

biosaxony Newsletter

October 2008

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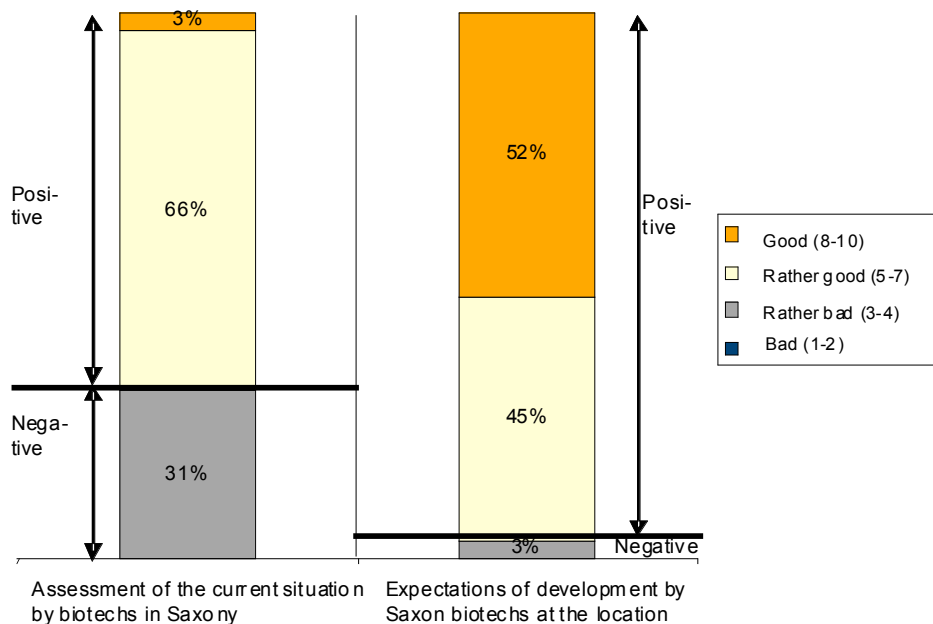
- Saxony
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Dear Readers:

Germany's leading bioregions are listed in the special issue named "Biotechnology 2008" of the Going Public magazine. Under the headline "On the Upswing", indicators of the TOP 5 bioregions are listed: a good infrastructure, sufficient supplies of capital and the networking of enterprises and sciences. Notably the increase in workforce numbers of the industry is characteristic for the recent months. Among the five listed leading biotechnology regions is: biosaxony.

The barometer of opinion within the biotechnology enterprises in Saxony surveyed in the current biosaxony biotech-study suits to this:

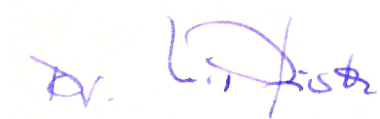
Barometer of opinion, biosaxony



Source: biosaxony 2008

The special issue of the Going Public magazine "Biotechnology 2008" is available from biosaxony.

A good start into an eventful, optimistic fall, from



Martin Pfister & the biosaxony team

ECONOMY

Partec: Reagents from Görlitz to India

The Görlitz biotec enterprise Partec supplies reagents of half a million US dollars to India. The reagents are needed for 67 CyFlow counters that the Görlitz enterprise installed in Indian hospitals in spring. The apparatuses serve the diagnostic monitoring of the immune system of those HIV infected. The Indian government wants to procure 60 additional apparatuses now. "If this order is placed with Partec GmbH, this will mean that we take over the market leadership in India", says Roland Göhde, CEO of Partec GmbH.

