

The Galenus Technology Prize 2017 for innovative approaches to Nano Drug Delivery

For only the second time in the 12-year history of the Galenus Technology Prize, the award has been given to two different researchers, Dr Gregor Fuhrmann and Jun. Prof. Dr Peter Wich. Following the recommendations of Prof. Dr Bernhard Lippold, the foundation's scientific adviser, the board saw fit to honour both of their outstanding submissions.

Dr Fuhrmann is head of the 'Biogenic Nano-Therapeutics' (BION) junior research group at the Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland (HIPS), where his research focuses on extracellular vesicles as potential carriers in drug delivery systems. This is an area which has attracted considerable interest from the scientific community as this form of intercellular communication can not only be used to deliver drug, but also direct them in a highly targeted manner.

Dr Peter Wich is the principal investigator at the WichLab of the Institute of Pharmacy and Biochemistry at the University of Mainz. Coming from a background in organic chemistry, his work capitalises on his knowledge in this area to complement his research interests in pharmaceutical technology. The award was given for the modification of the surfaces of biopolymer-based-nanomaterials, e.g. proteins, for use in drug delivery.

The prize-giving ceremony will be held on November 8th, 2017, at the Natural History Museum in Vienna.

The Galenus Foundation wishes to congratulate both winners and looks forward to further ground-breaking work from these talented young researchers.