

IRTG Retreat 2026

Youth hostel DJH Köln-Riehl

02 to 04 September 2026

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Program

Wednesday, 02 September 2026

08:00 – 12:30	Travel, Arrival and Check-In
12:30 – 13:30	**Lunch**
13:30 – 13:40	**Opening Remarks**
Session I	(Session Chair: **Polina Zotova**)
13:40 – 14:20	**Keynote: Mirka Uhlirova** (Signaling and Gene Expression/CECAD Cologne): *Gene Regulation in Innate Immunity: From Immune Cell Plasticity to Chronic Inflammation*
14:20 – 14.40	**Bakeeran Pathmalolan** (Biophysics, Osnabrück): *Single-Molecule FRET uncovers a complex conformational landscape of TpoR dimers that is differentially biased by oncogenic mutations*
14:40 – 15:00	**Marvin Wortmann** (Biophysics, Osnabrück): *Plasma membrane nanopatterning for exploring the role of membrane context in diffusion and interaction of receptor transmembrane domains*
15.00 – 15:30	**Meet the Speaker (Mirka Uhlirova)**
Session II	(Session Chair: **Polina Zotova**)
15:30 – 16:10	**Keynote: Dominic Winter** (Oncological Proteo-Metabolomics, University Hospital Essen): *Lysosomal Membrane Cholesterol-specific mTOR Signaling Regulates Lysosomal Positioning*
16:10 – 16.30	**Jana Milach** (Biochemistry, Osnabrück): *Studying the regulation of Ymr1 activity on autophagosomes and endosomes*
16:30 – 16:50	**Shirley Helms** (Microbiology, Osnabrück): *Dynamic manipulation of functional plasticity of the host cell endosomal system by an intracellular pathogen*
16:50 – 17:20	**Meet the Speaker (Dominic Winter)**
17:20 – 17:35	**Flash Poster Presentations I**
18:00 – 19:00	**Dinner**
19:00 – 20:30	**Poster Session I**
From 20:30	**Pubquiz & Lab Olympics**

Thursday, 03 September 2026

7:00 – 8:30	**Breakfast**
Session III	(Session Chair: **Pascal Höhne**)
8:30 – 9:10	**Keynote: Carien Niessen** (Cell Biology of the Skin/CECAD): *Mechanochemical regulation of epithelial barrier formation and regeneration in health and disease*
9:10 – 9:30	**Jesse Tönjes** (Biochemistry and Structural Biology, Münster): *Structural insight into coordination of endosomal maturation*
9:30 – 9:50	**Rene Leffers** (Bioanalytical Chemistry, Osnabrück): *Plasticity of the SPOTS complex native membrane environment*
09:50 – 10:20	**Coffee Break**
Session IV	(Session Chair: **Jesse Tönjes**)
10:20 – 11:00	**Keynote: Ines Neundorf** (Biochemistry, University of Cologne): *Design of cell-permeable DHHC peptides targeting S-palmitoylation dynamics*
11:00 – 11:20	**Samir Nandi** (Molecular Cell Biology, Osnabrück): *Interrogating transbilayer lipid dynamics and stress responses at sites of plasma membrane permeabilization*
11:20 – 11:40	**Polina Zotova** (Structural Biology, Osnabrück): *Delipidation of membrane proteins*
11:40 – 12:10	**Meet the Speaker (Carien Niessen)**
12:10 – 13:10	**Lunch**
13:10 – 17:30	**Guided Tour Cologne Botanical Garden** Group photo
17:30 – 18:00	**Meet the Speaker (Ines Neundorf)**
18:00 – 19:00	**Dinner**
19:00 – 19:15	**Flash Poster Presentations II**
19:15 – 20:45	**Poster Session II**

Friday, 04 September 2026

7:00 – 9:00	**Breakfast**
Session V	(Session Chair: **Samir Nandi**)
9:00 – 9:40	**Keynote: Christoph Thiele** (Biochemistry & Cell Biology of Lipids/LIMES, Bonn): *Tracing lipid metabolism using alkyne lipids, Click chemistry and mass spectrometry*
9:40 – 10:00	**Pascal Höhne** (Organelle communication, Münster): *Application of optogenetic tools to characterize contact site dynamics*
10:00 – 10:20	**Hellen Bleeker** (Bioanalytical Chemistry, Osnabrück): *Cho2 - a regulatory switch for the phosphatidyl choline synthesis in yeast*
10:20 – 10:50	**Coffee Break**
Session VI	(Session Chair: **Vivien Koch**)
10:50 – 11:30	**Keynote: Claus Seidel** (Molecular Physical Chemistry, HHU Düsseldorf): *tba*
11:30 – 11:50	**Mia Mönnig** (Biophysics, Osnabrück): *Structural and functional plasticity of oncogenic G-CSFR signaling complexes*
11:50 – 12:10	**Heesang Song** (Structural Biology of Photosynthetic Microorganisms, Osnabrück): *Structural and Functional Specialization of the FtsH4 AAA+ Protease in cyanobacterial Photosystem Biogenesis*
12:10 – 13:10	**Lunch**
13:10 – 13:40	**Meet the Speaker (Claus Seidel)**
13:40 – 14:00	**Closing Remarks & Award Ceremony**
14:00 – 19:00	Departure and Travel

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Flash Poster Presentations I **02 September, 17:20**		**Flash Poster Presentations II** **03 September, 19:00**	
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Verena Wolf	9	Samir Nandi	15
		Sylwia Dylnicka	16

Poster Session I **02 September, 19:00**		**Poster Session II** **03 September, 19:15**	
Alischa Scholz	1	Alisa Greven	10
Franziska Flottmann	2	David Dallemer	11
Greta Jarck	3	Kevin Joseph Dilip	12
Jasper Eising	4	Maria Shamo	13
Lena Menzel	5	Merle Paulic	14
Maike Spielmeyer	6	Samir Nandi	15
Nada Elagouri	7	Sylwia Dylnicka	16
Sebastian Finke	8	Vivien Koch	17
Verena Wolf	9	Yannik Sander	18
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