



# NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2009



EINE INITIATIVE DES FREISTAATES SACHSEN

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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Dear Readers:

A thrilling year is drawing to its close. The financial crisis has left its marks on the Biotechnology as well. It was able to hold its ground well anyway. This was witnessed by the full halls on important fairs such as the BIOTECHNICA. There have been many stories of success again at the Saxony biotechnology location. BioPlanta was elected the winner of the IQ Innovationprize Central Germany (IQ-Innovationspreis Mitteldeutschland) in the Biotechnology / Life Science 2009 cluster; MPI-CBG was elected "Best Place to Work in Academia" in a survey of the "The Scientist" journal; Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology in Leipzig laid the foundation for the first extension building, and the construction of the Research Center for Regenerative Dresden (CRTD) has already taken form. In addition, research institutes and businesses were successful in getting numerous additional funding means to Saxony, by innovative ideas.

These are only some examples that show that the Saxon biotechnology industry has successfully defended its reputation as being resourceful and Saxony its reputation as being business-friendly location. In addition, biosaxony, in this year again, is one of the five leading biotechnology regions in Germany (Source: GoingPublic magazine, special issue 2009). Small and medium-sized businesses were even able to put on; and in the meantime, a significant share of their candidates are in the clinical phases I and II. Partec, too, was able to record a real story of success: Besides their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and reaching the final of the "Entrepreneur of the Year" competition by Ernst & Young, Partec can be glad about a sales increase of 70 percent. A new production hall will be inaugurated this very year.

With these stories of success, we would like to bid farewell for the year 2009 and wish a successful and thrilling year 2010 for all of us!

Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year from

*Your biosaxony Team*

## ECONOMY

### ANNUAL ESF/EFRE CONFERENCE

This year's conference on the EU structural fund subsidies (EU-Strukturfondsförderung) dealt with the issue how start-ups from science and the doctorate of junior scientists can be promoted by means of EU programs. It was held on November 13, 2009 at Fraunhofer Institut für Zelltherapie und Immunologie (IZI) and at BIO-CITY LEIPZIG. A further issue was the support for businesses on research, development and innovation by the EU and the Free State of Saxony.

[More Information](#)

### SILVER MEDAL FOR THE MASTER STUDENTS OF BIOTEC

A team of master students of BIOTEC have reason to celebrate: The study lasting for months for the iGEM student competition at the MIT in Boston was honored by the silver medal in November. iGEM – international Genetically Engineered Machine – is a student competition on the field of synthetic biology. Student teams would get access to a kit of biological components and use them and genetic components designed by themselves for the construction of biological machines in living cells.

[More Information](#)

### DR GERTH OF BIOPLANTA NEW VICE PRESIDENT OF THE INT. PHYTO TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY

On December 4, 2009, on the 2009 annual meeting of the International Phytotechnology Society (IPS) in Saint Louis (Missouri), Dr André Gerth was elected vice president. He is the first European in this position. The International Phytotechnology Society is an international special society dealing with the research and use of plants for solving environmental problems.

[Mehr Informationen](#)

## JOB OFFERS

### DRESDEN

Cenix BioScience GmbH wants a Technical Assistant for HT-RNAi Cell Screening Unit

[Go to Job Offer](#)

APOGEPHA Arzneimittel GmbH wants a Scientific Employee Pharmaceutical Drug Safety.

Go to [Job Offer](#)

CRTD wants a Scientific Coordinator

[Go to Job Offer](#)

### LEIPZIG

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 Environmental Research wants a Microbiologist as a team manager „Microbial In-Situ Activity“

Go to [Job Offer](#)

euroderm GmbH wants several employees in the field of MTA/PTA/BTA

Go to [job offer](#)

### RADEBERG

ABX wants several employees:

- Analyst Quality Control
- Employee for product documentation
- Employee for production
- Chemist for Research and Development

[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

Go to [Job Offer](#)

AWD.pharma has vocational training opportunities for 2010:

- Industrial Clerk
- Informatics Clerk

[Contact](#)

## SCIENCE & EDUCATION

### FRAUNHOFER IZI RECEIVES GMP AND GLP CERTIFICATES

After a successful GMP acceptance inspection by the competent supervisory agency, the GMP operating site of the Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology IZI got the manufacturing approval pursuant to section 13 of the German Pharmaceuticals Act (Arzneimittelgesetz) for the manufacture and quality control of autogenetic (body's own) bone marrow stem cells. The license extends to the manufacture of clinical investigational products for future clinical studies and includes the license pursuant to section 20b, subsection 2 on laboratory studies required for winning tissue.

