About the DZNE

As a consequence of demographic change, age-related diseases will be increasing. This applies in particular to dementias such as Alzheimer’s but also to other neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson’s. Against this background, the DZNE was founded in 2009 as a member of the Helmholtz Association and as the first of the German Centers for Health Research. Today, it comprises of ten sites and thus concentrates expertise, which is distributed throughout Germany within a single research institution. The DZNE’s more than 1,100 staff members are allocated throughout about 80 working groups, investigate the similarities and differences of various neurodegenerative diseases with the aim of developing new preventive and therapeutic approaches. The DZNE is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the German federal states in which DZNE sites are located.

www.dzne.de

Location

Auditorium of
CRT Zentrum Regenerative Therapien
Dresden - CRT Building 0624
Fetscherstraße
01307 Dresden

DZNE Dresden
25th of November

5 p.m
CRTD auditorium
In 2016, the DZNE decided to initiate an annual award lecture series to recognize outstanding scientists in the field of neurodegenerative diseases. Every year, the DZNE Lecture Award will be hosted by a different DZNE site.

This year the award ceremony will take place in Dresden and hosted by the DZNE site speaker Prof. Dr. Gerd Kempermann.

**Prof. Fred H. Gage** „Rusty“ currently serves as the president of the Salk Institute. In addition to his institutional leadership, Gage is a professor and Vi and John Adler Chair for Research on Age-Related Neurodegenerative Diseases in the Laboratory of Genetics. His work concentrates on the adult central nervous system and unexpected plasticity and adaptability to environmental stimulation that remains throughout one’s the life of all mammals. Gage’s efforts may lead to methods of replacing or enhancing brain and spinal cord tissues lost or damaged due to neurodegenerative disease or trauma.

Dr. Gage’s lab showed that, contrary to accepted dogma, human beings are capable of growing new nerve cells throughout life. Small populations of immature nerve cells are found in the adult mammalian brain, a process called neurogenesis.

Dr. Gage is working to understand how these cells can be induced to become mature functioning nerve cells in the adult brain and spinal cord. His lab showed that environmental enrichment and physical exercise can enhance the growth of new brain cells. They are studying the underlying cellular and molecular mechanisms that may be harnessed to repair the aged and damaged brain and spinal cord.

**Salk Institute**

Every cure has a starting point. The Salk Institute embodies Jonas Salk’s mission to dare to make dreams into reality. Its internationally renowned and award-winning scientists explore the very foundations of life, seeking new understandings in neuroscience, genetics, immunology, plant biology and more. The Institute is an independent nonprofit organization and architectural landmark: small by choice, intimate by nature and fearless in the face of any challenge. Be it cancer or Alzheimer’s, aging or diabetes, Salk is where cures begin.