



**CEPLAS**

Cluster of Excellence on Plant Sciences

## **CEPLAS Symposium 2017**

**October 19/20**

**KOMED, MediaPark Cologne**



# CEPLAS

## Cluster of Excellence on Plant Sciences

Arable land, water and nutrients become scarce, while the climate is changing and the world's population is further increasing. To ensure a sustainable supply with plant-based raw materials, innovative strategies for crop improvement are required.

In this context CEPLAS aims at decoding different complex plant traits, which have an important impact on growth, yield and the use of resources. By understanding the molecular and genetic basis of these plant traits we aim to create the basis for a future sustainable cultivation of food, feed and energy crops.

CEPLAS is a joint initiative of Heinrich Heine University, University of Cologne, Max Planck Institute for Plant Breeding Research and Forschungszentrum Jülich.

### Contact

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Thursday, October 19 2017  
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### Welcome

- 10.00 - 10.15 Prof. Dr. Andreas Weber
- 10.15 - 10.45 Prof. Dr. Peter Westhoff  
*Overview Research Area B*
- 10.45 - 10.50 Elevator Pitch: Thomas Wrobel
- 10.50 - 10.55 Elevator Pitch: Meike Hüdig
- 10.55 - 11.00 Elevator Pitch: Esther Sundermann

### Coffee break

- 11.30 - 12.00 Prof. Dr. Alga Zuccaro  
*Overview Research Area C*
- 12.00 - 12.05 Elevator Pitch: Jan Schulze Hüynck
- 12.05 - 12.10 Elevator Pitch: Michael Thielen
- 12.10 - 12.15 Elevator Pitch: Dr. Antonella Succuro

### Lunch

- 13.30 - 14.00 Prof. Dr. Markus Pauly  
*Overview Research Area D*
- 14.00 - 14.05 Elevator Pitch: Suraj Sharma
- 14.05 - 14.10 Elevator Pitch: Nikolas Ditz
- 14.10 - 14.15 Elevator Pitch: Katharina Gräfe
- 14.15 - 14.45 Prof. Dr. Maria von Korff-Schmising  
*Overview Research Area A*
- 14.45 - 14.50 Elevator Pitch: Dr. Christos Bazakos
- 14.50 - 14.55 Elevator Pitch: Udhaya Ponraj
- 14.55 - 15.00 Elevator Pitch: Agatha Walla

### Coffee break



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15.30 - 17.00 **Poster session**

17.00 - 18.00 **Key note lecture:** Prof. Dr. Bernd Müller-Röber, University of Potsdam  
*tba*

**Poster Award**

**Joint Dinner**

**Friday, October 20 2017**

**KOMED, MediaPark Cologne**

- 09.15 - 09.35 **Jun.-Prof. Dr. Maria Albani**  
*„PRE-FORMATION“ - roles in perennial flowering and architecture*
- 09.35 - 09.55 **Prof. Dr. Georg Groth**  
*Selective inhibitors for  $C_4$  enzymes: a structural-based approach to weed control*
- Coffee break**
- 10.25 - 10.45 **Dr. Juliana Almario**  
*The root-associated fungal microbiota of non-mycorrhizal *Arabis alpina* and its contribution to plant phosphorus nutrition*
- 10.45 - 11.05 **Dr. Anita Loeschcke**  
*Synthetic microbes for the production of valuable secondary metabolites*
- 11.05 - 12.00 **Key note lecture:** Prof. Dr. Stefan Jansson, Umeå University, Sweden  
*Natural variation in aspen*
- Lunch**
- 13.00 - 14.00 **Key note lecture:** Isabel Vercauteren, Apeha.Bio, Belgium  
*The story of Apeha.Bio: from frontline research to start-up company*
- Internal meetings**
- 14.00 - 15.00 Discussion round SAB - New faculty
- 15.00 - 16.00 Discussion round SAB - Doctoral researchers
- 16.00 - 17.00 Discussion round SAB - Postdoctoral researchers