ZNZ PhD Retreat 26, Clinic Valens
04 - 06 June 2026

Program (Version 1 June 2026; Stay in Bad Ragaz)

Thursday, 04 June

14:00 – 16:00	Check-in at Hotel Schloss Ragaz
16:10 – 16:30	Extra Bus from Bad Ragaz, Tamina Therme, to Clinic Valens
16:45 – 17:00	Introduction
17:00 – 19:00	**Short Talks on PhD Research Projects, Part I,** break/drinks at 17:45, 6 talks
19:00 – 19:45	**Serendipity and Deciphering of Nature´s Hidden Therapeutic Principles** Plenary Talk by Dr. Karsten Henco, Biotech Founder
20:00	Dinner (Restaurant Zanai)
22.02	Last public Bus 451 from Clinic Valens to Tamina Therme / Hotel Schloss Ragaz

Friday, 05 June

08:37 – 08:57	Public Bus 451 from Bad Ragaz, Post*, to Clinic Valens
09:15 – 12:00	**Short Talks on PhD Research Projects, Part II,** coffee break at 10:15, 9 talks
12:00 – 13:00	**Patient Presentations** by Dr. Roman Gonzenbach, Clinic Valens
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch (Restaurant Zanai)
14:15 – 15:00	**Guided Tour through the Neurorehabilitation Clinic**
15:00 – 17:00	**Poster Session**, coffee at 16:00, 36 posters (in front of Wilhelm Zinn Saal)
17:00 – 17:45	**Technology-Assisted Neurorehabilitation: From Clinic to Home to Maximise Therapy Dose** Plenary Talk by Prof. Olivier Lambercy, Inst. of Robotics and Intelligent Systems, ETH Zurich
18:02 – 18:19	Public Bus 451 from Clinic Valens to Bad Ragaz, Dorfbad*
19:15	Extra Bus leaving from Bad Ragaz, Tamina Therme, to Lurgass Torkel, Maienfeld

Saturday, 06 June

	Checkout at Hotel Schloss Ragaz after breakfast
08:37 – 08:57	Public Bus 451 from Bad Ragaz, Post*, to Clinic Valens
09:15 – 12:00	**Short Talks on PhD Research Projects, Part III,** coffee at 10:15, 9 talks
12:00 – 12:30	**Feedback on the ZNZ PhD Program in Neuroscience**
13:02	Public bus 451 to Bad Ragaz, Bahnhof

* Bus stop “Bad Ragaz, Post (or Dorfbad)”, is about 15 walking minutes away from Hotel Schloss Ragaz

Short Talks on Ph.D. Research Projects:
(10 minutes talk and five minutes discussion)

Part I, Thursday, 17:00 – 19:00

1. Jules Lubetzki, Brain Research Institute, UZH

How does novelty affect CA1 neuronal encoding and replay during episodic memory formation?

2. Raphael Angerbauer, Brain Research Institute, UZH

Cellular and network mechanisms of sharp-wave ripple generation in the CA1 hippocampal circuit

3. Iryna Ivanova, Institute for Neuroscience, ETH

Investigating germline effects of paternal environmental exposure on offspring phenotype

4. ---

5. Hala Rasras, Brain Research Institute, UZH

IpRGC-mediated luminance signaling in early cross-modal cortical development

6. Moritz Heinemann, Brain Research Institute, UZH

Multisensory salience processing in brain circuits of healthy mice and ASD mouse models

Part II, Friday, 9:15 – 12:00

7. Romeo Benedetta, Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, UZH

A cell-specific chemogenetic approach to investigate stress in glial–neuronal networks

8. May Ly Leclair, Brain Research Institute, UZH

Neural mechanisms of multisensory memory consolidation in mice neocortex

9. Jana Vaterlaus, Brain Research Institute, UZH

Role of astrocytes during hippocampal sharp-wave ripples

10. Mai Akahoshi, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

The effect of contingent social interaction and juvenile-directed song in zebra finch vocal learning

11. Luca Naudszus, D-GESS, ETH

Representations in melody learning

12. Jeroen Teurlings, Department of Neurosurgery, USZ

Intraoperative high-frequency oscillation recordings with electrocorticography during epilepsy surgery to improve resection

13. Veronika Gambin, Institute of Forensic Medicine, UZH

Validating a novel driving simulation-based MWT against the standard MWT in an OSA-cohort challenged by CPAP-withdrawal

14. Aline Brunner, Brain Body Regulation Lab, ETH

Investigating neural mechanisms underlying sleep-dependent memory consolidation with EEG and temporal interference stimulation

15. Alice Gilmet, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy (KJPP), UZH

The development of multisensory integration and learning in children with and without Autism Spectrum Disorder

Part III, Saturday, 9:15 – 12:00

16. Angela Ng, Social Brain Sciences Lab, D-GESS, ETH

Music and the relief of stress

17. Tobias Fernandez Borkel, Centre for MR Research, University Children's Hospital Zurich

Characterizing the neural basis of long-term cognitive development of children with open spina bifida

18. Elisa Vasta, Department of Neurosurgery, USZ

Sonified neurological EEG events monitoring

19. Yassine Taoudi-Benchekroun, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Towards compositional neural architectures

20. Niclas Pokel, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Compositionality in artificial neural networks (not official yet)

21. Raimon Bullich Vilarrubias, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Adaptation, integration of information, and flexible behaviour in animals and machines

22. Erblina Purelku, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Neural mechanisms of perception and learning in uncertainty

23. Youssef Doulfoukar, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Inference and learning in neural circuits

24. Venkata Bharghav Kota, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

3D vision for safe mobile manipulation

Posters, Friday, 15:00 – 17:00

Even poster numbers: presenters are at their poster 15:00-16:00

Odd poster numbers: presenters are at poster 16:00 – 17:00

Format: A0 Portrait, i.e. height x width: 1189 x 841 mm. Pins/tape will be available.

