

pharma point

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Newsletter of the Swiss Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences (SSPhS)

Tschirch Symposium

SGGP - SCHWEIZERISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR
GESCHICHTE DER PHARMAZIE

SSHP - SOCIÉTÉ SUISSE D'HISTOIRE
DE LA PHARMACIE

SSSF - SOCIETÀ SVIZZERA DI STORIA
DELLA FARMACIA



Tschirch 150 Jahre – 150 ans Bern – October 28-29, 2006

To celebrate **Alexander Tschirch's** 150 anniversary the '**Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Pharmazie**' SGGP is organizing a symposium, representing his personality, his work as well as the pharmaceutical, scientific situation at this time.

17 persons from home and abroad will contribute.

www.histpharm.ch

Afin de commémorer le 150^e anniversaire de la naissance de Tschirch, la Société suisse d'histoire de la pharmacie organise un symposium pendant lequel seront examinés sa personne, son oeuvre mais aussi le contexte scientifique de la pharmacie de cette époque.

17 chercheurs y participeront devant un public composé de pharmaciens et de membres de l'Université.

Wilhelm Oswald Alexander Tschirch

* 1856 Guben/Lausitz, Germany
† 1939 Bern.



Alexander Tschirch was one of the most important teachers of pharmacy.

In 1890, he was appointed Professor of Pharmacy and Pharmacognosy at Bern and he was a good director of his institute. The scientific programme is represented by 21 books, 388 papers and 158 dissertations. The main topics were investigations of plants (phytochemical) and researches for pharmacopoeias. Tschirch had 2300 Students, 158 made their doctor-graduate and 11 are becoming professor.

The research conditions in the pharmaceutical institute Bern were good and the research school of Tschirch has an important public and social recognition, also Tschirch's work provided the bases of the modern phytochemical research of plants.

[Friedrich C, Schmidt F. Research schools in pharmacy. 5: Alexander Tschirch (1856-1939) and his students].

Among other things plant anatomical studies, investigations on Anthrachinonglykoside and contributions to the drug examination, primarily of vegetable drugs were in the centre of

Tschirchs work. The fourth issue of the Pharmacopoeia Helvetica may be respected, first of all, as his work. The big number of pupils justifies speaking from a Tschirch school.

[Website of the "Institut für Medizingeschichte" University of Bern (translated)]

PHARMACEUTICAL-HISTORICAL COLLECTION

After Alexander Tschirch had been appointed in 1890 to Bern to take over the new pharmaceutical institute, he was particularly concerned to enlarge the collection. Soon it enclosed 60'000 "Unica", and Tschirch spoke from "drug museum".

His description of the collection: *"In adjoining 37 cupboards the collection is set up in the way that near or behind the drug and its trade sorts the illustration of the family plant, its appearance (mostly photographs) and microscopic illustrations have found their place beside the falsifications, the misinter-*

pretations and the products possibly made from the drug. So the pupil in the simplest way gets a rapid overview about everything for him worth knowing. In the middle of the hall all somehow interesting original packagings of the drugs together with interesting objects - palm trees, Maté and Sirihiaparaten and cabinet pieces of important drugs etc - are combined to a big central trophy."

After his resignation, the collection changed several times the location and numerous pieces were eliminated or got lost. However, the supplies saved

today still enclose thousands of objects which are kept in glass vessels and which give evidence from the richness of materia medica of the past.

In connection with the Swiss Society for History of Pharmacy it was decided to create - under the name "Tschirch library and collection of the history of the pharmacy - a documentation library for the researchers in the field of the pharmaceutical and medical history.

[Website of the "Institut für Medizingeschichte" University of Bern (translated)]

ALEXANDER TSCHIRCH, THE TREES AND RESINS, IN PARTICULAR THE INCENSE

Alexander Tschirch examined at least 19 genera of trees. According to Prof. Hamburger, University of Basel, only two are still of pharmaceutical interest. Pistacia Lentiscus and especially Boswellia spp. The others are well established or obsolete.

Jochen Helge Bergmann wrote in his thesis "Untersuchungen zum Harz des Weihrauchbaums (Boswellia spp.) unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Säurefraktion", TUM, 2004 (translated):

The first fundamental examinations of resins are connected inseparably with the name Alexander Tschirch who carried out a row of examinations to vegetable resins with his assistants. Those within the framework of the series "Untersuchungen über die Sekrete" in the "Archiv der Pharmazie" (1892-1899)

and the work "Die Harze und die Harzbehälter" (several editions from 1900) are the most important ones.