www.partec.com

Labor Diagnostik Leipzig: Real-time RT-PCR test system

Labor Diagnostik Leipzig takes the first test system to the German market that is able to prove any serotypes of the Bluetongue virus in blood and tissue samples of ruminant animals for sure. The Bluetongue disease is an infectious viral disease of e.g. sheep. The disease is an animal epidemic that requires reporting to the authorities, though not harmful to man. VIROTYPE® BTV was evaluated and recommended by the Swiss Institut für Viruskrankheiten und Immunprophylaxe (Institute of Virology and Immunoprophylaxis) (IVI) and approved by Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (Friedrich Loeffler Institute) for pools with up to ten blood samples. The new product was presented by Labor Diagnostik Leipzig in the scope of the AVID meeting "Virology" in September at Kloster Banz.

http://de.lab-leipzig.de/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=199&Itemid=91

Cenix BioScience GmbH: New infection path of malaria found

Jointly with Alnylam Pharmaceuticals (ALNY), a leading supplier of RNA interference therapeutics, of Cambridge, and the biomedical research center Instituto de Medicina Molecular (IMM), of Lisbon, the Dresden Cenix BioScience GmbH published a joint study in the Cell Host & Microbe journal. It is for the first time that a molecular interrelation between malaria and the cholesterol metabolism has been described, which can lead to new approaches for the treatment of malaria.

www.biosaxony.de/

CHOREN: TAF and UET changed names

The Freiberg CHOREN subsidiaries changed names. Thermische Apparate Freiberg GmbH (TAF) now has got the name CHOREN Components GmbH; Umwelt – und Energietechnik Freiberg GmbH (UET) was given the name CHOREN Technologies

GmbH. The two enterprises, decisively involved in the design, construction and start-up of the worldwide first commercial biomass-to-liquids (BTL) production plant, now show their affiliation to the CHOREN Group also by their names.

www.choren.com/de/choren_industries/informationen_presse/pressemitteilungen/?nid=191

DBFZ and IE: Merger completed

The former Leipzig Institut für Energetik und Umwelt (Institute for Energy and Environment) (IE) and Deutsche Biomasse-Forschungszentrum (German Biomass Research Center) (DBFZ) newly established in Leipzig have now finally merged. Professor Martin Kaltschmitt, head of the IE for many years, was appointed the scientific head of the DBFZ that is mainly financed by the Federal Government and that should provide for round about 100 jobs later.

www.ie-leipzig.de/Energetik/Institut.htm

SCIENCE & EDUCATION

Leipzig University: Pharmaceutical product against Alzheimer's disease

Scientists of Paul-Flechsig-Institut für Neuroanatomie (Paul Flechsig Institute for Neuroanatomy) of the Leipzig University, in cooperation with the biotechnology enterprise Probiodrug AG in Halle, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and Magdeburg Leibniz-Institut für Neurobiologie (Leibniz Institute for Neurobiology) have developed an active agent against an enzyme decisively involved in development of Alzheimer's disease.

The researchers have already successfully tested the new agent on fruit flies and mice. "Successful treatment was verifiable so that according to the current state of knowledge there is justified hope that men, too, need not [...] expect side effects", so Steffen Roßner, of Paul Flechsig Institute.

Patients may be treated with this pharmaceutical product in seven years at the earliest. The typical development of a pharmaceutical product may, however, cost up to 800 million Euros, so Professor Hans-Ulrich Demuth, of Probiodrug AG. The enterprise and the partners are therefore looking for cooperation with the pharma industry.

http://db.uni-leipzig.de/aktuell/index.php?modus=pmanzeige&pm_id=3127

CRTD: New space for international, excellent research of regenerative medicine

"Excellent research requires excellent conditions", so the head of the CRTD, Michael Brand. "At this time already, more than 100 international scientists of DFG-Forschungszentrum für Regenerative Therapien Dresden (DFG Research Center of Regenerative Medicine Dresden) (CRTD) are waiting for new space." Therefore a new research building with 6,700 square meters of floor space will be built soon. In close neighborhood to the present BioInnovationsZentrum (BioInnovationCenter), the CRTD will start the construction in the months to come, with state funding of 42.5 million Euros. The construction project is funded jointly by Germany and the Free State of Saxony as a project of national significance for university research. Construction shall be started in March 2009, with the preparation already beginning in November 2008.

