

Nanon Technologies Announces the Winners of the SURFE²R Grant Award – a Platform for Membrane Transporter Research and Screening

Munich, Germany, October 31st 2019: Nanion today announced not one, but two winners of the SURFE²R N1 grant award. Dr. Camilo Perez and Dr. Dimitrios Fotiadis convinced the grant committee with their proposed research projects on nanobodies inhibiting membrane transporters and the deorphanization and investigation of a group of transporters involved in antibiotic transport, respectively.

Transporter proteins are gaining increasing interest in academic science and as therapeutic targets. Nanion's two platforms, SURFE²R N1 and SURFE²E 96SE facilitate functional assays of electrogenic transport to elucidate kinetics, pharmacology, and other parameters of membrane transport activity.

Earlier this year, Nanion announced the SURFE²R N1 grant, which gave applicants the chance to acquire a SURFE²R N1 instrument in the laboratory for a 6-month period, including assay support and consumables. After evaluation of the rather extensive number and variety of applications, the SURFE²R N1 grant evaluation committee has come to a decision.



The SURFE²R (surface electrogenic event reader) technology allows the investigation of electrogenic transporters (symporters, exchangers and uniporters) and pumps.

The SURFE²R N1 instrument is an All-in-one device, including liquid handling, electrophysiology hardware and computer. It allows automated recordings with up to 52 different solutions per run and 150 data points per day.



Dr. Maria Barthmes, SURFE²R Product Manager and chair of the SURFE²R grant evaluation committee says: "The amount and quality of the applications we have received made our job very difficult, albeit very interesting because of the various areas of transporter research presented to us. Even after long and thoughtful deliberation, it has been impossible for us to decide on one single winner of the SURFE²R N1 grant."

The committee has therefore decided to grant two applicants the use of the SURFE²R N1 platform for a six-month-period of time. Additionally, two high risk projects are being evaluated internally, and the decision has been postponed until the outcome of these tests are known.

The SURFE²R N1 winners of 2019 are:



Prof. Dr. Camilo Perez

Biozentrum (The Center for Molecular Life Sciences), University of Basel, Switzerland

Title of the project: "Novel cell wall synthesis blockers: characterization of inhibitory nanobodies by SSM-based electrophysiology"



Prof. Dr. Dimitrios Fotiadis

Institute for Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, University of Bern, Switzerland

Title of the project: "Electrogenic transporters from the solute carrier (SLC) families 7, 15 and 16: From function to deorphanization"

We congratulate the winners and are looking forward to seeing exciting results in the coming year.

About Nanion Technologies:

Nanion Technologies is a leading provider of instrumentation for ion channel drug discovery and screening. Founded in 2002, Nanion has grown over the last 17 years to a company with over 100 employees worldwide. With headquarters in Munich, Germany, Nanion has subsidiaries in the USA, Japan, China and Denmark, as well as distribution partners in seven other countries.

Nanion's team has developed and successfully established four generations of automated patch clamp instruments for sophisticated and high throughput applications in ion channel research and drug discovery (Port-a-Patch, Patchliner and SyncroPatch product families).

Further product lines are for cell monitoring and cardiotoxicity screening (CardioExcyte 96), for parallel bilayer recordings (Orbit family), and for parallel membrane transporter protein recordings (SURFE²R).

For more information, please visit www.nanion.de

Contact:

Dr. Niels Fertig, CEO, Nanion Technologies GmbH,
Munich, Germany

Phone: +49 89 2190 95-072

Email: Niels.Fertig@nanion.de