



# NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2009



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Dear Readers:

“When they have joined us, they don’t want to leave us again that soon“, so Professor Kai Simons, director emeritus of the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Cellular Biology (MPI-CBG) in Dresden some time ago. His statement referred to scientists who want to come to Saxony/Dresden. It could hardly be imagined what dimension this would take: In October, the MPI-CBG was chosen “Best Place to Work in Academia“. In the worldwide survey by the “The Scientist“ journal for the best employers in research (119 institutes: 94 in the USA, 25 outside the USA), the MPI-CBG made it to the first rank and thus leads the list of the 15 worldwide best international research institutes. Prof. Dr. Marino Zerial, managing director of the Institute, is visibly emotional: “This award makes us really proud. It evidences that the vision we had from the beginning for our Institute here in Dresden was the right way: An institute with real team spirit, a perfect infrastructure, and the whole thing embedded in a campus of many partners.”.

Why do we emphasize this here? The appreciation shows that a jointly used campus and cooperating partners are the right way for the future. Team spirit is mentioned as among of the positive feelings of the MPI-CBG employees.

We think that this should not be limited to the MPI-CBG. It needs above all good cooperation in order to take research and develop forward to excellence. However, MPI employees can not settle down for long: All scientists at the Dresden MPI – but for the directors – have to move on after a maximum of five years.

*A good start into the Advent season from  
Your biosaxony Team*

## ECONOMY

### **BOMBASTUS WERKE HONORED AS A FINALIST ON THE "GROSSER PREIS DES MITTELSTANDES"(GRAND PRIX OF MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES)**

Bombastus-Werke AG in Freital successfully participated in the Federal competition for the "Großer Preis des Mittelstands" (Grand Prix of the Medium-Sized Businesses) and was awarded a prize as a finalist. In the scope of a gala, the CEO of Bombastus-Werke AG, Mr. Siegfried Anke himself, accepted the prize. More than 500 visitors came to Magdeburg, to the award for the winners and finalists of the Federal States of Berlin, Brandenburg, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Saxony and Sachsen-Anhalt. The 14 businesses honored as winners and the 23 businesses honored as finalists from the five Federal States prevailed over a total of 363 participants from their federal states. In all Germany, 3,366 businesses were nominated for the prize by the Oskar Patzelt Foundation.

[More information](#)

### **VITA 34: IN THE BLACK AFTER 3 QUARTERS IN 2009 ALREADY**

VITA 34 International AG, the parent company of the leading umbilical cord blood bank in the German speaking countries, VITA 34 AG, in the 3rd quarter of 2009 achieved the highest number of stored units in the company's history and is clearly in the black after 9 months. By 2,980 stored units in the 3rd quarter of 2009, the hitherto best value in the relevant quarter of 2008, 2,976 stored units, was even slightly surpassed.

After the successful return to the profit zone, the management team shall be restructured and thus the basis for further increase of profitability in the years to come shall be set. Dr. Eberhard Lamper, founder and CEO of VITA 34 AG will continue to lead the company as the CEO.

[More information](#)

### **TEVA INCREASES SALES AND PROFIT IN THE THIRD QUARTER**

The generic medicinal manufacturer Teva Pharmaceuticals, thanks to the high demand for its multiple sclerosis medicament Coxaxone, earned more in the third quarter than in the previous year. In the third quarter, the surplus of 631 million dollars in the previous year was increased to 649 million dollars, as Teva Pharmaceuticals announced on Tuesday in Tel Aviv. Before the special items, the group registered an increase of profits to 806 million dollars and thus surpassed the market expectations slightly.

[More information](#)

### **NAMOS PRESENTS ON THE "EUROPEAN VENTURE SUMMIT" IN DÜSSELDORF**

As one of the 120 prized high-tech companies, Namos GmbH presents at the "European Venture Summit (EVS)" from November 30 – December 1, 2009 in Düsseldorf. Various young companies from the fields of ICT, life sciences and cleantech competed against each other in 2009, in order to qualify for this investment forum. The event is sponsored by Nordrhein-Westphalia and the City of Düsseldorf.

[More information](#)

## STEM CELL BANK INNOVASTEM GMBH COOPERATES WITH FRAUNHOFER IZI LEIPZIG

In August 2009, InnovaStem GmbH was founded by the Italian parent company I.M.S. (Innovative Medical Solutions S.r.l.) and settled in the BIO CITY Leipzig. InnovaStem GmbH is pursuing the establishment of a stem cell bank by storing adult stem cells from umbilical cord blood, umbilical cord tissue (Wharton's Jelly), placental tissue and menstruation fluid. InnovaStem GmbH and Fraunhofer IZI signed a joint cooperation agreement envisaging the temporary use of pharmaceutical clean rooms of the Fraunhofer IZI by InnovaStem.