www.crt-dresden.de

TRM Leipzig: Biobones in lieu of metal implant

Researchers of the Leipzig Translationszentrum für Regenerative Medizin (Translational Center for Regenerative Medicine) (TRM) have traced a new bone substitute. The materials scientist Dr. Sven Henning works with a plastic material produced by bacteria: "Our new material not only provides the bearing and accurately fitting substitute for bones lacking, but at the same time is a "junglegym" for new cells that will find optimum conditions for growth there." The new materials combination is much closer to a natural bone than the usual metal implant. In addition, the risk of rejection

would decrease considerably. Should the coming preclinical studies be successful, the first patients could receive the new bio implants already in five to eight years.

<http://idw-online.de/pages/de/news279353>

Bergakademie Freiberg Technical University: Biotechnology as a subject examined in the Abitur (university entrance level examination)

On September 3, 2008, the two-year interdisciplinary basic course “Biotechnology“ was opened at the “Senate Hall“ of the Freiberg University. It was developed by Geschwister-Scholl-Gymnasium (school) jointly with Gründer- und Innovationszentrum (Founders and Innovation Center) Freiberg (GIZeF) and TU Bergakademie (Technical University). In the first year already, eleven students enrolled in the innovative course the grades for which will be included in the final school examination grade. One of the main focuses will be genetic engineering. This way, final class students may get to know the differences of DNA at the Institut für Wissenschaften (Institute for Sciences), in laboratory experiments. The reform of the final classes was the cause for this extraordinary project. This reform plans to abolish biology – the basis for various fields of study – as an advanced-level course from the curriculum.

http://tu-freiberg.de/presse/aktuelles/aktuelles_detail.html?Datensatz=571

CRTD/TU Dresden, IPF: Professor for “Biofunctional Polymer Materials“ appointed

Prof. Carsten Werner, on September 1, took over the chair for “Biofunctional Polymer Research“ borne by the Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden (CRTD)/TU Dresden and Leibnitz Institut für Polymerforschung (Leipzig Institute of Polymer Research (IPF)). With his excellent knowledge of biomaterials, the professor will support the CRTD above all on the development of polymer matrices for the stimulation of regenerative processes. Prof. Carsten Werner is among the founders of the Max-Bergmann-Zentrum für Biomaterialien (Max Bergman Center for Biomaterials) and speaker of B-CUBE. In addition to his new professorship, he will remain to be the head of the research department “Biofunctional Polymer Materials“ at the IPF Dresden and associate professor at the Institute of Biomaterials and Bioengineering of the University of Toronto.

www.crt-dresden.de/index.php?id=6&L=1

Dresden Hygiene Museum: Genome chip – public lecture

In the scope of the Deutsche Konferenz für Bioinformatik (German Conference of Bioinformatics) (September 9 – 12, 2008) Jens Reich, Professor of Bioinformatics at Humboldt Universität (University) Berlin, recently directed a discussion titled “Die Würde der Person im Zeitalter des Genomchips“ (The dignity of the individual in the age of the genome chip). In a few years, you can buy your own genome sequence on a magnetic card and learn this way which mental and physical capacity you have with suitable promotion, to which diseases you are inclined and what average age you could reach.

The opinions about in how far such a data collection affects the dignity of the individual or rather pushes the biological knowledge widely diverged. Agreement was there on the necessity of responsible acting.