In addition, Fraunhofer IZI officially received the GLP (Gute Laborpraxis) certificate for test category 9 with the specification »Immuntoxikologische Prüfungen in vitro« (immunotoxicological in-vitro tests). The successful initial inspection by the Saxon State Ministry of the Environment and Agriculture (Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Umwelt und Landwirtschaft) as the competent licensing agency had already been performed on August 3 – 4 of this year. This way, Fraunhofer IZI is able to implement the latest requirements of EMEA (European Medicines Agency) as the R&D service provision for developers of the latest medicines.

[more information](#) (manufacturing license)

[more information](#) (GLP certificate)

### ONCORAY-SCIENTIST RECEIVES SCIENTIFIC AWARD OF THE RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SAXONY

This year the Saxon Radiologic Society (Sächsische Radiologische Gesellschaft e. V.) awarded the sponsorship award for junior scientists for the experimental study of diffusion weighted magnetic resonance imaging for the determination of volumes in model tumours of Dr. rer. nat. Gunter Wolf. The 35 year old chemist doing research in the study group biological imaging at the OncoRay centre for radiology in the field of oncology was able to prove with this study that the diffusion weighted magnetic resonance imaging was as good as the usual imaging for tumour demarcation.

[more information](#)

### NEW BONE THERAPY PROTECTS ADDITIONAL VESSELS AGAINST CALCIFICATION

Scientists of the medical clinic and polyclinic III of the university clinic Carl Gustav Carus have – together with an industry partner – discovered a new active agent for the protection of bones against the decomposition of bone substance. Because it is only be applied twice a year it probably leads to a better “discipline” for patients undergoing a osteoporosis therapy instead of the daily taking of pills. An additional effect of this active agent is the protection of vessels against calcification.

[more information](#)

### MEDINETZ DRESDEN E.V. RECEIVES THE SAXON SPONSORSHIP AWARD FOR DEMOCRACY

The association Medinetz Dresden e.V. whose members are mainly students of medicine of the medical faculty Carl Gustav Carus received this year's sponsorship award for democracy. The

independent association anonymously and free of charge arranges medical help for people without valid residence authorization, who otherwise would not have access to it.

It consists of around 15 voluntary members from the first to the 12<sup>th</sup> semester. As patron of the democracy award, Saxony's prime minister Stanislaw Tillich acknowledged – together with the Amadeu-Antonio-foundation, the Freudenberg-foundation, the Kulturstiftung Dresden, the Dresdner Bank and the foundation Frauenkirche Dresden the work of altogether three organizations and associations supporting democratic actions in Saxony.

[more information](#)

## NEW SENSOR MEASURES ARSENIC CONTENT IN DRINKING WATER

With the help of a new sensor, the arsenic content of drinking water could be measured easier and cheaper in the future. The patented procedure uses special bacteria which begin to glow when they come into contact with arsenic. The intensity of their glowing is measured optically to determine the arsenic content. The new procedure is particularly interesting for countries like Bangladesh or Vietnam in which the natural existence of arsenic is a danger for the water supply from fountains. The scientists of the Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research estimate that the costs per sample can be almost halved with the new procedure ARSOLux<sup>®</sup>, compared to competitive products which were not able to determine the concentrations exactly.

[more information](#)

## EDUCATION OFFENSIVE BIOTECHNOLOGY RECEIVES VERY GOOD MARKS

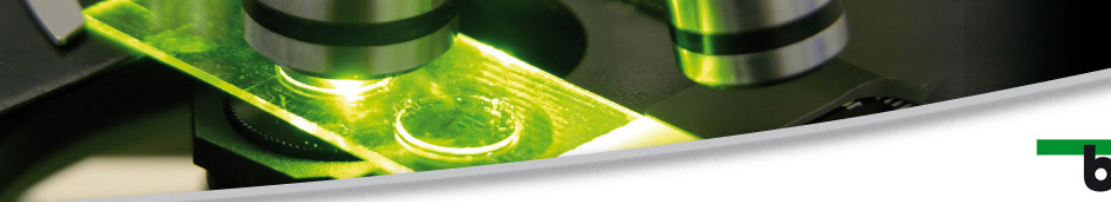
Since 2005, the Leipzig Education Centre of the EuroGene GmbH has successfully offered full-time further training in the field of biotechnology. The education offensive was started by Prof. Dr. Froster to counteract against the pressing lack of experts in this field: "The region of Leipzig has an extraordinary potential to grow into one of the most important sites for biotechnology in Germany. With our training offers we make an excellent contribution to it." A current survey of the education centre shows that 75% of the participants found a job on the regular labour market with the help of further training. 83% of the participants are convinced that the offers of the EuroGene GmbH got them further as regards their professions.

