

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



**GERMAN CENTER FOR
RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

Deutsches Wissenschafts- und Innovationshaus

NEW YORK

ANNUAL REPORT
2010



Preface

The German Center for Research and Innovation New York (GCRI) was created through the cooperative effort of the Federal Foreign Office's Research and Academic Relations Initiative and the Internationalization Strategy of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

GCRI New York's primary goals are to

- » Increase the visibility for and awareness of Germany's research and innovation capabilities in North America
- » Enhance and facilitate the dialogue between academics and industry in North America and Germany to foster collaboration and communication
- » Create a forum for the initiation and enhancement of transatlantic projects
- » Provide an information distribution platform for German research and innovation

Under the joint leadership of the German Academic Exchange Service and the German Research Foundation, GCRI opened its doors on February 19th, 2010. Within weeks of the opening, GCRI organized its first content-focused event with the German Mission to the United Nations, "Harnessing the Power of the Life Sciences to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals." Germany's Ambassador to the United Nations as well as UN Ambassadors from over 30 countries were in attendance. This was one of fifteen GCRI events during its first year of operation. The events addressed issues in a number of areas including neuroscience, energy policy, innovation and entrepreneurship, and plasma medicine. A more detailed description of these and other events can be found in this Annual Report.

In its first year, GCRI facilitated a number of strategic partnerships between Germany and the United States in academia and industry, many of which resulted from discussions initiated during events organized by GCRI and its partners. The ten newsletters that appeared in 2010, each of which focused on a topic that was addressed during a GCRI event, provided impetus for collaboration and additional information about cutting-edge research and innovation occurring in Germany.

In the year ahead, GCRI plans to continue to enhance its impact consistent with the goals outlined above. Specifically, GCRI will continue to drive perception of Germany as a world-class leader in innovation and research by bringing together interdisciplinary groups of scientists, business and political leaders and members of the media in the United States, Canada, and Germany to discuss and debate topics of broad appeal and critical importance to the world in which we live.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joann Halpern".

Dr. Joann Halpern,
Director

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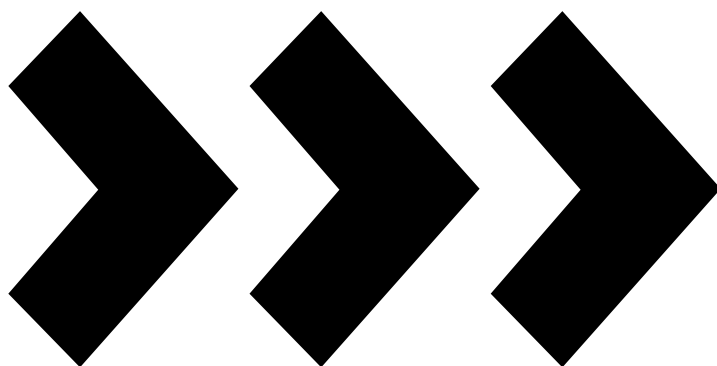
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ABOUT THE GCRI NEW YORK







Raising Germany's Profile as a World Leader in Cutting-Edge Research and Innovation

The GCRI New York was established as one of five German Houses of Science and Innovation (DWIHs) worldwide and is part of the German government's Strategy for the Internationalization of Science and Research.

The GCRI's primary goals consist of:

- » Presenting Germany to the North American market as a land of research and innovation
- » Enhancing the dialogue between academia and industry
- » Creating a forum for the initiation and enhancement of transatlantic projects
- » Providing an information platform for the German research and innovation landscape

Mission

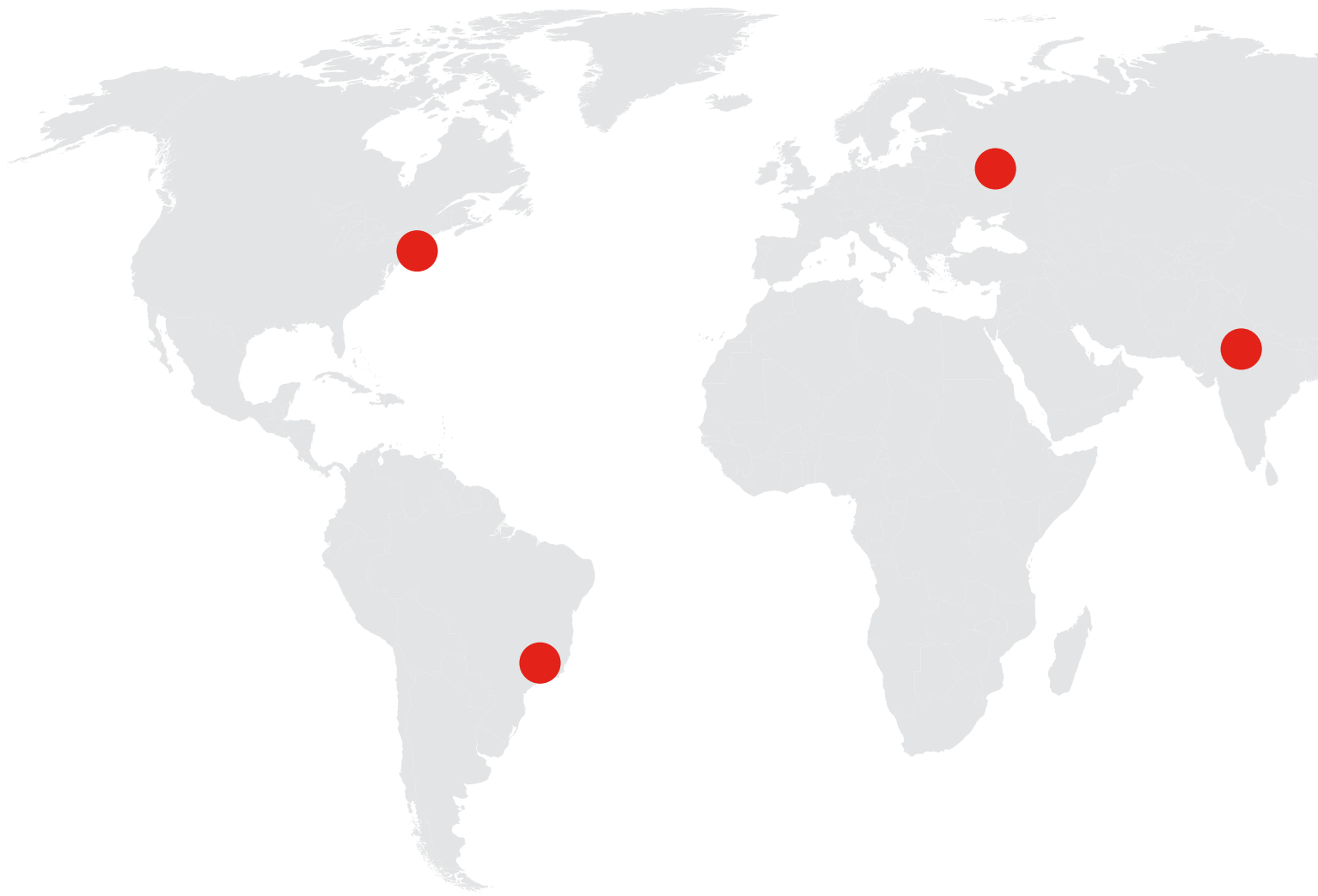
GCRI's mission is to strengthen transatlantic collaboration in science and technology to help solve the global challenges of the 21st century.