[More information](#)

## NOVALED WINS TECHNOLOGY Fast50 AND Fast500 AWARDS

Novald is a winner of the Technology Fast 50 Awards, a competition where the 50 most quickly growing businesses of the technology industry are honored for their entrepreneurial performance by Deloitte Consulting and Auditing. The cumulated growth of sales expressed in percent of the last five business years of the company is the criterion for the assessment.

Novald, in addition, will be accepted to the Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA 2009 rankings. The program was issued in 2000 for the first time and addresses the 500 most quickly growing businesses from the technology sector, from the Internet, biotechnology via medical and life sciences to computer and hardware. The assessment is based on the cumulated growth rate.

[More information](#)

## CENTRAL GERMAN BIOTECH CLUSTER RECEIVES FUNDS

Biotechnology in Thuringia, Saxony and Sachsen-Anhalt shall be funded further. As the cluster "Biotechnologie - Life Sciences Mitteldeutschland" (Biotechnology – Life Sciences Central Germany) announced on October 14 in Jena, the network will receive 300,000 euros in total in the three years to come, for the support of businesses of the industry and research institutes. "We want to be visible as a "location for all" to customers and investors worldwide, in order to hold better ground in the competition", so the speaker of the cluster, Mr. Hans-Ulrich Demuth. BIO-NET Technologietransfergesellschaft mbH is the Saxon partner in the in the cluster's application.

[More information](#)

## BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY WELCOMES COALITION AGREEMENT

The trade association of the biotechnology industry, BIO Deutschland e.V., welcomes the statements in the coalition agreement between CDU/CSU and FDP for this legislative period where they commit themselves clearly to the innovative medium-sized businesses. Notably the passages about research and development-intensive biotechnology businesses have to be assessed positively in total, so Mr. Peter Heinrich, speaker of BIO Deutschland: "The Agreement emphasizes the biotechnology, together with a few other fields, explicitly as an important source of innovation for future prosperity. We judge this as a clear signal of the politics to advocate also the needs of the biotechnology industry in the four years to come."

[More information](#)

## JOB OFFERS

### DRESDEN

APOGEPHA Arzneimittel GmbH wants a Scientific Employee Pharmaceutical Drug Safety.  
Go to [Job Offer](#)

MPI-CBG wants several employees, f.e.:

- Head of Research Team
- Scientist

Go to [Job Offer](#)

### RADEBEUL

AWD.pharma wants several employees:

- Functional Oracle eBusiness Specialist Logistics
- Functional Oracle eBusiness Specialist Finance
- Coordinator Change Control
- Employee Controlling Planning Reporting
- AWD.pharma has vocational training opportunities for 2010:
  - Industrial Clerk
  - Informatics Clerk

Go to [Job Offer](#)

### LEIPZIG

Black Swan Pharmaceuticals wants several employees:

- Head of Biology
- Scientists
- Assistants (Biology and Chemistry)

Go to [Job Offer](#)

EuroGene GmbH wants several employees:

- Tutor for Biotechnology, Molecular genetics, Cytogenetic and Medicine (Prevention, Regeneration),
- Self-employed placement officer
- Staff for Cytogenetic

Go to [Job Offer](#)

Helmholtz Centre for the Environmental Research wants a Microbiologist as a team manager „Microbial In-Situ Activity“

Go to [Job Offer](#)

## RADEBERG

ABX wants several employees:

- Employee (m/f) for review/documentation QC
- Employee for product documentation
- Employee for production
- Head of Accounting

Go to [Job Offer](#)

## SCIENCE & EDUCATION

### MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE IS AWARDED THE TITLE: "BEST PLACE TO WORK IN ACADEMIA 2009"

In a survey conducted by the journal *The Scientist* for the best employers in research, the MPI-CBG reached the first place and is therefore leading the list with the worldwide 15 best research institutes. The persons interviewed above all put great value on things like cooperation, team spirit or a safe financial basis of the research. The employees of MPI-CBG gave their institutes top grades for these items and thus the top rank. The especially positively assessed items at MPI-CBG are the opportunities for team development, excellent local infrastructure and the generally excellent work environment. The specific setup of the MPI-CBG is known as "Dresdner Modell" (Dresden Model).