P01 Yinan Jin, Brain Research Institute, UZH

Mapping the monosynaptic outputs of adult-born dentate gyrus granule cells in mouse hippocampus

P02 Shuhui Xie, Dept. of Molecular Life Sciences, UZH

Elucidating synaptic function using 2D and 3D models of human autism-spectrum disorder

P03 Hunor Sebök, Brain Research Institute, UZH

Rewiring subcortical circuits in the adult brain through molecular reprogramming

P04 Selina Frei, Institute for Neuroscience, ETH

Characterization and intercorrelation of DNA modifications in hippocampi of chronically stressed mice

P05 Anjana Madhavan, Institute for Neuroscience, ETH

Behavioural and molecular determinants of inter-individual variability in stress outcomes

P06 Thomas Negrello, Brain Research Institute, UZH

How paternal life experiences shape the next generation: An RNA-to-chromatin axis

P07 Alessandra Iocchi, Department of Neurosurgery, USZ

Neural activity drives pericyte maturation and heterogeneity in the postnatal cortex

P08 Ekin Kaya, Institute of Molecular Health Sciences, ETH

Calcium appetite during lactation

P09 Celine Heeb, Institute of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology, UZH

Bridging genetic risk factors with the synaptic hypothesis of Schizophrenia through mechanistic studies in mice

P10 Alexandra California, Department of Neurology, USZ

In vivo microdialysis in Parkinson's Disease mice: Exploring α-synuclein proteostasis sleep-mediated regulation using mCLAS

P11 Yuanzhao Liu, Brain Research Institute, UZH

Subcellular signal integration in individual astrocytes

P12 Yuhang Wang, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Vocal learning in songbird groups

P13 Anna Kiepura, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Natural language processing for scientific documents

P14 Chiara Laneve, University Children's Hospital

Sleep on the spectrum: The impact of sleep on the neurodevelopment of pre-schoolers with Autism Spectrum Disorder

P15 ---

P16 Ibon Vales, Brain Body Regulation Lab, ETH

Modulation of Locus Coeruleus-noradrenergic dynamics and sleep-dependent cognitive processes

P17 Flaminia Pallotti, Brain Body Regulation Lab, ETH

Unveiling the mechanisms and the clinical potential of arousal self-regulation through pupil-based biofeedback

P18 Theresa Dischner, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, PUK

Longitudinal brain and language development in children: Disentangling neural, genetic, and environmental contributions to language trajectories and multisensory learning

P19 Hanna Schneider, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, PUK

Brain Stimulation of the reading network: Investigating letter-speech sound learning with fMRI and tDCS

P20 Anna Morf, University Children's Hospital

Neurodevelopmental outcomes in children with congenital heart disease: From early brain markers to cognitive function and intervention

P21 Eve Schumacher, Institute of Psychology, UZH

Investigating neural mechanisms underlying sleep-dependent memory consolidation with EEG and temporal interference stimulation

P22 Sarvagy Gupta, Spinal Cord Injury Center, UZH

Computational data analysis of spinal cord injury

P23 Anna Leonhartsberger, D-HEST, ETH

Alterations of pain-autonomic interactions after spinal cord injury

P24 Justus Grabowsky, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

The neural dynamics of binding and bundling in speech

P25 Ahmet Akman, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Binding problem: how language is transformed in brain?

P26 Noémie Hehl, Psychiatric University Hospital

A multi-method investigation of autism heterogeneity and its impact on clinical outcome

P27 Sebastian Hachenberg, Institute of Psychology, UZH

Blood-brain barrier integrity as a mediator of stress resilience: a longitudinal multimodal study with metformin modulation

P28 Sarina Künzle, Psychiatric University Hospital

Cognitive and neuronal changes across substance use disorder

P29 Martina Noe, University Children's Hospital

Macroscale connectomic signatures and environmental factors associated with autistic traits in the developing human brain and mouse brain

P30 Medea Häuselmann, Center of MR Research, University Children's Hospital

Neurodevelopment in children with complex congenital heart disease: Functional neural correlates and effects of cognitive training

P31 Marwen Mokni, SMS Laboratory, ETH

R4TeleRehab: Development of an open-source, user-centered immersive XR platform for asynchronous upper limb therapy to improve stroke patient motivation and adherence

P32 Lhea Beumer, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Adaptive learning with replay

P33 Michele Viscione, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Learning as Storage and Compression: How and when generalization occurs in Deep Neural Networks

P34 Joonsu Gha, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Adaptive world models in brains and machines

P35 Maria Isabel Pérez Ribera, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

Agitation prediction in dementia patients

P36 Tristan Torchet, Institute for Neuroinformatics, UZH/ETH

A multi-method investigation of autism heterogeneity and its impact on clinical outcome