



NEWSLETTER – JULY



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EDITORIAL

Exactly three years ago, in July 2007, it was announced in the biosaxony newsletter that the operator behind the SKB Saxon Coordination Office for Biotechnology was to change. This move was expected to lead to regional networks merging and the generation of synergies. Today, you are reading SKB's final newsletter. Starting in August, an all-Saxon network – the registered association biosaxony e.V. – will be assuming responsibility. And by expanding its focus to include life sciences and medical technologies, the biotech industry in Saxony will be able to tap additional synergy.

As far as biotechnology is concerned, the past three years have been very successful for Saxony: double-digit growth in the number of jobs in the biotech core industry, more than ten start-ups in the life sciences, exciting events ranging from Biotech meets Public to EuroMedtech, rapidly expanding research centers, business incubators jammed to the rafters, Saxony's arrival among the top five bioregions in Germany, and the coming-together of the most important players in Saxony within a single association. The future belongs to interdisciplinary fields involving biotech – from healthcare and the food industry to bioenergies. It's now time to build on the success in Saxony – and to make the rest of the world sit up and take notice.

The biosaxony team would like to take this opportunity to thank all the partners, colleagues, supporters and readers of this newsletter over the past few years – and to wish biosaxony e.V. every success.

We hope you have a relaxing holiday – and enjoy the second half of the summer!



Dr. Martin Pfister & the biosaxony team

INDUSTRY

FUTURE SAX FINAL 2010: SAXONY GOES BIOTECH

On June 23, Sven Morlok, Saxony's Minister of Economic Affairs, Employment and Transport, presented the prizes at the futureSAX awards ceremony held at PIER 15/Purobeach at the old port in Dresden to the winning start-ups and growing entrepreneurs.

Start-up Category

- 1st prize: Team Retinogen from Dresden
Development of a regenerative and protective cell therapy using autologous cells for patients with degenerative retinal disease
- 2nd prize: Team OvulaSens from Leipzig
Development of a natural fertility control system based on measuring the internal body temperature
- 3rd prize: Team BiancoScience from Leipzig
Development of a mechanism enabling genes to be exclusively shut down in predefined cells

Initiative Award for the Most Active Network Member

Winner: SMILE 'Self-Management Initiative Leipzig'

[Details](#)

Growth Category

c-LEcta received an award for being the most successful growth company.

The futureSAX prizes are awarded by the Saxon Ministry of Economic Affairs and several companies including bank Ostsächsische Sparkasse Dresden, reconstruction bank Sächsische Aufbaubank and others. Over all 64 teams have been nominated.

[Details](#)

PARTEC FROM GÖRLITZ TURNS 10

Biotech company Partec has two reasons to celebrate at the moment. For one thing it's currently celebrating ten successful years in Görlitz – and for another it's entering its second decade by launching CyFox, a new type of DNA analysis product. This completely integrated device for gel electrophoresis and related test reagents enables the real-time analysis of PCR gels thanks to its inbuilt detection unit.

[Details](#)

MANAGEMENT CHANGE AT BUBBLES AND BEYOND

On July 1, bubbles and beyond GmbH came under new management. Following the company's successful establishment, start-up phase specialist Dr. Rainer Surkow handed over the reins as planned after four years to new CEO Christian Römlein. Sales and marketing expert Herr Römlein will ensure the company continues to grow.

Christian Römlein has 22 years of management experience in consumer and sports goods, the chemical industry, the preservation of structures, and measurement technology. Most recently he was the managing director of Holmenkol AG. In his new position he heads the marketing, customer



and strategy departments and has also taken over Dr. Surkow's previous responsibilities, including financial and legal affairs, administration and organization.