<http://idw-online.de/pages/de/event24486>

Biotechnological breeding methods in fruit growing

In early September, the first International Symposium on Biotechnology in Fruit Growing was held in Dresden. 170 scientist from 40 countries exchanged their knowledge on the latest biotechnological methods in fruit growing in lectures and discussions. "The requirements on fruit growing are changing with the climatic change", so the host, Prof. Dr. Magda-Viola Hanke of Julius Kühn Institute (JKI) – Federal Research Institute for Cultivated Plant. Further topics of the day were "smart breeding" (biotechnology without genetic engineering), as well as strategies of genetic technology for the creation of cisgenic plant and improved growing methods.

www.bionity.com/news/d/86531/

46th Annual Meeting of the Society of Laboratory Animal Sciences

"Animal experiments cannot be avoided if we [search for] medical advancement and want to cure diseases", so Prof. Wieland Huttner of the Dresden Max-Planck-Institut für Molekulare Zellbiologie und Genetik (Max Planck Institute for Cell Biology and Genetics) in informal talks at the Lecture Center of TU Dresden. New mouse models and mouse genetics with special view to immunological issues and regenerative medicine were in the focus of the event on September 14 – 17. But also the optimal keeping of animals was talked about, as in Germany at this time approximately 2.5 million experiment animals are being kept. 700 participants were a record for the event that was held in East Germany for the second time.

www.gv-solas2008.de/de/frs_index.asp

FUNDING

futureSAX Business Plan Competition: Start into the 7th round

Since September 25, innovative business founders and young entrepreneurs of the growth industry have got the chance again to submit their business plans from the field of technology, bio/nanotechnology, communication and service. The innovative business ideas for the first phase of the competition may be submitted on or before **December 9, 2008**. The participants can also use the free seminar program and get individual help with problems and questions.

The best submissions will be evaluated by high-ranking representatives from economy and politics and awarded with prizes of 68,000 euros in total.

www.futuresax.de

FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH: Funding for European cooperation on the field of technology

By the “Eurostars“ funding program, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research supports the R&D of small and medium-sized businesses (SMB), as well as their European partners. It is the target to increase the innovative competency and competitiveness of the SMBs. Research and development projects on the field of technology with civil purpose will be funded. Businesses and universities, as well as extra-university research institutes may apply provided that they cooperate with an enterprise. Projects to be submitted on or before **December 31, 2008**.

www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/12890.php

FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH: Funding for regeneration technologies

The funding “Development and Validation of Methods and Processes of Regenerative Technologies for the Application in Medicine“ by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research is notably directed to small and medium-sized biotechnology enterprises (SMB) that want to form their economic focus on the field of the regenerative therapies. In the scope of the project, suitable strategies for specific fields of application before the background of the EU harmonization, as well as classification and approval of ATMPs (Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products) shall be developed. Project proposals may still be submitted **November 19, 2008**.

www.bmbf.de/foerderungen/12577.php

DECHEMA: Prizes for natural material research

On **November 15**, the application period for the Doctoral Candidates' Prize, as well as the Junior Scientists' Prize for Natural Materials Research of DECHEMA e.V. and DECHEMA – Working Committee “Low-Molecular Natural Materials with Biological

Activity“ will end. The prizes are 500 or 3,000 euros respectively and shall support young junior scientists in their trend-setting projects.

www.dechema.de/Presse/19_2008+ausschreibung+naturstoffpreise-highlight-Naturstoff-Forschung-p-123083.html

EVENTS, FAIRS, CONGRESSES

In Saxony (October/ November 2008)

October 16, 2008 – Dresden: future dialogue “biotechnology”

Venue: ICC Dresden

Organizer: Chemieverband Norstostchemie –

www.biotech-dresden.de/index.php?lg=de&id=18&lid=1128

October 20 – 21, 2008 – Leipzig, Germany: German cluster conference –

www.mitteldeutschland.com

October 23, 2008 – Leipzig: Fraunhofer forum of innovation with the issue of „demography and health resources –

Issue: New solutions for the for the health and employment market. The aim is to cross the complementary innovative knowledge – and service approaches of regenerative medicine and gerontology stronger than in the past

www.izi.fraunhofer.de/izi_pressemitteilungen2008.html

October 24 – 25, 2008 – Leipzig: 3rd Fraunhofer Life Science Symposium

Issue: Ischemia and regeneration

Forum to bioinformatics – www.fs-leipzig.com

November 7, 2008 – Dresden: “One day on location”- Institute of Leibnitz for polymer research offer the possibility of visiting within the program of the DBG