[More information](#)

### LEIPZIG GENETICIST HONORED

Federal President Horst Köhler, on October 5, 2009, awarded the Große Bundesverdienstkreuz mit Stern (Federal Cross of Merit with a Star) to Svante Pääbo, Director at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, in the Bellevue Castle. The Federal President, by this award, expressly honors the merits of Svante Pääbo as a worldwide leading geneticist and founder of the paleogenetics. This still young research discipline is about the analysis of genetic samples from fossils and prehistoric findings. Svante Pääbo's research is about which genetic mutations in the course of the evolutionary history are decisive for men, by comparisons of DNA sequences of the present-day humans, chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans and Neanderthal men.

[More information](#)

### ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR THE DRESDEN DIABETES RESEARCH

The diabetes researcher Dr. Stephan Speier, since recently, has been strengthening the team of the DFG-Forschungszentrums für Regenerative Therapien an der TU Dresden (DFG Research Center for Regenerative Therapies at the Technical University of Dresden, CRTD). Speier researches the regeneration potential of the insulin-producing islet cells of the pancreas in the living organism by using newest technologies. This, for the first time, enables the observation of the complex and interactive regeneration process of the islet cells. Lacking or not sufficiently functioning islet cells are the cause for diabetes of the types 1 and 2.

Dr. Speier is the 2nd diabetes expert at the CRTD after Prof. Ezio Bonifacio. Dr. Stephan Speier is being funded by the Emmy Noether Program of the German Research Foundation (DFG). This program enables junior scientists an early scientific independence and is trying to win excellent young scientists back from abroad.

[More information](#)

## NEW HIGH-RESOLUTION MICROSCOPE FOR LEIPZIG RESEARCHERS

A multiphoton laser-scanning microscope is the newest purchase of the work team around Prof. Andrea Robitzki in the scope of a cluster application at the BBZ promoted by the Free State of Saxony. Leipzig, therefore, is the third German location of such a microscope that reaches enlargements from 50 to 100 nanometers by means of the STED technology (Stimulated Emission Depletion). With this equipment, neurobiological and general cytological research shall be done, as well as effects of medical active agents studied.

[More information](#)

## EDUCATIONAL OFFENSIVE BIOTECHNOLOGY IS GIVEN VERY HIGH GRADES

The Leipzig Educational Center of EuroGene GmbH has performed fulltime adult education on biotechnology successfully since 2005. A recent survey of the Educational Center says that three fourth of the participants could find a job on the primary job market thanks to this further education course. A total of 83 % is convinced that the offer by EuroGene GmbH took them further in terms of occupation.

The success of the hitherto six courses was decisive for the continuance of the program. On November 9, a new fulltime further education course started: "Occupational Integration into the Biotechnology Industry". It is still possible to join this course. The course is fully funded by the European Social Fund and the Free State of Saxony, reason why the participants need not pay for it. Unemployment benefits will be continued during the further education course.

[More information](#)

## THE MEMBRANE AS AN IMPORTANT ACTOR ON THE APOPTOSIS

Dresden and Spanish scientists (BIOTEC and Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe) identify the mechanism of an important regulatory step to the apoptosis. By means of fluorescence techniques and membrane model systems, they detected that the inhibition of the so-called death proteins mainly occurs in the mitochondrial cell membrane. These results offer fresh perspectives for the development of medicaments for cancer therapies.

[More information](#)

## CHANGE OF NUTRITION HELPS WITH HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

Researchers of the Medical Clinic and Polyclinic 2 of the Carl Gustav Carus University Hospital and the Max Planck Institute for Cell Biology and Genetics in Dresden found out that there is a lack of special blood lipids in hypertonic patients. A well-aimed diet extended by soybeans and roe in future shall help to balance the lipids and counteract against high blood pressure.

[More information](#)

## NEW IMPULSES FOR THE INTERDISCIPLINARY CANCER RESEARCH

Together with the CEO of Deutsche Krebshilfe e. V. (German Cancer Aid) the research building of the University Cancer Center, UCC was opened. "By an investment of approximately 1.3 million euros, the Medical Faculty of the TU Dresden redeveloped House #31 within one year and made modifications in a way that oncological research groups of the various disciplines work here under one roof", Prof. Dr. Michael Baumann, Head of the University Cancer Center explained.

