

IZBrunch

Science meets Science

NETWORKING EVENT AT THE IZB

ORGANOIDS: FROM SCIENTIFIC PROMISE TO CLINICAL IMPACT

Friday, December 4, 2026 | 10.45 a.m. to 01.00 p.m.



Topic: Engineering Biology: From Variability to Predictability

Standardized and Scalable Organoids for Data-Driven Discovery and Applications. Organoids hold great promise for biomedical applications, yet limited reproducibility, scalability, and predictive reliability remain major barriers to their widespread use. Overcoming these challenges requires a concerted effort to develop new engineering technologies that enable controlled, standardized, and scalable organoid production. In this talk, I will present our approaches toward this goal, paving the way for reliable applications and the generation of high-quality, systematic datasets.

Speaker

Prof. Andreas Bausch, *Heinz Nixdorf Chair in Biophysical Engineering of Living Matter, TUM School of Natural Sciences*



Topic: Organoids – From Models to Drug Development

Organoid technology is rapidly reshaping the landscape of preclinical drug development by providing patient-relevant models that capture the complexity of human disease. In this presentation, we'll recapitulate the journey from the initial discovery of adult epithelial stem cell markers to the popular disease model that organoids have become by now. Real-world examples will illustrate the translational power of organoids in bridging the gap between laboratory research and clinical application, accelerating the journey from bench to bedside.

Speaker

Robert Vries, *CEO, HUB Organoids*

Location:
Faculty Club G2B on the 7th floor of the IZB Residence, Campus at Home
Innovation and Start-up Center Biotechnology IZB
Am Klopferspitz 21
82152 Planegg/Martinsried

Registration:
10.45 a.m. at the reception of the CAMPUS AT HOME

Start of the event:
11.00 a.m.

Format:
Face2Face event with keynote presentations followed by business lunch.

Participants:
The event is limited to 60 people.

For Whom.
Faculty Club members, directors and junior group leaders of Max Planck Institutes, LMU professors, managing directors and board members of IZB companies, and executives of the Martinsried/Großhadern campus.

Declaration of consent:
By participating in the IZBrunch, you agree that pictures and videos taken during the event may be used for promotional purposes, on the homepage and in the context of press relations.

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IZB
Innovations- und Gründerzentrum Biotechnologie

Speaker Bios →



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Speaker Bios



Speaker

Prof. Andreas Bausch, *Heinz Nixdorf Chair in Biophysical Engineering of Living Matter, TUM School of Natural Sciences*

Prof. Andreas Bausch is the Founding Director of the Center for Organoid Systems (COS) and the Center for Functional Protein Assemblies (CPA) at the Technical University of Munich (TUM). He initiated and co-directs the Excellence Cluster BioSysteM and serves as Director of the Venture Lab BioSysteM. In 2025, he was awarded the endowed Heinz Nixdorf Professorship in Biophysical Engineering of Living Matter. Following his physics training at TUM and the Université de Montréal, he conducted postdoctoral research at Harvard University before becoming Professor of Cellular Biophysics at TUM in 2008. Internationally recognized for pioneering contributions to the physics of living systems, his research has advanced our fundamental understanding of cytoskeletal mechanics, cellular self-organization, and organoid morphogenesis. Combining quantitative physics with innovative bioengineering technologies, his work establishes new principles for controlling and engineering living matter, bridging fundamental discoveries with scalable biomedical applications.



Speaker

Robert Vries, *CEO, HUB Organoids*

Robert received his PhD in Biochemistry from the Leiden University Medical Center on a molecular study of oncogenic transformation. He continued his scientific career as a Postdoc at Stanford University (USA). Upon his return to the Netherlands, he joined the group of Hans Clevers at the Hubrecht Institute studying adult stem cells. Robert was part of the team that developed the ground-breaking technology that allowed the expansion of adult stem cells in vitro for the development of patient-derived organoids. Expanding and commercializing the newly developed Organoid Technology to improve patients´ treatment outcome became the mission of HUB Organoids B.V. (HUB) of which he is currently the CEO. He successfully led the organization through its acquisition by Merck KGaA, Darmstadt Germany, marking an important milestone in the company's growth and development.

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