[Details](#)

EXHIBITORS CONFIDENT IN RUN-UP TO BIOTECHNICA

The biotech industry is setting its sights on Hanover, where exhibitors and visitors from all over the world will convene this autumn at BIOTECHNICA 2010 from October 5–7. "BIOTECHNICA will showcase an array of innovations from the cutting-edge fields of biotechnology and life sciences," reported Stephan P. Kühne, a board member of Deutsche Messe AG. A plethora of small, highly specialist firms will be exhibiting in Hanover alongside numerous companies and industry leaders, including Eppendorf, Qiagen, Sartorius and Thermo Fisher Scientific. "Exhibitors are confident that coming to Hanover will further boost sales, and they want to use BIOTECHNICA for that purpose," added Kühne. The trade show will be complemented by an extensive conference program involving international speakers from science, industry and politics.

By the way, biosaxony will be appearing at the 'Research for the Future' stand.

[Details](#)



SITUATIONS VACANT

DRESDEN

Apogepha Arzneimittel GmbH is seeking an analytical laboratory manager.

[More details](#)

GeSIM mbH is seeking a software developer.

[More details](#)

Qualitey AG is seeking to appoint the following:

- Software testing and software support specialist
- Software developer

[More details](#)

quodata GmbH is seeking to appoint the following:

- Biotechnologist working in R&D
- Software developer
- Trainee to work in mathematics and statistics
- Trainee to work in biotechnology
- Trainee to work in marketing

[More details](#)

FREIBERG

G.E.O.S. Freiberg Ingenieurgesellschaft mbH is seeking to appoint the following:

- Geotechnics graduate, geology graduates and a geophysics graduate
- Hydraulic planner
- Landscape and outdoor planning engineer
- Civil engineer specializing in geotechnics

[More details](#)

JAHNSDORF

biostep GmbH is seeking to appoint the following:

- Sales representative
- Intern for the development of molecular biology and analytical apparatus
- Production and quality control intern
- Internal export and sales team personnel
- A student of IT, electronics or computer science wishing to do a project in the company for their undergraduate dissertation

[More details](#)

LEIPZIG

CORTEX Biophysik GmbH is seeking to appoint the following:

- Development engineer
- Technical buyer

[More details](#)

pluriSelect GmbH is seeking to appoint the following:

- Office team assistant
- Scientific field service engineer
- Member of staff for office organization and assistance, R&D and marketing
- Separation technology trainee to work in R&D/production
- Marketing and innovation management trainee

[More details](#)

c-LEcta GmbH is seeking a production operator.

[More details](#)

RADEBERG

ABX GmbH Radeberg is seeking to appoint the following:

- Quality control officer
- Documentation assistant in quality control
- Production operator

[More details](#)

RADEBEUL

AWD.pharma GmbH & Co. KG is offering the following traineeships starting in 2010:

- Industrial clerk
- IT officer

[More details](#)

Arevipharma GmbH is seeking a laboratory chemist.

[More details](#)

SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

MPI-CBG RESEARCHERS FIND REPAIR CREW OF CELLS

DNA repair is essential to maintain genome integrity and genes with roles in DNA repair are frequently mutated in a variety of human diseases. However, a systematic analysis of this important DNA repair pathway in mammalian cells has not been reported.

A research team headed by Frank Buchholz, research group leader at the MPI-CBG, now present an esiRNA screen for genes involved in DNA double strand break repair. They report 61 genes that influenced the frequency of DNA repair, and characterize in detail one of the genes that decreased the frequency of DNA double-strand break repair.

This is the first genome-scale survey of genes with roles in DNA repair in mammalian cells. "It provides a dataset that should accelerate the discovery of novel genes with roles in DNA repair and associated medical conditions", says Buchholz.

Source: PLoS Biology, 29 June 2010

EUROPEAN COMMISSION TO REWRITE RULES ON CULTIVATING GM CROPS

The DIB German Biotechnology Industry Association believes that the political blockade of genetically modified crops in place for years now is unlikely to be overcome by sharing responsibilities between Brussels and the Member States, as recently proposed by the European Commission. Says DIB Secretary Dr. Ricardo Gent: "It seems illogical and legally questionable that the cultivation of a certain GM crop can be banned by Member States without grounds if EU-wide licensing has unequivocally certified its safety for humans and the environment." However, Dr. Gent welcomed the announcement by John Dalli, European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy, that scientific facts should continue to be decisive for licensing.

