

September 2026

NEWSLETTER



Dear readers,

With this newsletter, we would like to inform you about the latest news from the Else Kröner Fresenius Center for Optogenetic Therapies. We also welcome suggestions and contributions, which can be distributed among our members and associated partners.

Your

Else Kröner Fresenius Center for Optogenetic Therapies

Represented by Tobias Moser, Emilie Macé, Maria-Patapia Zafeiriou and Kathrin Kusch



NEW ASSOCIATED INVESTIGATORS

The EKfZ board has appointed Prof. Christian van Oterendorp (Else Kröner Professorship for Translational Ophthalmology), Prof. Johannes Vierock (Else Kröner Professorship for Opsin Engineering), and Dr. Patrick Jendritza (Junior Fellow Group "Visual Circuits & Interfaces") as new Associated Investigators.



NEW BUILDING IAN/EKFZ

New Building for Hearing Research: UMG brings EKfZ expertise together under one roof.

Construction work began in March of this year. The new building is scheduled to be completed and commissioned by the end of 2026, so that the building can be occupied in 2028. The cost of 35.5 million euros has been included in the construction budget of the State of Lower Saxony.



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Clinician Scientist

We welcome Dr. Liart Pollmann as a Clinician Scientist. He will be conducting his research in Team II: Optogenetic Gastric Pacemaking for 1.5 years. He applied with the project "Gastric Antrum Structure & Tracking for Real-time Optogenetic Modulation Assessment (GAST-ROMAP)" and proved himself during the selection process.



© Liart Pollmann

[EKfZ: Read more →](#)

ENT CONGRESS AUGSBURG

On October 2nd and 3rd 2026, Augsburg will become the hub of ENT medicine in southwestern Germany.

Under the theme "ENT in Transition: Smart Diagnosis, Modern Treatment, Safe Care," the 107th Annual Meeting of the Southwest German ENT Society will bring together ENT physicians and hospital teams to discuss current developments, practical continuing education, and professional exchange. A unique highlight of the program is the audiovisual art project KLINGLICHT, which will be presented on October 3rd 2026, from 12:40 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. by Jenny Bum of the University Medical Center Göttingen, Department of Otolaryngology.



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ISST 2026

On October 15th and 16th 2026, the International Symposium on Sensorimotor Transformation takes place in Freiburg.

It will bring together researchers from neuroscience, neurotechnology, artificial intelligence, and robotics to examine how biological and artificial systems integrate sensory information, construct predictive representations of the environment, and translate these representations into goal-directed behavior.



© University of Freiburg

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LATEST PUBLICATIONS

Bruegmann T, Waadi A, Yalamarthi SS, Sun D, Evers L, Riebeling J, Freier M, Jendritza P, Roos L, Göllisch T, Gössler C, Kirsch K, Jaschke M, Macé E, Moser T. Optogenetic Stimulation at the Threshold of Clinical Translation: Principle, Pitfalls, Progress, and Promise. ZfMER 2026, 5 p. 23-36.



[Read more →](#)

UPCOMING EKfZ ACADEMY EVENT

Career insights – A joint EKfZ Academy / HSC event

In collaboration with the Hertha Sponer College, the EKfZ Academy will host a career event that brings together professionals from industry, patent law, startup ventures, and executive recruitment on October 21st 2026, 3 pm to 6:30 pm.

Participants will have the opportunity to explore career possibilities, gain insider insights into hiring practices and expand their professional network. The event is open to interested students, early career researchers and clinician scientists.



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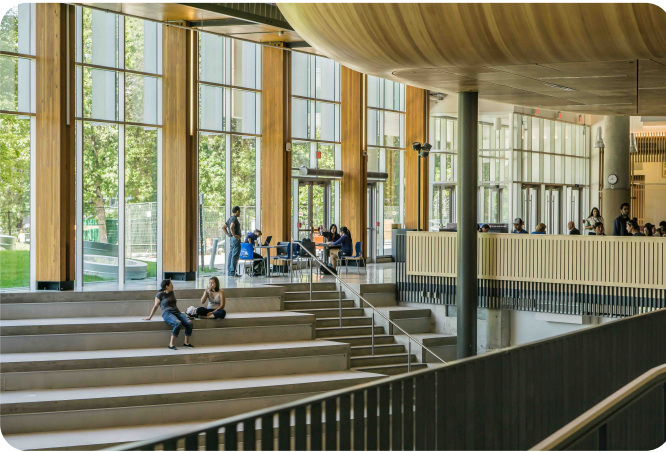
EKfZ LECTURES

7th October 2026, 4:00 pm

Dr. Benjamin Rost

German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases

Characterizing bistable optoGPCRs for Application in Neurons



[Read more →](#)

JOB ADVERTISEMENTS

We are looking for:

Project Manager (f/m/d) – Gene Therapy Development

PhD student (m/f/d) – New Opsins for Optogenetic Therapies

Postdoc-Position (w/m/d)

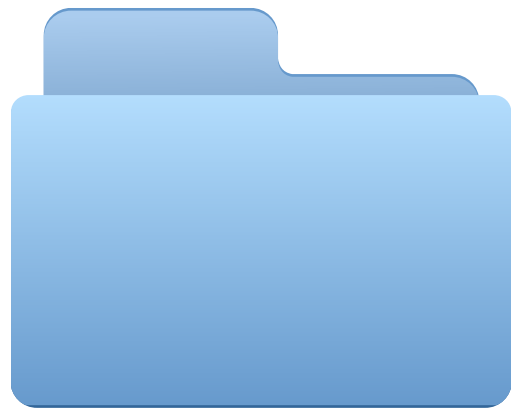
Biological-technical assistant (f/m/d)



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