[More information](#)

## FUNDAMENTAL BIOLOGICAL SWITCH MECHANISM FOUND

Countless molecular switches control the metabolism processes in biological cells by passing on most differing impulses. Astonishingly, these switches have a very uniform molecular structure, although each individual one responds only to on single chemical signal. Now, scientists of the Forschungszentrums Rossendorf (Rossendorf Research Center, FZD) give an explanation. They found a fundamental switch mechanism that remained in all switches in the course of the evolution, in spite of high specialization. The results have been published in the "Journal of Biological Chemistry" recently.

[More information](#)

## LIGHT AS THE SWITCH FOR MEDICAMENTS

On October 1, 2009, the Chinese researcher Yixin Zhang started his work at the ZIK B-CUBE. The Zentrum für Innovationskompetenz (Center for Innovation Competence, ZIK) B CUBE at the TU Dresden, in April 2008, was selected for a subsidy of millions for the next five years. The Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (Federal Ministry of Education and Research, BMBF), in 2008, by the program "Zentren für Innovationskompetenz: Exzellenz schaffen - Talente sichern" (Centers for Innovation Competence: Create Excellence – Safe Talents" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round selected eight centers in the New Federal States for funding, among which two in Saxony. The young center, B CUBE, will develop new materials and technologies inspired by the nature.

[More information](#)

## COOPERATION BETWEEN TRM LEIPZIG AND LEIPZIG GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT (HHL) SUCCESSFUL CONTINUED

The Translational Center for Regenerative Medicine (TRM) of the University of Leipzig and the Leipzig Graduate School of Management have continued their successful cooperation, with the course "From Research to the Market". The seminar was especially developed for researchers of the TRM Leipzig. The questions about how scientific knowledge can be used for the development of products ready for the market and what has to be observed on the way from the laboratory to the application from the entrepreneurial point of view were in the fore of the three-day event. The attending scientists working on research projects of regenerative medicine that are close to application at the TRM Leipzig, by this workshop, will be prepared for the chances of the economic utilization of their research result and the possibilities of spin-offs.

[More information](#)

## FUNDING

### BMW (FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS AND TECHNOLOGY) EXTENDS FUNDING FOR START-UP TEAMS FROM RESEARCH INSTITUTES

The "EXIST Research Transfer" action - started in November and issued by the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Technology (BMWi) in the course of the high-tech strategy of the Federal Government and intending to support especially expensive startup projects from universities and research institutes - takes agreeable stock. 15 million euro already have been provided for the funding of innovative startup projects.

In order to be able to support researchers even better on their step to the market, the BMWi **modified the funding directives for EXIST Research Transfer**: The funding conditions for startup projects of non-university research institutes will be adjusted to those of universities and financed at 90 percent by the BMWi in future (formerly: 50 percent). In addition, the competence on business management of all startup teams will be strengthened, because a person trained in business management can be added as early as six months after the project start already (formerly 12 months). The next deadline for the submission of sketches for EXIST Research Transfer is **December 31, 2009**.

[More information](#)

**BMBF (Federal Ministry of Education and Research):**

- FUNDING DIRECTIVE OF ERA-NET ACTIVITY "EUROTRANS-BIO" AS A COMPONENT OF THE FUNDING ACTION "KMU-INNOVATIV: BIOTECHNOLOGIE - BIOCHANCE" (SME INNOVATIVE: "BIOTECHNOLOGY - BIOCHANCE" WITHIN THE MASTER PROGRAM "BIOTECHNOLOGIE - CHANCEN NUTZEN UND GESTALTEN" (BIOTECHNOLOGY - USE AND DESIGN CHANCES)

The purpose of the funding are application-orientated, scientific and economically risky research and development projects that can be allocated to the field of the modern biotechnology and play a decisive role for the applying businesses on their positioning in the market. Businesses on the field of the pharmaceutical development of new agents are notably invited to submit project proposals. Transnational projects of cluster research of small and medium-sized businesses (SMB) will be funded. Small and medium-sized businesses (SMB) in the sense of the definition by the European Commission may apply. The deadlines for submitting the project sketches will be published in good time at <http://www.eurotransbio.net> or can be inquired at the project carrier.