Prof. Dr. M. Hamburger
University of Basel,



kindly provided following information:

Incense (Olibanum) has been used in religious rituals by all the ancient civilizations of the Mediterranean and the Near and Middle East. The oldest written document mentioning incense is the papyrus Ebers that was written probably around 1500 BC. Incense is the gum resin obtained by incision of the bark of several *Boswellia* species. Arab incense is obtained from *B. carteri* and *B. frereana* growing in the South-

ern Arab peninsula, Somalia and Ethiopia, while Indian incense is collected from *B. carteri* growing in Northern and Central India. Both types of incense contain essential oil, triterpenes and polysaccharides. The most important class of constituents are pentacyclic triterpenoids, the so-called boswellic acids. Indian incense contains up to 60% of these triterpene acids.

Incense has a long history of medical use. Remedies containing preparations from frankincense were prescribed by Greek and Roman doctors for external treatment of tumours and oedemas. Orally, incense was used in inflammatory diseases including diarrhoea, and in diseases of the respiratory tract. Indian incense is described in the ayurvedic texts of the first century AD. Preparations were

used to treat respiratory and gastrointestinal as well as CNS-related diseases.

Olibanum remained part of the Pharmacopoeia until the early 20th century. It was still listed in the 6th Edition of the German Pharmacopoeia (1926), but later disappeared due to lack of scientific evidence for its use. Interest in the pharmacological properties of Olibanum was revived by the description of its anti-inflammatory properties in animal models by Indian scientists in the late 1980s. Soon after, a specific effect of the triterpenoids on leukotriene syn-

thesis was reported and elicited significant interest in this old drug.

The pharmacology of the boswellic acids has been extensively studied since then. They are non-redox inhibitors of 5-lipoxygenase, act on leukocyte elastase and oxygen radicals, and affect also the complement system, the cytokines such as interleukins and TNF α . A number of clinical pilot studies with Indian incense have been conducted mainly in India. They suggest efficacy in some autoimmune diseases including rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's

disease, ulcerative colitis, and in bronchial asthma. Interestingly, the side effects appear mild when compared to drugs currently used for treatment of these diseases such as glucocorticoids.



Incense

The speakers and their contributions

U. Boschung	Alexander Tschirch als Mitglied der Berner Medizinischen Fakultät
R. Brenneisen	Die Berner Pharmakognosie nach Tschirch
C. Charlot	Le devoir de mémoire de la belle endormie: Passé et présent du droguier de Montpellier
C. Friedrich	Alexander Tschirch – sein wissenschaftlicher Werdegang in Deutschland bis zur "Cathedra Superior"
S. Hächler	Alexander Tschirchs Korrespondenz. Überblick, Einblick, Ausblick
U. Hörmann	Alexander Tschirch, seine ersten Jahre in Bern
K. Hostettmann	L'apport de l'ethnopharmacologie à la recherche phytochimique actuelle
M. Kessler	Extrakte aus Arzneipflanzen; ein zentraler Entwicklungsbereich früher industrieller Pharmazie in der Zeit Alexander Tschirchs
C. Kletter	Die pharmakognostische Sammlung in Wien - Relikt einer vergangenen Zeit oder doch mehr?
O. Lafont	De la poudre de la comtesse à la quinine: la saga du quin-quina
F. Ledermann	Alexander Tschirch: sa vie, son oeuvre en dix étapes
B. Meier	Von der Droge zum Therapeutikum – gestern (zu Tschirchs Zeiten) und heute
W.-D. Müller-Jahncke	Alexander Tschirch als Historiker
K. Nickelsen	Opium, Tee und Chinarinde: Zur Geschichte und Aufarbeitung der Göttinger Pharmakognostischen Sammlung
O. Sticher	Die pharmakognostische Sammlung der ETH Zürich
F. Tillequin	Le Musée de matière médicale de la Faculté de Pharmacie de Paris et ses collections
A. Winkler	Beziehungen -Tschirch und die ersten Jahre der Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Pharmazie

Women Life Science Leadership European Congress

A consortium under the flag of SGPhW is organising a “Women Life Science Leadership European Congress” on March 23 and March 24, 2007 in Basel. The congress will make the life sciences community aware of the importance of women in leadership position. The congress will be a unique platform for the European industry leaders, politicians, government decision makers, academia, journalists, and entrepreneurs to openly discuss, debate and persuade decision makers for action on all issues of encouraging women to climb the career ladder. Given the large concentration of life sciences industry in the Basel

region, the congress aims to set an example for Europe and the world in terms of leading the way to achieve diversity and maintain corporate profitability, social justice and harness Europe’s in-house hidden talent.

