Insight Into Editor

Insight Into the Editor: Christian Weber, MD, LMU (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität) Munich, Germany

Why did you choose the profession of scientific investigation?
Next to an inquisitive mind and my intrinsic curiosity because of the unique degree of personal freedom, responsibility, and possible creativity.

Who have been your role model(s) in your scientific and professional life?
My thesis advisor Prof Weber (eponymous by chance), who never set any borders or directions and yet always instigated an audacious and persistent way of thinking.

What are your scientific inspirations?
To combine new insights generated through the exchange with cross-disciplinary cooperation partners to address long-standing conundrums. The satisfaction of new and unexpected, sometimes serendipitous solutions for open questions raised by own original and consistent lines of research.

How have mentors contributed to your professional development?
My mentor Prof Weber maintained the infrastructure and prepared the political grounds, which enabled my return to a Chair as his successor in Munich.

If you knew then what you know now, would you do anything different?
No.

What wisdom do you impart on new investigators?
Science is a very social endeavor and involves close personal ties and commitment, so carefully select your coworkers and mentors. Moreover, the importance of many findings lies within the eyes of the beholder, so don’t go running after trends.

If you were not a scientist, which profession would you pick?
Physician, which I actually am.

What are your non-scientific activities?
Music, playing violin, art and literature, sports, cycling and soccer.

What sports do you follow?
Soccer, mostly the Champions League matches of FC Bayern München.

What are your favorite books, movies, music (pick one or all)?
Anything by Julian Barnes, for example, Levels of Life and Noise of Time, or Ian McEwan.
Episode movies such as Babel, Magnolia, or LA Crash.
Anything by Johann Sebastian Bach, for example Goldberg Variations, more contemporarily Nick Cave and The National.

What are you favorite foods and are they heart healthy?
Ice cream, in case of vegan Choco Nero, purely made from Chocolate Oils; it is actually heart healthy.
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