

# Emil Fischer Graduate Program of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Molecular Medicine (EFS)

## Speaker

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## Aims and structure

It is the aim of the Emil Fischer graduate program to provide young researchers pursuing their doctoral thesis in an interdisciplinary environment with key qualifications required for a successful career in drug target research and drug development. Main areas of interest are the identification and characterization of target proteins, signal cascades, drugs, and mechanisms of action and related bioanalytical techniques.

The program is supported by members of the following chairs of the Faculties of Sciences and of Medicine:

- Chair of Bioinorganic Chemistry
- Chair of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine
- Chair of Biochemistry and Pathobiochemistry
- Chair of Clinical Pharmacology and Clinical Toxicology
- Chair of Pharmacology and Toxicology
- Chair of Food Chemistry
- Chair of Physiology
- Chair of Clinical Nuclear Medicine
- Chair of Pharmaceutical Biology
- Chair of Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- Chair of Pharmaceutical Technology.

In 2011, the chairs of Organic and Pharmaceutical Chemistry at Regensburg University were integrated in the graduate program. Based on the graduate program, a DFG-funded research training group ("Medicinal chemistry of selective GPCR ligands", GRK 1910) could be established at the Faculty of Sciences in 2013.

## Research and teaching

The graduate program provides a framework of activities, including seminars and counseling, in order to allow the PhD students to acquire interdisciplinary skills that reach far beyond the particular topic of their PhD thesis. Throughout the graduate program, all PhD students are in-

dependently counseled by a mentor and a co-mentor. Interdisciplinary seminars provide insights into the research topics and methods of the other groups of the Emil Fischer Center. The PhD students are actively involved in the selection of seminar topics. Additional lectures by high profile speakers from other institutions are organized on a regular basis. The scientific training is complemented by training in soft skills required in the academic environment as well as in industry. Regular "research days" are held to provide an opportunity for the PhD students to present and discuss their methods and data in an interdisciplinary framework.

Since the start of the program in December 2008, 148 PhD students have enrolled in the program. Until February 2019, already 102 candidates successfully completed the program with a PhD and a program certificate.

