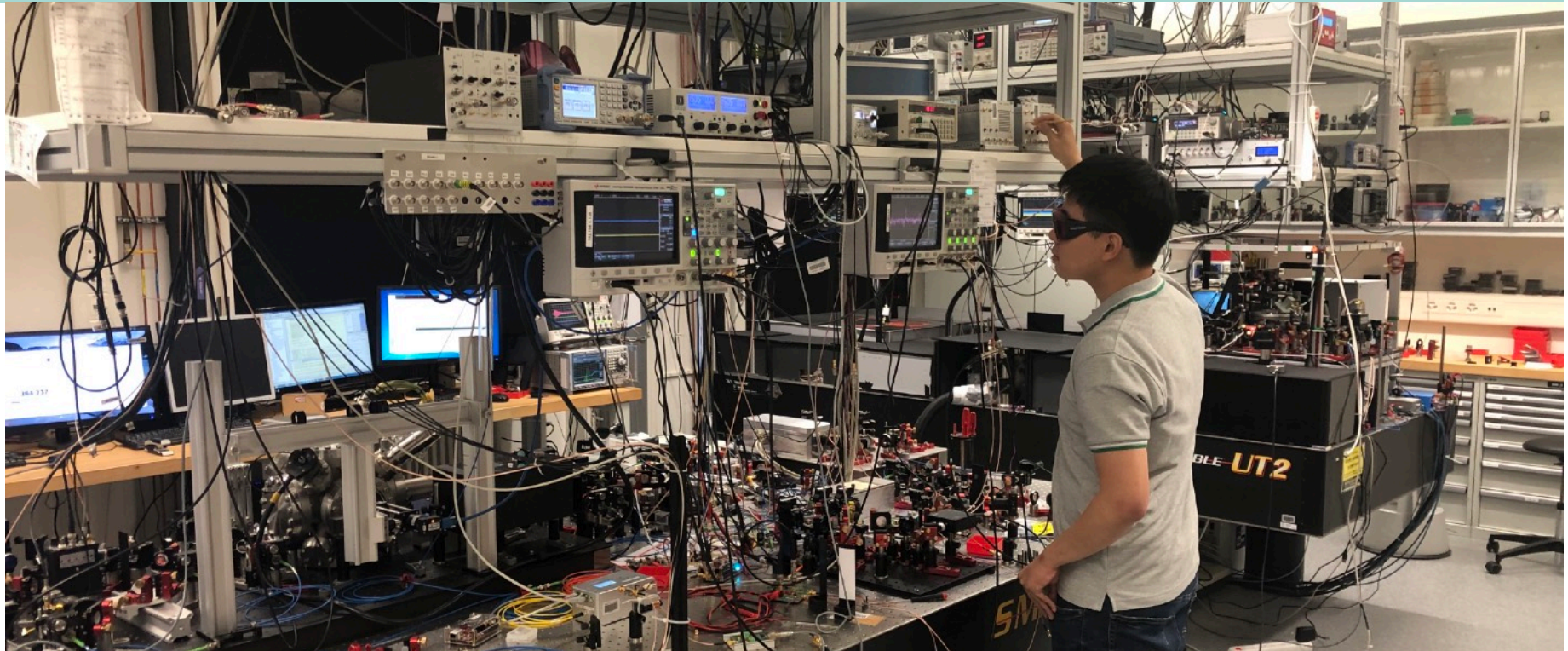




Universität  
Basel

# SNSF funding: perspective from physicists at a cantonal university

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# Curiosity driven research

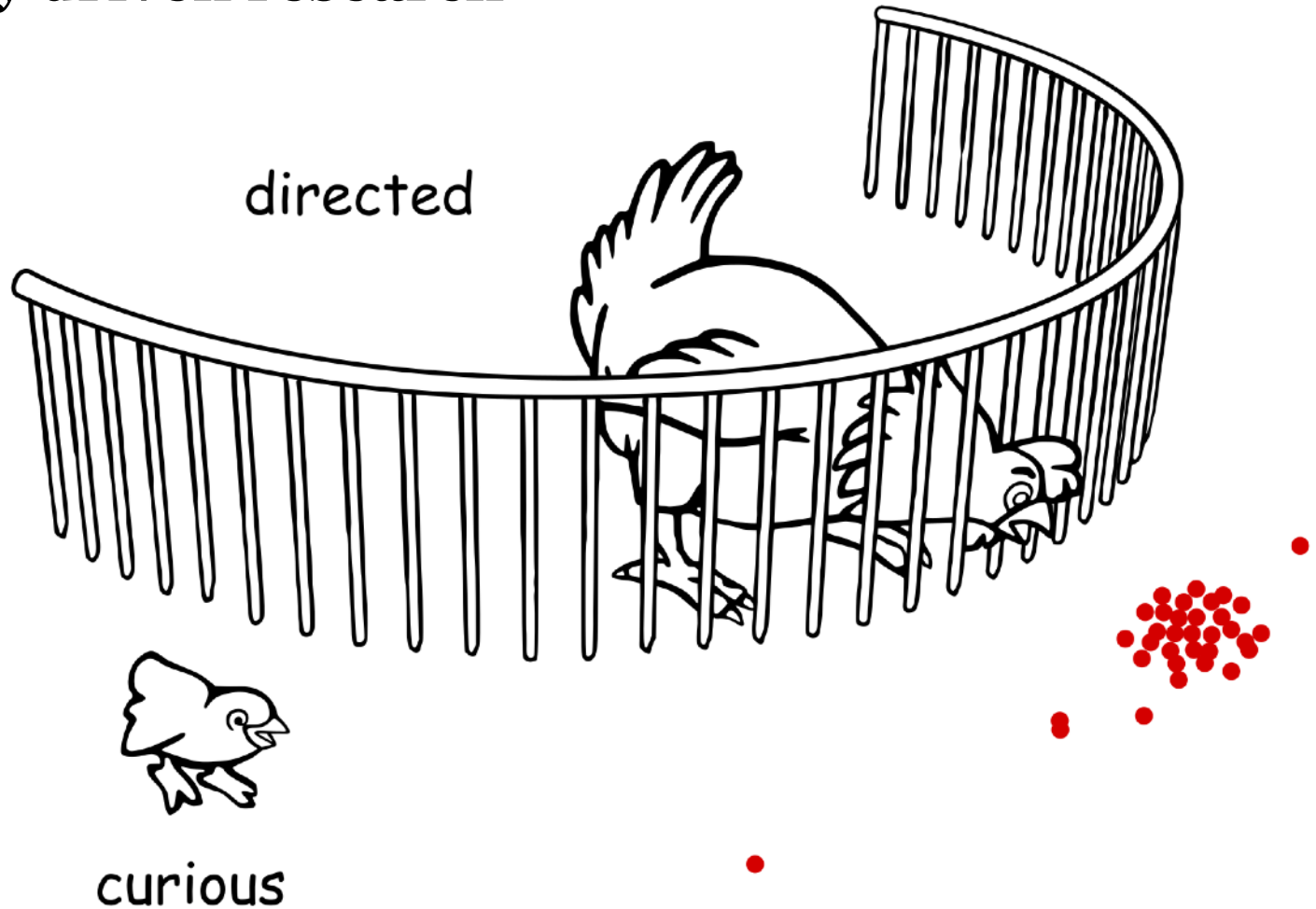


Figure: Theodor W. Hänsch, Physics Nobel Laureate 2005

# Thoughts on SNSF funding

## 1. Strengthen individual project funding

- It is the most important and innovative funding scheme
- No ideological biases: topics, individual/collaborative, mono/interdisciplinary,...
- Directed funding programs should not compromise budget for project funding

## 2. Keep success rates high

- Researchers at cantonal universities rely on SNSF project funding: continuity of research groups is at risk
- System becomes inefficient and quality drops if success rates are  $< 50\%$
- Research fields differ: group structure, need for equipment, experience of applicants, availability of other resources, ... this is reflected in success rates!

## 3. R'Equip funding is needed

- Essential for cantonal universities to fund equipment
- Offsets difference in funding needs of experimental and theoretical research
- Junior researchers cannot carry out projects if laboratory equipment is missing