The congress will seek women CEOs to present their case history that will inspire and energize women to follow their footsteps. The congress will also invite women who “stepped down” and make their voice heard so that others can learn to circumvent the hurdles.

The organizing committee will identify ambitious female talents with a clear vision of their career and appoint them as workshop breakout session leaders for an open and lively discussion. Besides, the congress will provide plenty of interaction possibilities through long lunch, apéro and dinner sessions.

All SGPhW members are asked to help to find other sponsors (so far SGPhW, Novartis, and Lee Hecht). Further information will be soon available under www.LifeScienceCongress.com

Please find below therefore the sponsor presentation slide show:

<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Index</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congress Objectives • Background • Target Audience • Programme • Key Milestones • Committee • Preliminary Budget • Benefits for Sponsors <p style="text-align: left;">1</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Congress Objectives</h2> <p>The European Congress aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster professional growth in the life science industry • Raise public awareness for women making a career and women in leadership-positions • Encourage female talent for professional careers • Promote the sharing of business experience and knowledge in the life science industry • Create different career models and leadership styles <p style="text-align: left;">2</p>		
<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Background</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women account for almost half of the workforce in western countries • However at management level they are strongly under-represented • There is a correlation between shareholder return and women in executive positions • Demographic squeeze forces companies to strengthen the outreach for talent <p style="text-align: left;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Target Audience</h2> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Women and Men at all career and leadership levels in the life sciences business</p> </div> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Private Sector Multinational Corporations SME, Start-ups Laboratories Distributors</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>Public Sector Universities Hospitals NGO's Governmental Orgs.</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: left;">4</p>	<p>Private Sector Multinational Corporations SME, Start-ups Laboratories Distributors</p>	<p>Public Sector Universities Hospitals NGO's Governmental Orgs.</p>
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Programme Day 1

Morning

- Welcome notes
- Key note speaker
- Two different career stories
- General aspects for a career in Life Science
 - Company Culture
 - Career Design
 - Personal Marketing
 - Self Awareness
- Lunch break

Afternoon

- Workshops on the general aspects
- Forum / Markplatz
- General aspects for a career in Life Science
 - Performance
 - Social Competence
 - Personality
 - Communication skills
- Q&A
- Apéro and Gala dinner

5

Programme Day 2

Morning

- Opening
- Three career stories
- Beliefs and Values
- Workshops & Forum
 - Perceptions regarding Women and Men
 - Company Culture
 - Leadership styles
 - Interpretation of Values
- Lunch break

Afternoon

- Workshops & Forum
 - Impact of Communication e.g. Body Language
- Closing Remarks

6

Key Milestones

The diagram shows a horizontal timeline with four milestones: April 06, July 06, Sept 06, and Dec 06. Below these are boxes for 'Draft Program Sponsorship Location', 'Program Speakers Invitations Promotion Budget', 'Content Check of Summaries and Workshops', and 'Handout Logistics'. A starburst shape at the end of the timeline points to 'CONGRESS Basel 23/24 March 2007'.

7

Committee

- **Katharina AMACKER**, Head Diversity Switzerland, Novartis
- **Christine MOLL**, Vice-President SSPhS (Swiss Society of Pharmaceutical Sciences)
- **Roger SCHIBLI**, ETH
- **Nathalie WARDE**, Nad Pharma Consulting
- **Sabine WELTE**, Consulting, Coaching and Career Management

8

Preliminary Budget

- Expectations: Approx. 300 participants
- Participation fee: CHF 950
- Sponsorship: Min. CHF 100'000

9

Benefits for Sponsors

- Best-in-class organisation
- Positive image impact
- Increased visibility
- Access to talent
- Positive media coverage

10

**Women Life Science Leadership
European Congress 2007**
 23/24 March 2007, ABZ Congress Centre UBS
Basel, Switzerland