



Annual Report SIG 'Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience of Pain' (CANoP)

August 2021

On June 10, 2021, we held our biannual scientific CANoP meeting. Due to the pandemic situation, it had to be conducted via Zoom, nevertheless it was a great success with over 50 participants and a constructive and lively exchange. Eleven CANoP PIs gave updates on the research happening in their labs. There was also a very successful poster presentation session with 8 posters, of which the top three presenters were chosen to receive a poster price. As a keynote speaker, we had secured Dr. Eric Garland from the University of Utah, who is a pioneer in using mindfulness-based intervention techniques in the treatment of addiction and chronic pain. The day was concluded by an exchange of the CANoP PIs discussing future directions and ideas. The discussion highlighted the interest and importance of the CANoP meeting, in particular giving the opportunity to have a brief and efficient overview of the research performed on the topic of cognitive and affective neuroscience of pain in Switzerland and having the opportunity to present the development and advances of one own's research. In addition, this second meeting enhanced the feeling of being part of a community. For future meetings, we are planning on intensifying the exchange regarding ongoing collaborative projects between the affiliated groups and to stimulate new collaborative projects. In parallel to the biannual scientific CANoP meeting, there was an integrated trainee meeting, initiated, organized and led by trainees from CANoP labs. The trainee meeting included scientific speed dating with PIs and a very successful round table on the topic "Preclinical and clinical research - bridging the gap" with Dr. Ipek Yalcin (preclinical research), Prof. Olaf Blanke (clinical research), and Huma Khamis (scientific journalist) as well as networking activities between the trainees.