[Details](#)

EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY: LESS IS SOMETIMES MORE

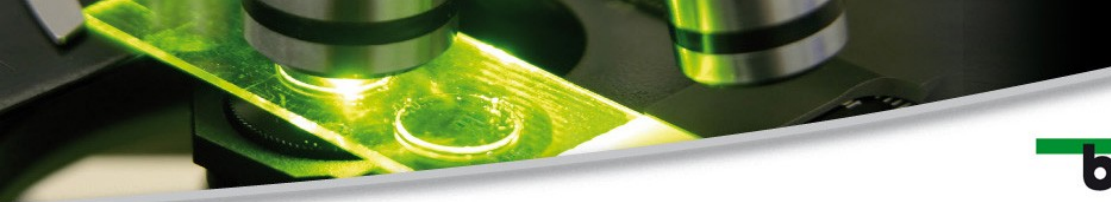
New research findings by the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Leipzig are now broadening our view of evolutionary processes. They indicate that evolution should no longer be regarded as just an improvement of the genetic pool by an increase in functions, and that the loss of previously useful genes was also an important step in evolution into mankind.

[Details](#)

YOUNG CROP SCIENTISTS VISIT BIO CITY

Junior scientists from the IPK Leibniz Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research in Gatersleben recently visited the BIO CITY business incubator in Leipzig. "Visiting three companies broadened our horizons," declared Martin Mau, who represents graduate students at the IPK. The doctoral students from Ghana, India, Iran and other countries are conducting research on and into crops and other plants rather than bacteria or stem cells. The field trip included detailed lectures, discussions, and tours of laboratories, production facilities and greenhouses.

[Details](#)



CARL GUSTAV CARUS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL: PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT FOR SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH

External funding is becoming increasingly important for high-quality research – especially at a time of mounting cuts in public financial assistance. Accordingly, all research institutes are endeavoring to boost their third-party funding. Prof. Stefan Bornstein, Director of Medical Clinic III at Carl Gustav Carus University Hospital in Dresden, has now had the brainwave of setting up a ‘Grant Writing Office’, where the form and content of all applications for research funding can be reviewed and if necessary revised prior to submission. Prof. Bornstein expects this to raise the chances of external funding being awarded. His idea has now been fleshed out by the GWT – a knowledge and technology transfer service company at the interface between public research centers and industry.

[Details](#)

FUNDING

EDUCATION MINISTRY ANNOUNCES €200 MILLION TO DEVELOP NEXT GENERATION OF BIOTECHNOLOGICAL TECHNIQUES

July 8 saw the opening congress for the strategy process 'Next Generation of Biotechnological Techniques' in Berlin, which paved the way for drawing up the necessary R&D steps and bringing together researchers from the life sciences and engineering. The BMBF German Ministry of Education and Research plans to provide up to €200 million over the next 10–15 years to fund the development of the next generation of biotechnological techniques.

[Details](#)

GERMAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

– GABI-INNOVATIV: AGRO-BIOTECH CAMPAIGN BIOTECHNOLOGY IN THE FRAMEWORK PROGRAM 'BIOTECHNOLOGY – USING AND SHAPING ITS OPPORTUNITIES'

Efficient plant-based innovation and knowledge transfer chains are to be set up in interdisciplinary R&D projects that are geared to the needs of (and if possible directly involve) potential buyers in the food, animal feed, energy and manufacturing industries as well as consumers. The 'GABI-innovativ' is chiefly aimed at the processing of crops of outstanding domestic or international significance especially in terms of cultivation and the market.

Applications are invited from the private sector, universities and non-university research centers based in Germany. In the first stage, project outlines must be submitted **by 31 August 2010**.

