee
  - additional requirements of up to 60 credit points possible
- application deadlines
  - 30 April for fall semester
  - 30 November for spring semester
- → application: <a href="www.unibas.ch/anmeldung">www.unibas.ch/anmeldung</a>
- → binding information: <u>www.unibas.ch/zulassung</u>

## Master of Science in Molecular Biology: Credit Point Details

#### A total of 30 CP is required, consisting of:

- 18 CP from courses of the Master program Molecular Biology
  - specialization in the selected core area
  - Biozentrum Graduate Teaching Program
  - in consultation with the supervisor of the thesis
- 12 CP chosen freely
  - any course offered at University Basel
  - work outside regular courses
    - o poster or presentation in a meeting
    - literature study
    - o participation in the University's self-administration
    - tutoring activities

### Master of Science in Molecular Biology: Research Groups

Department of Biomedicine (DBM): 70 research groups

#### Research areas:

- Immunology and Infectious Diseases
- Neurosciences
- Cancer Biology
- Tissue Development and Regeneration
- Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research (FMI): 21 research groups

#### Research areas:

- Genome Regulation
- Multicellular Systems
- Neurobiology

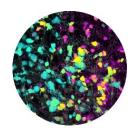
## **Biozentrum Graduate Teaching Program**



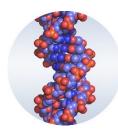
**Cycle A: Infection Biology** 



**Cycle E: Computational and Systems Biology** 



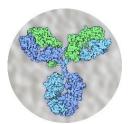
**Cycle B: Neuroscience** 



**Cycle G: Gene Expression** and **Epigenetics** 



Cycle C: Growth and Development



Cycle H: Molecular Medicine



Cycle D: Structure and Function of Macromolecules



**Cycle I: Practical and Experimental Skills** 

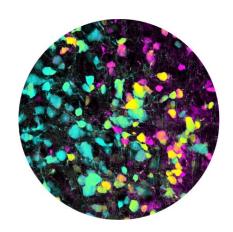
## **Biozentrum Graduate Teaching Program: Examples**

#### **Cycle B: Neuroscience**

- B1: Developmental Neuroscience
- B2: Signaling in the Nervous System
- B3: Genes and Behavior
- B4: Neurological Diseases
- B5: Neurex
- B6: Circuit Dissection of Behaviors

#### **Cycle D: Structure and Function of Macromolecules**

- D1: Molecular and Cellular Structural Biology I
- D2: Biophysics of Molecules and Cells I
- D3: Molecular and Cellular Structural Biology II
- D4: Molecular and Cellular Structural Biology III
- D5: Biophysics of Molecules and Cells
- D6: Structural Biology and Biophysics I
- D7: Structural Biology and Biophysics II





#### **Feedback from Students**



Artan Ademi

Masters in Prof. Anne Spang's group

Specialisation: Cell and Developmental Biology

"The correct distribution of proteins and mRNA molecules is vital to a cell's survival. We are aiming to understand the mechanisms determining their localization, as this will provide important information for developmental and stem cell biology.

A PhD student had previously already investigated how they are arranged during cell division prior to daughter cell cleavage. I am now continuing this project and study the behavior of certain genes in yeast cells, which he had not yet looked at."

#### **Feedback from Students**



Fabienne Estermann

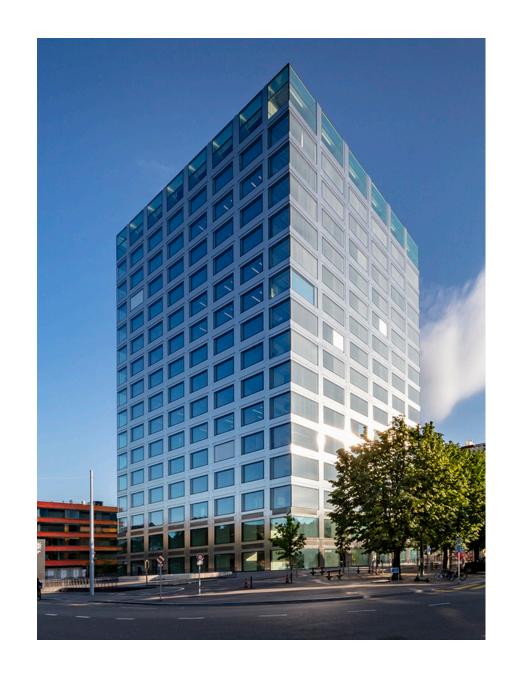
Masters in Prof. Urs Jenal's group

Specialisation: Infection Biology

"I am working with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, a hospital germ that is spreading rapidly due to its resistance to antibiotics and is classified by the WHO as one of the three "priority 1" pathogens for which new antibiotics are urgently needed.

I am investigating how Pseudomonas behaves on surfaces and how it colonizes different areas, i.e. whether it lands and then leaves again, or whether it stays and how it makes this decision." Join us to boldly go where no one has gone before

- Specific information:
  - http://bio.unibas.ch
  - www.biozentrum.unibas.ch



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