

Your application to "BIOMEDieval: it's a new era in engineering!"

Γεια σας BESTies in pretty Thessaloniki!

Are you ready for some hot Vienna-power? If yes, then I might introduce the delicious burning Manner to you at international evening! And don't worry if that's getting a bit hotter than expected - I'm not only a fine engineer but also a dutiful firefighter ;) My other hobbies are Judo #strong- black-belt-Ninja-power-added, Piano #romantic-music-power-added, and of course traveling #friend-making-globetrotter-power-added ##missioncomplete :D I'm spontaneous, I love food and I'd love Thessaloniki to be my next destination, first of all to get to know you guys and have a great time with everyone, but also to see Greece from the BEST perspective and to dive into your culinary culture and specialties!

I robot, Terminator and Co. made me interested in Bionics long before I started studying engineering. By now what is shown in action movies is boring to me, compared to what real science is performing in the labs at Boston, Berlin or Seoul already. The fusion between what engineers on one side, but especially medicine on the other side are making possible is where the magic is happening for me, and that's what I hope to learn more about in fantastic Thessaloniki with 20 other people as crazy as me.

Until now I could make friends in several continents and countries all over the world, including BEST reunions with Norwegians or Hungarians I hosted in Vienna and visits for reunions in Stockholm or Budapest. Unfortunately I never got a chance with Greece yet :/ although I had unbelievably much fun with Vasilis on my last BEST Course in Russia, when we fought together against the russian cold at pubcrawling - and survieeed! Hoping to change that and to make friends with more Hellas <3

Hugs and kisses from Vienna,

Falk the Spacewalker

Activity specific questions

What would be in your opinion the next breakthrough in bio-engineering?

A sensitive system, that allows the user to have actual feelings. Not only to get a haptic feedback through the mechanic impact or some single touch sensor information, but a detailed feedback of pressure in the first place, but also temperature or other parameters, implied on the whole relevant surface. This is of course interesting on external surfaces, but it's also more and more important on internal surfaces, where not all feelings are proceeded to the consciousness . Especially interesting it becomes for a heart, where one very important parameter is chemical recognition, so that substances like for example adrenalin are recognised and lead to an instant reaction of the artificial heart - which would in this case be to increase the heart beating frequency.

Would you prefer to be operated by a human or a robot doctor and why?

Assuming that the robot is technically able to perform the same operations as the doctor, the question is quite ethical and worth some discussing:) Doctors have to make life deciding decisions - and I'd be willing to lay the responsibility for saving my life in the emotionless, logical hands of a robot. The lack of intuition is in my opinion worth a 0% rate of mistakes due to overworking, tiredness or human faults. Many operations have a very clear scheme already to follow, where intuition rarely is needed. I admire doctors and the incredible work they do, and we'll always need them to find a way of how to save our lives, but for planned operations with a scheme one day the robots might be preferable for the listed reasons, to assist and serve the doctors.

Which part of your body would you replace with a bionic one and why?

I'd replace my eyes! I'd have them replaced with superhero eyes that can see in the dark, focus on everything between a bacteria and an airplane on the sky and offer opportunity to go beyond ultraviolet or infrared wavelength. Seeing infrared would give me the power to see objects in total darkness, to tell by eyesight in which of two identical cups is cold, and in which one hot water or even to see where somebody has been some time ago, due to the warm spots left on the ground and objects.