[more information](#)

## DFG SETS UP 17 FURTHER SPECIAL AREAS OF RESEARCH

By January 1, 2010, the German research association (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG) sets up 17 further special research fields (SFB). The competent authorizing committee of the DFG agreed on it in Bonn now. The new SFB will be supported with altogether 132 million Euro for four years plus a respective 20% lump sum for programs for indirect costs. Inter alia, the new research associations examine communication processes in and between cells on a molecular level, new perspective of material systems with electrical correlations and the significance of the group of bacteria of the roseobacter for the carbon balance of the oceans. Other subjects of the new SFB are the development of an antibiotics-free diet for pigs, the reasons for the success or failing of political reforms and the examination of liver cancer from its molecular occurrence to metastasis. Six of the 17 new associations are SFB/Transregio, distributed over several research sites.

[more information](#)



## BONE SUBSTITUTE MADE OF PURE METAL

During the innovation competition “medical technology“ of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, scientists of the Fraunhofer-Institute for Production Technology and Applied Material Research from Dresden surprised with a completely degradable bone substitute made of magnesium fibres. Bone injuries after accidents or complicated operations need a long time to heal. In the mean time, the missing bone substance must be substituted by implants. The disadvantages of the current implants range from a lack of stability over an incomplete degradation of the “bridging” substance to very high costs.

A team of researchers around Dr.-Ing. Ingrid Morgenthal of the Fraunhofer IFAM Dresden is now working together with doctors of the medical university of Hanover, material researchers from Geesthacht as well as an industry partner from Obernburg for a solution. They want to develop new and highly stable implants made of short magnesium fibres. Their porous structure supports the bone tissue during growth. At the same time the purely metallic implants completely dissolve during the healing process without any residues.

[more information](#)

FUNDING:**EXTENSION OF 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 (JANUARY 2009)

Januar 15, 2010 – Dresden: Ideas to Market – Dresden material innovation for the praxis & Award of international "Dresden Barkhausen Award 2009" [more information](#)

January 21, 2010 – Leipzig: 2nd biotech cup – [more Information](#)

January 21 – 23, 2010 – Leipzig: 5th veterinarian congress – [more Information](#)

January 28, 2010 – Dresden: Biotech meets Public „Industry for the future or protection against gen-monsters? Green and white biotechnology in Saxony and Germany“– [more information](#)

Free Entrance for Everybody – Business Area in the new Rudolf-Harbig-Stadion

## IN GERMANY AND WORLDWID (JANUARY 2009)

January 12 – 13, 2010 – San Francisco, USA: Biotech Showcase 2010 – [more information](#)

January 19, 2010 – London, UK: BioBusiness 2010 – [More information](#)

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

January 20, 2010 – Munich, Germany: ScieCon München 2010 – [more information](#)

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

January 26 – 29, 2010 – Grenoble, France: BMBF- innovation forum – [more information](#)

PREVIEW (FEBRUARY UNTIL MAY 2010)

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 Word Meeting on Pharmaceutics, 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 17 – 18, 2010 – Aachen, Germany: Biomedica 2010 – [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 21 – 26, – Dresden, Germany: Nena (Nano-Entrepreneurship-Academy) – [more information](#)

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

March 28 – 31, 2010 – Hanover, Germany: 62th annual meeting of DGHM/ annaul 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](#)

April 14 – 17, 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 15, 2010 - London, UK: Anglonordic Biotech Conference – [more information](#)

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

April 27, 2010 – Nürnberg, Germany: TechnoPharm 2010 – [more information](#)

May 3 – 6, 2010 – Chicago, USA: BIO – <a href="#">more information</a>
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May 10 -15, 2010 – Leipzig, Germany: ISPO World Congress und world's leading tradefair orthopedics and + rehab techniques – [more information](#)

May 11 - 14, 2010 – Dresden, Germany: 113th German medical day– [more information](#)

May 19, 2010 – Zurich, Switzerland: BioEquity 2010 – [more information](#)

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

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