In 1995 IRP was founded by Prof. Alain Rossier, Geneva, and the Zurich publicist Ulrich Schellenberg, both paraplegics. The International Foundation for Research in Paraplegia – IRP has continued the mission laid down by its founders, convinced of the need to boost research in paraplegia and provide researchers with the resources needed to fund their work.

With more than 220 projects receiving funds for more than 32 million Swiss francs, IRP is undisputedly one of the key private stakeholders in Swiss philanthropy when it comes to supporting scientific research.

**IRP SCHELLENBERG RESEARCH PRIZE**

Set up in 2003 the IRP Schellenberg Research Prize perpetuates the memory of Ulrich Schellenberg, the founder of the IFP Foundation in Zurich and co-founder of the IRP Foundation in Geneva, who died in 2001. 17 researchers have received the Prize so far. See our brochure edited in 2016: https://www.irp.ch/irp-schellenberg-research-prize/.

The Prize of CHF 100’000 is aimed at rewarding scientists’ outstanding work in the field of paraplegia. Priority is given to young but already established and successful scientists working experimentally in the above-mentioned fields. The funds awarded, by enabling the recruitment of new co-workers or personnel and the purchase of equipment or supplies, should help investigate avenues that may, in due course, lead to progress in spinal cord regeneration and functional recovery.

**DONATION IN FAVOUR OF A PROJECT**

If you would like to support research in paraplegia you can make a donation to IRP on www.irp.ch

**BANKING DETAILS**

Banque Pictet & Cie SA
Account Number 566191.001
CCP 12-109-4
IBAN: CH48 0875 5056 6191 0010 0
REGISTRATION

For organizational reasons, kindly confirm your attendance to the Ceremony and if wished for the Guided Tour in the REHAB by e-mail to: bbrunner@irp.ch until 27th September 2020 (limited places for Tour and Ceremony).

The organisers will of course comply with all precautionary measures against COVID-19 as recommended by the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH).

THANK YOU

IRP SCHELLENBERG RESEARCH PRIZE 2020

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 1st October 2020

at REHAB Basel

Im Burgfelderhof 40, Basel

Switzerland

16.15  Guided Tour in the REHAB – voluntary

(Please register with email)

17.00  Music by André Desponds, pianist

17.10  Greeting by Prof. Theodor Landis,

President IRP Foundation

17.15  Laudatio by Prof. Andreas Steck,

former President IRP Scientific Committee

Presentations by Prof. Patrick Freund,

and Prof. Jonas Frisén, prizewinners

18.00  Apéro riche

IRP SCHELLENBERG RESEARCH PRIZE 2020

PROF. PATRICK FREUND

Patrick Freund obtained his doctorate in biology at the University of Fribourg in 2008 and in medicine at the University of Zurich (UZH) in 2014. In 2018 he received the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) Eccellenza Professorship in Paraplegiology at the UZH.

His research focuses on the multimodal assessment of functional and structural changes in the entire central nervous system caused by focal lesions to the spinal cord and brain. His interdisciplinary work focuses on the development and application of high-resolution imaging techniques and in therapeutics trails. At the same time, he is active in further medical training to become a specialist in neurology.

Prof. Freund holds affiliations with the Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging and the Brain Repair and Rehabilitation Department at the Queen Square University College London (UCL). Since 2015 he received three IRP Research Grants.

PROF. JONAS FRISÉN

Jonas Frisén obtained his MD and PhD degrees from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. After a period as postdoctoral fellow in Princeton, USA, he returned to the Karolinska Institute to establish his own research group, where he is Tobias Foundation Professor of Stem Cell Research since 2001.

He has identified neural stem cells in the adult spinal cord and unveiled how they mainly contribute to scar formation. He has also identified a small group of perivascular cells, which forms another major part of the scar tissue, and found how reducing that process promotes axonal regeneration and some functional recovery after spinal cord injury in animal models. He has moreover developed a method to study cell generation in the human nervous system by analyzing integration of an isotope from nuclear bomb tests during the Cold War.

Prof. Frisén is a member of the Nobel Assembly and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

IRP JURY SCHELLENBERG RESEARCH PRIZE 2020

Prof. Andreas Steck (President)

Prof. Elizabeth Bradbury

Prof. Frank Bradke

Prof. Armin Curt

Prof. Christian Lüscher