[More information](#)



EVENTS, FAIRS, CONGRESSES

IN SAXONY (DECEMBER 2009)

December 08, 2009 – Dresden: Biological Colloquium [more information](#)

December 10, 2009 – Leipzig: XVI. Lipid Meeting – [more information](#)

December 14/15, 2009– Dresden: BIOTEC Forum (sponsored by biosaxony) - [more information](#)

## IN GERMANY AND WORLDWIDE (DECEMBER 2009)

December 04, 2009 – Berlin, Germany: The Source Event – [more information](#)

December 04 – 05, 2009 – Freiburg, Germany: International Symposium on Structure and Function Of Synapses (SFB 780) – [more information](#)

December 07 – 08, 2009, London, UK: Moving from technology to manufacturing and production (BSG Conference Centre) – [more information](#)

December 09 – 10, 2009 – Hamburg, Germany: FIT 2009 Forum für innovative therapies – [more information](#)

December 10 – 12, 2009 – Münster, Germany: International Symposium on Fear, Anxiety, Anxiety Disorders (SFB Transregio 58) – [more information](#)

PREVIEW (JANUARY UNTIL APRIL 2010)

January 15 – 16, 2010 – Heidelberg, Germany: techniques for the production of transgenic animals – theoretical and practical [more information](#)

January 25 – 26, 2010 – Tokio, Japan: BIO Asia Partnering Conference – [more information](#)

February 04 – 06, 2010 – Geneva, Switzerland: 9th International Conference on New Trends in Immunosuppression and Immunotherapy – [more information](#)

February 08 – 09, 2010 – New York, USA: BIO CEO & Investor Conference – [more information](#)

February 19, 2010 – Berlin, Germany: 3rd Berlin Conference on IP in Life Sciences – Life Cycle Management in Pharmaceutical Industry – [more information](#)

February 23 – 26, 2010 – Vienna, Austria: International Conference on Molecular Aspects of Plant Development – [more information](#)

February 25 – 28, 2010 – Munich, Germany: EDDP 2010 – International Conference on Early Disease Detection and Prevention – [more information](#)

March 02 – 04, 2010 – Hamburg, Germany: 21th annual conference of the German society of human genetics together with the Austrian society of human genetics and the Swiss society of medical genetics – [more information](#)

March 4, 2010 – Berlin, Germany: in-between-award Science4Life Venture Cup 2010 – [more information](#)

March 8, 2010 – Valetta, Malta: 7th World Meeting on Pharmaceuticals, Biopharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Technology – [more information](#)

March 8, 2010 – Barcelona, Spain: BIO-Europe Spring 2010 – International Partnering Conference – [more information](#)

March 10, 2010 – Regensburg, Germany: Joint Meeting of the German Society for Cell Biology and the "Frontiers in Melanoma Research" Meeting of the German Melanoma Research Network & 33rd Annual Meeting of the German Society of Cell Biology (DGZ) – [more information](#)

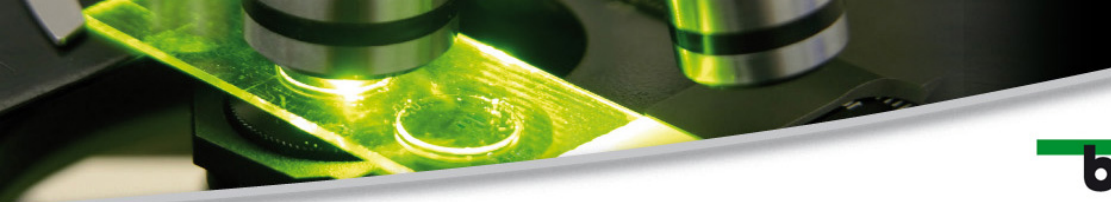
March 18 – 20, 2010 – Heidelberg, Germany: EMBL Conference on the Complex Life of mRNA: From Synthesis to Decay – [more information](#)

March 21 - April 01, 2010 – Saarbrücken, Germany: 8th International Conference and Workshop on Biological Barriers – in vitro Tools, Nanotoxicology, and Nanomedicine – [more information](#)

March 23, 2010 – Munich, Germany Analytica 2010 – [more information](#)

March 28 – 31, 2010 – Hannover, Germany: 62th annual meeting of DGHM/ annual meeting of VAAM – [more information](#)

March 30 – 31, 2010 – Cambridge, UK: The Synthetic Biology in Pharma Conference 2010 – [more information](#)



April 12, 2010 – Oxford, UK: BioTrinity 2010 – [more information](#)

14. bis 17. April 2010 – Dresden, Germany: 4th ESF Conference on Functional Genomics and Disease – [more information](#)

April 14 – 18, 2010 – Vienna, Austria: International Liver Congress 2010: 45th Annual Meeting of the European Association (EASL) for the Study of the Liver – [more information](#)

April 21 – 24, 2010 – Leipzig, Germany: nuclear medicine 2010– [more information](#)

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*Further event notes at <http://biosaxony.com/en/events/overview>*

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