



Oliver Brüstle

Oliver Brüstle is Professor of Reconstructive Neurobiology at the University of Bonn. He is also Co-Founder and Scientific Director of LIFE & BRAIN GmbH, a biomedical enterprise serving as translational hub of the University of Bonn Medical Center. Trained as an M.D., he conducted research and clinical work in neuropathology and neurosurgery at the universities of Zurich and Erlangen, respectively. In 1993 he joined the laboratory of Ron McKay at the National Institutes of Neurological Disorders and Stroke in Bethesda, MD, USA to study neural stem cells. Upon his return to Germany in 1997, he started his own lab and, in 2002, became director of the newly founded Institute of Reconstructive Neurobiology.

His field of interest is stem cell research, with a focus on stem cell-based brain repair. The Brüstle lab has particular expertise in the generation of neural cells from pluripotent stem cells and their application in models of neurological disease. Having been the first researcher working on human embryonic stem cells in Germany, he was instrumental in shaping the public debate around this sensitive topic and became a fierce political advocate of stem cell research.

In 2000, Oliver Brüstle received the Bennigsen-Foerder Award. Since 2002, he serves as Chair of the Steering Committee and Board member of the Stem Cell Network North Rhine Westphalia. He is editorial board member and referee for several scientific journals and reviewer for numerous funding agencies. Since 2008, he also serves on the boards of directors of the multinational European research consortia ESTOOLS and NEuroStemCell.