

Increasing amounts of traffic, congestion, pollution and changes in the climate are reasons for a growing need for advanced real-time traffic and transport related information systems and services. Safety and mobility can, however, be jeopardized by poor highway design and construction or by operating procedures which allow unsafe driving conditions e.g. construction work zones, incident management or response to emergencies caused by adverse weather or by delays and perturbations occurring in the transport networks. CARLINK (Wireless Platform for Linking Cars) has developed an intelligent wireless traffic service platform between cars supported with wireless transceivers beside the road(s). The main applications in the three participating countries (Finland, Luxembourg and Spain) are real-time local road weather with accident warning services, urban transport traffic management, and multi modal transport.



THE BIOLUX NETWORK - CONNECTING RESEARCHERS_

The idea to establish the BioLux Network evolved during the networking meeting for the AFR (Aides à la Formation-Recherche) beneficiaries organized by the FNR (Fonds National de la Recherche) in December 2009. One month later, Julia Kessler and Nancy Gerloff, both PhD students at the Centre de Recherche Public-Santé (CRP-Santé) founded the BioLux Network in cooperation with the FNR. The main objective of the newly founded Network is to serve as a platform for PhD students (doctoral candidates) and Postdocs (young researchers with recent PhD degree) to facilitate scientific exchange through enhanced communication between the different research institutions of the Life Sciences domain in Luxembourg. Contacts between younger and senior researchers should also be improved. The success of the Network is evident by more than 40 participants from various research institutions throughout Luxembourg.

The regular BioLux Network meetings (every last Thursday of the month at 6.30 pm) have so far been organized at different locations including the CRP-Santé in Luxembourg (www.crp-sante.lu), CRP Henri Tudor in Esch-sur-Alzette (www.tudor.lu) and the University of Luxembourg (www.uni.lu). Topics of the past reunions were not only focused on research, but dealt also with career development in different scientific fields. With great interest the Networkers interviewed guests from pharmaceutical companies, public administrations, and senior researchers to learn more about possible career opportunities following their doctoral studies.

The 4th BioLux Network meeting took place at the University of Luxembourg with Prof. Rudi Balling, the Director of the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine (www.lcsb.lu), Dr. Jean-Claude Schmit (Chief Executive Officer) and Daniel Cardao (Administrative and Financial Manager),

both from the CRP-Santé. The objective of the active round-table discussion was "The bottlenecks of your PhD in Luxembourg". The guest speakers and the BioLux Networkers discussed possibilities to further enhance communication within the institutions as well as between them, especially at the different CRP's and the University of Luxembourg. As an example, the initiation of national annual meetings was suggested and will be elaborated in the future.

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