

Leipzig, research centre for the future

Knowledge provides a competitive edge. Leipzig is well ahead of the field, with innovative projects flowing freely from a tightly-knit network of some 30 research institutes with university connections, a number of scientific organisations and eight technical universities. The key to successful innovation is cooperation between scientific organisations and industry.

Behind Leipzig's development as a leading location in the areas of bio-technology and bio-medicine lies close cooperation between commercial and academic centres, which together form the well developed BIO CAMPUS network. Over 30,000 people are employed in the health, medical technology, life sciences and bio-technology cluster. Institutes include the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, the Institute for Applied Biotechnology in Saxony (SIAB) and the Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology and many more operate research programs at the highest level. Opened in 2003, BIO CITY LEIPZIG consists



of 17 biotech companies and seven service enterprises working in this promising high-tech field together with leading scientific research institutes, so that optimal working conditions and close cooperation can maximise their shared innovative energies. The bi-pharmaceutical company Curacyte Discovery GmbH, which was bought a short time ago from the USA-based THE MEDICINES COMPANY for 14.5 million euros, and c-LEcta GmbH GmbH, specializing in industrial enzymes, are two examples of companies which enjoy ideal resources in Leipzig as a biotechnology centre.

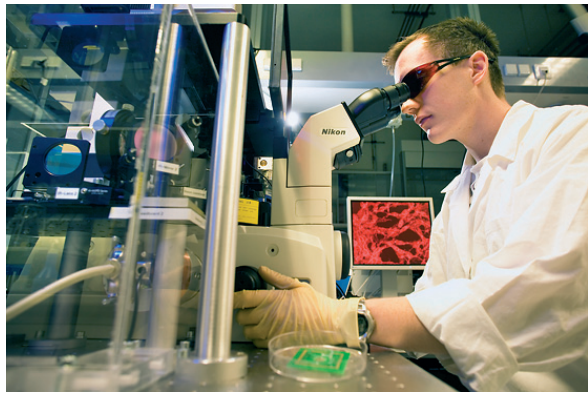
Six departments of the biotechnological and biomedical centre (BBZ) of Leipzig University are also located within BIO CITY. Along with the establishment of innovative products and sharpening the profile of biotechnology in Leipzig, "the centre with its skills and capacities also provides consultancy services to partners from the fields of research and industry," says Prof. Andrea A. Robitzki, who

heads the department of molecular biological-biochemical process technology. Until the year 2013 the centre will receive funding of ten million euros from the Ministry for Science and Art in Saxony.

The capacity and resources of the BIO CITY in Leipzig are so highly sought after that the thriving firms leaving the BIO CITY "incubator" generally choose business premises close by on the site of Leipzig's former exhibition centre. For a successful promotion of their business future start-up companies can receive grants from BIO-NET LEIPZIG, the BIO CITY management company. This organisation also offers young biotech companies start-up and financial consultancy, as well as providing contacts with potential sources of subsidies and investors.

Leipzig has a further competitive edge over other centres of scientific development in that it can boast an above-average number of researchers, experts and managers. Qualified junior staff in many scientific and other professional disciplines receive their training at Leipzig's institutes of further education. 37,000 students attend the city's seven technical universities and Leipzig University itself, which celebrates its 600th anniversary in 2009. This makes the 'Alma Mater Lipsiensis' the second oldest university in Germany. Science in Leipzig is a tradition with a big future.

www.uni-leipzig.de
www.bio-city-leipzig.de



Come for a top treatment at a modern Leipzig medical centre

Tourists do not only come to Leipzig to marvel at the world famous St Thomas Church and the impressive Monument to the Battle of Nations. They also come because of the excellent medical treatment available in Leipzig. In 2007, the Heart Center Leipzig (HCL) treated 46 percent more foreign clients than in the previous year.

Among their peers in the health industry, Leipzig's scientists and medical practitioners are considered pioneers of new preventive, diagnostic, therapeutic, and rehabilitative methods. In recent years, more than 700 million euros were invested in the development of Leipzig as a medical centre. One of the most important local trailblazers is the medical faculty of the University of Leipzig, which was founded in 1415 and boasts an outstanding performance in research, covering almost all areas of medical, bio and natural sciences as well as the development of health industry technologies. As regards patient care services, the sector has developed a local focus on surgery, cardiology, sports medicine, orthopaedics, gerontology, cancer treatment and neuromedicine. In addition, Leipzig has established itself as "a highly-rated centre of transplantation medicine in Germany and Europe", says Prof. Friedrich-Wilhelm Mohr, director of the HCL. Mohr also chairs the board of "Med in Leipzig", an association supporting the development of the health industry in the region. The association, which is made up of leading actors of the health industry, has set itself the aim of making Leipzig even better known as a centre for medical education, research and practice in Germany and abroad. Also of international renown is the José Carreras Unit at the University of Leipzig, where since 1980, 1350 stem cell transplantations have been carried out under the direction of Prof. Dieter Niederwieser, President of the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT).

www.med-in-leipzig.de



medienstiftung
der sparkasse leipzig

Democracy needs effective media

The Leipziger Medienstiftung foundation run by Sparkasse Leipzig savings bank supports journalists, new-generation media enterprises and committed media producers. The media industry is Leipzig's most important economic sector, with one person in ten working for one of the 1,700 media companies in Leipzig. Especially in the "new media" sector there are a large number of innovative up-and-coming enterprises. If this development is to be furthered on a permanent basis, the provision of first-class vocational training and further education is a prerequisite. It is a fundamental principle that only well-educated journalists can fulfil their responsibilities towards maintaining a free and democratic society. The Leipziger Foundation has been committed to this principle since 2001. One of the classical means of support provided by the foundation is the awarding of grants to gifted students for excellence in performance and to support them in obtaining higher qualifications. That's not all: the activities of the foundation go much further. With the establishment of the "LEIPZIG SCHOOL OF MEDIA" it has created a new institute for further education which offers three part-time media study courses leading to an internationally recognised M.A. qualification. The course is held on the 'Villa Ida Media Campus', which was built by the Foundation in 2006. This well-equipped building complex has since developed into a highly frequented training and congress facility. The foundation also supports diverse research projects, and annually awards its "Prize for the Freedom and Future of the Media".

Awards for their courageous commitment to free and fair reporting have in previous years gone to Anna Politkovskaya, Seymour Hersh and Gideon Levy.

www.leipziger-medienstiftung.de
www.mml-leipzig.de