[Details](#)

– GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING A NATIONAL BIOMATERIAL BANK CAMPAIGN

To ensure biomaterial banks' high quality, the development of overarching centralizing structures is to be funded at locations with existing biomaterial banks.

These central structures are designed to aid researchers working at the locations concerned. They are intended to bring about standardization in the handling of samples and the collection of data in order to ensure better comparability and the broader scientific use of biomaterials (including abroad). Proposals should contain uniform solutions for the efficient use of biomaterial banks in domestic and international cooperation projects.

Applications are invited from state and private universities as well as non-university research centers. Project outlines must be submitted electronically to the organizers' web portal (<http://www.pt-it.de/ptoutline/cbmb>) **by 15 September 2010**.

[Details](#)

– GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING INITIAL MEASURES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION WITH RUSSIA

The aims of this program are to explore and initiate cooperation in applied R&D. Applications in the following areas are especially welcome: optical technology, information and communication technologies, biological research and biotechnology, life sciences, health research, marine and polar research, environmental technology and sustainability research, inland water research, nanotechnology, the humanities and the social sciences.

Applications are invited from German research centers, universities, and small and medium-sized enterprises. The deadline for applications is **31 December 2010**.

[Details](#)

GERMAN INNOVATION PRIZE

Accenture, EnBW, Evonik and business journal *WirtschaftsWoche* have joined forces to sponsor the German Innovation Prize for outstanding, cutting-edge innovations by German companies set to change their industry and markets. The prize will be awarded in the following categories:

- Large corporations
- Medium-sized companies
- Start-ups

Product innovations, pioneering business models, processes and services, and organizational and marketing innovations – in a nutshell, innovation made in Germany – can all be entered. Entries must be submitted by **November 14, 2010**.

[Details](#)

THIRD SME TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARD

Chemnitz University of Technology backed by Deutsche Postbank AG is staging a national competition entitled 'wissen.schafft.arbeit' ('knowledge creates work') for medium-sized companies to promote especially successful and sustainable transfer projects between universities and research institutes with small and medium-sized companies. The first prize will be accompanied by a check for €20,000.

Entries are invited from researchers, employers and entrepreneurs (especially SMEs) who through cooperation have effectively transferred leading-edge knowledge to industry. The cooperation team involved must include at least one scientific player based in Germany and an SME. Entries must be submitted by **September 15, 2010**.

[Details](#)

EVENTS, TRADE SHOWS, CONFERENCES AND CONGRESSES

IN SAXONY (AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER 2010)

Until September 12th – Leipzig: Exhibition of Gunther von Hagen: „Körperwelten – the original“ - [Details](#)

August 1-6, Leipzig: 9th World Congress on Genetics applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP) - [Details](#)

August 2-6, Leipzig: Holiday academy III of der Euro-Gene GmbH, theme: „Schachbretzwillinge – Wie die Gene die Hautfarbe beeinflussen“ - [Details](#)

September 2-4, Leipzig: homecare-Leipzig, [Details](#)

September 14-15, Leipzig: Health-forum Saxony: 2nd conference - [Details](#)

IN GERMANY AND WORLDWIDE (AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER 2010)

August 4-11, Aachen, Germany / Kerkade, Netherlands: 4. BIODIVERSITY2010 Summer School 2010, Protein based Biomaterials for the industrial biotechnology - [Details](#)

August 24-27, Zurich, Switzerland: NanoBio - [Details](#)

August 29 - September 2, Hamburg, Germany: 5th International Congress on Biocatalysis - [Details](#)

August 30 - September 3, Berlin, Germany: Biotech & Pharma Business Summer School, from Target to Market - [Details](#)

September 1-2, Hamburg, Germany: 6th congress of healthcare industry - [Details](#)

September 1-3, Seoul, South Korea: BIO Korea 2010 - [Details](#)

September 4-7, Barcelona, Spain: EMBO Meeting 2010 - [Details](#)

