



The cover illustration shows a simplified model of a genetic interaction network: genes are represented as nodes and interactions as lines. The illustration is also a visual metaphor for the aim of the International Titisee Conferences: to bring together scientists from different subdisciplines and forge new connections between them, thus stimulating scientific exchange.

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FELLOWSHIPS The Board of Trustees of the Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds includes six renowned scientists, the speaker of the Board of Managing Directors at the company Boehringer Ingelheim and, as a permanent guest, a representative of the German Research Foundation (DFG). Their expert judgment characterizes the work of our foundation. The trustees meet three times a year to decide on the allocation of fellowships. In March 2012, they discussed 35 applications – selected from the 154 applications originally sent to the secretariat – in Florence, Italy. The limited funding available meant that a number of excellent applications had to be turned down. In the end, 15 applications were approved and 14 fellowships were taken up.

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THE FOUNDATION The Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) is a public foundation – an independent, non-profit institution for the exclusive and direct promotion of basic research in biomedicine. The foundation pays particular attention to fostering junior scientists. From the start it has provided its fellowship holders with more than just monthly bank transfers: seminars, events and personal support have nurtured the development of a worldwide network of current and former fellows.

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