

Gene Center Newsletter September 2004

Top News

The two Universities of Munich are ranked at the top in this week's comparison of German Universities by the journal FOCUS. The next Universities are those of Freiburg, Heidelberg, Tübingen and Berlin. The ranking was partially based on literature citations and thus takes into account excellent research performance.

Science

Professorships announced

We have announced two openings, a Full Professorship in Cellular Biochemistry, and a Tenure-track Professorship in Structural Biochemistry. Many internationally leading laboratories are asked to help identify outstanding candidates. Symposia are planned for this winter.

SFB 1997 evaluation

The new initiative for a Sonderforschungsbereich "Regulatory networks in genome expression and maintenance" (coordinated by R. Jansen) has been evaluated very positively. The final decision about funding by the DFG is expected by mid-November. This interdisciplinary network integrates five Gene Center groups with selected external labs with additional expertise such as advanced chemical synthesis and single-molecule biophysics.

SFB 455 evaluation

The Sonderforschungsbereich 455 "Virale Funktionen und Immunmodulation" (coordinated by U. Koszinowski) has been very positively evaluated. The final decision about funding by the DFG is expected by mid-November. The SFB 455 integrates research groups on campus and will enter its 3rd funding period.

Teaching

Launch of new MSc course.

The first students in our new course "Master of Biochemistry" have been selected and will be welcomed with a drink and information package in the first week of the semester. The students in this interfaculty course study biochemistry at the Gene Center, cell biology in the Biology faculty or a chemical discipline in the Chemistry faculty, plus a specific subject of their choice. Students gain hands-on experience during research lab rotations.

Students internet pages

Students can now obtain important information following the "Students" link on the Gene Center home pages. Materials for lectures and course information can be downloaded from this site.

Professorship to H. Zorbas

Based on his strong contributions to teaching at the Gene Center Dr. H. Zorbas has received the title Apl.-Prof.

Teaching office

The new teaching office for Biochemistry on the ground floor (room A053) will be open to students Tuesdays 3-4 pm and Thursdays 11-12 am starting mid-October 2004.

Events

Münchener Wissenschaftstage

Following the great success of last years "Wissenschaftstage" on the 50th anniversary of the DNA double helix, this year's Wissenschaftstage are on "Technik und Leben." The event will take place October 22-26, 2004 in the main building of the LMU. Up to 15,000 visitors are expected. The Gene Center will contribute with lectures and the presentation of techniques.

Safety lecture

The general safety lecture by H. Blum, H. Feldmann, and G. Arnold will take place on September 23, 2004, at 9.30 in the lecture hall.

Christmas party

Our annual Christmas party will take place on Thursday December 16, 2004. Please mark your agendas. Details will follow.

Other News

Monitor in entrance hall

To foster scientific exchange on campus we will install a monitor in the entrance hall that will announce seminars. The host institutions are identified by their color (blue=MPI, turquoise=Gene Center, green=other LMU institutes). Weekly updates provided by the Max-Planck-Institutes.

Internet News pages

There is now a News link on the Gene Center home pages where you can find the Newsletters and additional news. We thank G. Strache for maintenance of the internet pages.

Sommerfest photos

To see some photos of the general assembly and Sommerfest in July 2004 please go to <http://www.lmb.uni-muenchen.de/mainframes/genecenter.htm>

Newsletter of the Gene Center, University of Munich, www.LMB.uni-muenchen.de.