Registration: <http://www.dpg-physik.de/gliederung/ak/aiv/labor/index.html>

November 12, 2008 – Dresden: Biotech Meets Public, an event from biosaxony – We invite you to the vineyard Schloß Wackerbarth. The topic of this biosaxony event is: “Vaccinate – preventive and therapeutic – what is possible on influenza, HIV and cancer?”

Details and registration on www.biotech-meets-public.de

November 20, 2008 – Chemnitz: Symposium "Does knowledge create employment?"

Among others with forum: biosaxony - the biotechnology network of Saxony –

www.wissenschaftarbeit.de

In Germany and Worldwide (October/ November 2008)

November 6 - 8, 2008 – Berlin: 10th annual congress of clinical pharmacology, topic: “From system-biology to therapy decision” – www.vklipha2008.de

November 12, 2008, Halle, Germany: – Science Meets Companies – Contact fair for alumni of life sciences – www.sfi-halle.de/messe08/?page=start

November 14, 2008 – Hamburg: Hanseatic India Colloquium: Healthcare, Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Science – www.elgabiotech.com/htmls/news.html

November 17 – 19, 2008 – Heidelberg/Mannheim: BioEurope 2008 – <http://www.ebdgroup.com>

November 19 – 22, 2008 – Düsseldorf: MEDICA 40th – world - forum of medicine – www.medica.de

November 23 – 27, 2008 – Antwerp, Belgium: 4th European Congress of the International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering – www.embec2008.be

November 24 – 25, 2008 – Barcelona, Spain: EuroPLX (European Pharma License Exchange), international platform for pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical companies – www.euoplx.com/eplx/set.htm

Outlook (December 2008 until May 2009)

December 1 – 2, 2008 – Berlin, Germany: 6th International Congress on Biofuels – Fuels of the future 2008 – www.bioenergie.de/kraftstoffe-der-zukunft/start.htm

December 1 – 3, 2008 – Dresden: 2nd DMTS – medicine engineering symposium of Dresden – www.fms-dresden.de

December 10 – 11, 2008 – Bremen, Germany: „Waste to energy“- International Congress and Conference for Energy from Waste and Biomass – www.wte-expo.de

January 21, 2009 – Munich, Germany: ScieCon Munich 2009, company contact fair - www.sciecon.info

February 2 – 3, 2009 – Lisbon, Portugal: EuroPLX 39, platform of international exchange in the fields of pharmaceutical – and biopharmaceutical-companies www.europlx.com

February 18 – 20, 2009 – Tokyo, Japan: nano tech - International Nanotechnology Exhibition & Conference – www.ics-inc.co.jp/nanotech

February 19 – 20, 2009 – Erfurt, Germany: 5th international technology transfer days "Biomaterial 2009" – www.biomaterial2009.de

March 4 – 6, 2009 – Berlin: NanoMed 2009, 6th International Conference on Bio-medical Applications of Nanotechnology – <http://nm09.nanoevents.de>

March 11 – 13, 2009 – Weimar: 42nd annual meeting of german catalytics – www.processnet.org/katalytiker09

March 29 - April 2, 2008 – Berlin, Germany: Proteomics Forum 2009 – www.ctw-congress.de/proteomicforum2009

May 11 – 15, 2009 – Frankfurt a.M.: ACHEMA 2009 – 29th international exhibition congress for chemistry, techniques, environment protection and biotechnology - www.achema.de

May 26 – 27, 2009 – Dresden: Nanofair- 7th international nanotechnology symposium - www.vdi-wissensforum.de/index.php?id=769

Further event notes you can find on the homepage of www.biosaxony.de under the category events.

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