September 6-8, Bologna, Italy - ESBES - ISPPP – BIOTHERMODYNAMICS – [Details](#)

September 6-10, Greifswald, Germany: BIODIVERSITY2010 Summer School 2010, Protein Engineering - Rational Design & Directed Evolution - [Details](#)

September 12-15, Saskatoon, Canada: ABIC 2010: Bridging Biology and Business - [Details](#)

September 14-18, Rimini, Italy: IBS2010: 1th International Biotechnology Symposium and Exhibition - [Details](#)

September 15-17, Shanghai, China: analytica China 2010 - [Details](#)

September 15-17, Boston, USA: BioPharm America™ - [Details](#)

September 18 bis November 28, Berlin, Germany: GMP-Basiskurs Biotechnologie - [Details](#)

September 20-22, Brunswick, Germany: Annual German Conference on Bioinformatics – [Details](#)

September 22-22, Krakow, Poland: EUROBIOTECH 2010: White biotechnology - [Details](#)

September 21-23, Aachen, Germany: German-Turkey Workshop about biotechnology for industrial and medical applicants, [Details](#)

September 21-23, Aachen, Germany: 28th DECHEMA-annual meeting of biotechnologists and ProcessNet- annual meeting - [Details](#)

September 21-22, Hyderabad, India – BIO India Partnering Conference – [Details](#)

September 23-25, Amsterdam, The Netherlands: BBMRI, Biobanking for Science - [Details](#)

September 27-28, Zurich, Switzerland: 10th Annual Biotech in Europe Investor Forum - [Details](#)

September 28-30, Copenhagen, Denmark: Biotech Forum + Scanlab 2010 - [Details](#)

September 29-30, Geneva, Switzerland: BioBusiness Network 2010 - [Details](#)

September 29 - October 1, Pamplona, Spain: BIOSPAIN 2010 - [Details](#)

September 29 - October 2, Mannheim, Germany: 7th annual meeting of German united association for clinical chemistry and lab medicine – [Details](#)

September 30 - October 1, Munich, Germany: 9th european health congress – [Details](#)

PREVIEW (OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER 2010)

October 1-4, Rostock-Warnemünde, Germany: 6th International Symposium on Neuroprotection and Neurorepair – [Details](#)

October 5-7, Hannover, Germany: BIOTECHNICA 2010 – [Details](#)

October 5-9, Hannover, Germany: 5th World Congress on Preventive and Regenerative Medicine – [Details](#)

October 6-7, Quebec, Canada: BioContactQuébec 2010 - [Details](#)

October 7, Leipzig, Germany: 6th medium-sized entrepreneur-day - [Details](#)

October 13-15, Stuttgart, Germany: BioStar 2010 – [Details](#)

October 14-16, Greifswald, Germany: Workshop on Biofuels and Bioconversion - [Details](#)

October 19-21, Edinburgh, UK: EFIB 2010, European Forum for Industrial Biotechnology - [Details](#)

October 26-27, Lille, France: Biofit 2010, Fostering Innovation & Transfer - [Details](#)

October 28, Frankfurt am Main, Germany: 2. FIZ Life Sciences Forum - [Details](#)

October 29-30, Leipzig, Germany: Fraunhofer Life Science Symposium Leipzig 2010 - [Details](#)

November 1, Leipzig, Germany: 6th healthcare industry forum Leipzig - [Details](#)

November 8-9, Barcelona, Spain: EuroPLX44, European Pharma License Exchange - [Details](#)

November 15-17, Munich, Germany: BIO-Europe 2010 - [Details](#)

November 17-20, Dusseldorf, Germany: MEDICA Weltforum der Medizin - [Details](#)

November 18, Uppsala, Sweden: BIO Angstrom 2010, Technologies for in vitro diagnostics - [Details](#)

November 18-20, Heilbad Heiligenstadt, Germany: Annual meeting of the German Society of Biomaterials e.V. (DGBM) - [Details](#)

For more events click [here](#).

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