

Basel, 21 March 2018

Press release: IOB co-founder wins renowned Bressler Prize

A top accolade for Professor Botond Roska, joint head of the Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel (IOB): he was awarded the distinguished Bressler Prize for his innovative and outstanding research. Since 2003, this prize has been awarded by the non-profit organisation Lighthouse Guild in New York to exceptional scientists whose research has led to substantive advances in the understanding of vision loss, the treatment of eye disease or the rehabilitation of people with impaired vision. The Bressler Prize carries a cash award of 54,000 US dollars. Professor Roska has also been invited to give the keynote lecture at the annual Alfred W. Bressler Vision Science Symposium in New York.

Roska received the award in honour of his work in combining different research disciplines in a way that expands knowledge about the retina and the processing of visual signals in the eye. His main objective is to restore the sight of patients suffering from retinitis pigmentosa and other eye diseases.

“As a scientist I strive to unite fundamental and clinical research by applying our scientific discoveries on the retina in order to develop effective treatments for patients suffering from diseases of the retina,” says Professor Roska.

The IOB was founded in December 2017 by the University Hospital Basel, the University of Basel and Novartis. It is currently led by Professor Botond Roska, Professor Hendrik Scholl and Dr Norbert Spirig. Professor Roska is also Team Leader at the renowned Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research (FMI) in Basel.

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