



Media Release

Management change at the Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel (IOB)

Norbert Spirig, director of operations at IOB, will retire from the institute's management at the end of June 2023. Spirig is one of three directors of the IOB and has led operations since the institute's founding in 2017. Charles Gubser joins the institute in his place as chief operating officer.

Basel, January 10, 2023 Norbert Spirig has been a member of the management of IOB since 2017, the founding year of the institute. During this time, together with the other directors Hendrik Scholl and Botond Roska, he built up and significantly shaped the institute. After more than five years as director of operations, Spirig will retire at the end of June 2023.

Charles Gubser joined IOB as chief operating officer at the beginning of January and will fully take over the operational business from Norbert Spirig at the beginning of July 2023 as chief operating officer. In the meantime, Spirig and Gubser will work closely together to guarantee a smooth transition.

Gubser was until recently GPH Excellence Head at Novartis and Secretary of IOB's Board of Trustees for the last five years. Gubser who has worked with Novartis for 20 years brings extensive experience in the field of research and development.

Charles Gubser says: "I am very much looking forward to this new opportunity at IOB, where ground breaking research is happening in the ophthalmic field. And I am excited to support IOB's efforts to advance the understanding of vision, its diseases and to develop new therapies for vision loss."

About IOB

At the Institute of Molecular and Clinical Ophthalmology Basel (IOB), basic researchers and clinicians work hand in hand to advance the understanding of vision and its diseases, and to develop new therapies for vision loss. IOB started its operations in 2018. The institute is constituted as a foundation, granting academic freedom to its scientists. Founding partners are the University Hospital Basel, the University of Basel and Novartis. The Canton of Basel-Stadt has granted the institute substantial financial support.

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IOB Media Contact:

clara.vuille-dit-bille@iob.ch