GCRI fulfills its mission by

- » Convening scientific conferences and symposia to examine cutting-edge research and explore solutions to global problems that integrate understandings of science, the economy, and society
- » Providing a "one-stop shop" for information about the German research landscape and funding sources
- » Celebrating and promoting German contributions to research and development through lectures and exhibitions
- » Developing workshops for graduate students and other young researchers to facilitate engagement with German institutions and support them in their careers
- » Supporting North American universities as they develop strategies to enhance international research collaboration with Germany
- » Organizing events that bring together international experts and partners from research institutions, industry, and government

GCRI Partners

The GCRI is under the leadership of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Research Foundation (DFG) and receives its funding from the German Federal Foreign Office's Research and Academic Relations Initiative. Additional designated partners are the alliance of German Science Organizations and the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce. For more information, please visit the GCRI partner institutions page.



● NEW YORK

German Center for Research and
Innovation
Deutsches Wissenschafts- und
Innovationshaus New York
871 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017, USA

Phone: +1 (212) 339 8606

General questions:

info@germaninnovation.org
www.germaninnovation.org

● SAO PAULO

Centro Alemão de Inovação e Ciência
Câmara de Comércio e Indústria
Brasil-Alemanha
Deutsch-Brasilianische Industrie- und
Handelskammer
Rua Verbo Divino, 1488
04719-904 São Paulo – SP, Brazil

Phone: +55 (11) 5187 5106

General questions:

dwih@ahkbrasil.com
www.dwih.com.br

● MOSCOW

Deutsches Wissenschafts- und
Innovationshaus (DWIH)
Leninskij Prospekt 95a
119313 Moscow, Russia

Phone: +7 (495) 9746369

General questions:

dwih@daad.ru
www.dwih.ru

● NEW DELHI

Deutsches Wissenschafts- und
Innovationshaus (DWIH)
2 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri
110 021 New Delhi, India

Phone: +91 (11) 4922 4999

General questions:

torsten.fischer@dfg.de
christiane.schlottmann@daaddelhi.org
www.dwih.in





German Houses of Science and Innovation / Deutsche Wissenschafts- und Innovationshäuser (DWIHs)

Germany must maintain its strength in innovation and apply it internationally in order to stay competitive in the global market.

By establishing German Houses of Science and Innovation (DWIHs), we provide a platform for the German science, research and innovation landscape at selected locations and a platform for showcasing the accomplishments of German science, research and research-based companies while promoting collaboration with Germany and innovative German organizations.

Our goal is to present a united presence of German scientific and research organizations abroad under the banner of the DWIHs.

The German Houses of Science and Innovation are part of the Federal Foreign Office's 2009 Research and Academic Relations Initiative which, in turn, is the Federal Foreign Office's contribution to the internationalization of science and research. The Federal Foreign Office is implementing this project in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and in close collaboration with the Alliance of German Science Organizations (which includes the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service, the German Research Foundation, the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, the Helmholtz Association, the German Rectors' Conference, the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, the Leibniz Association, the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina and the German Council of Science and Humanities) as well as the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce.

Functional duties:

- » To promote Germany as a research location ("showcase" Germany as a center for research and innovation)
- » To provide a forum for international dialogue and scientific exchange
- » To provide support and services (advising international researchers; consultation for foreign researchers, a "bridgehead" for German research, educational events)

Participation is open to all innovative German organizations and companies that are either already present at the particular location or are interested in establishing a presence there.

● TOKYO

German Science and Innovation Forum
c/o German Chamber of Commerce and
Industry in Japan
Sanbancho KS Bldg. 5F, 2-4 Sanbancho,
Chiyoda-ku,
Tokyo 102-0075, Japan

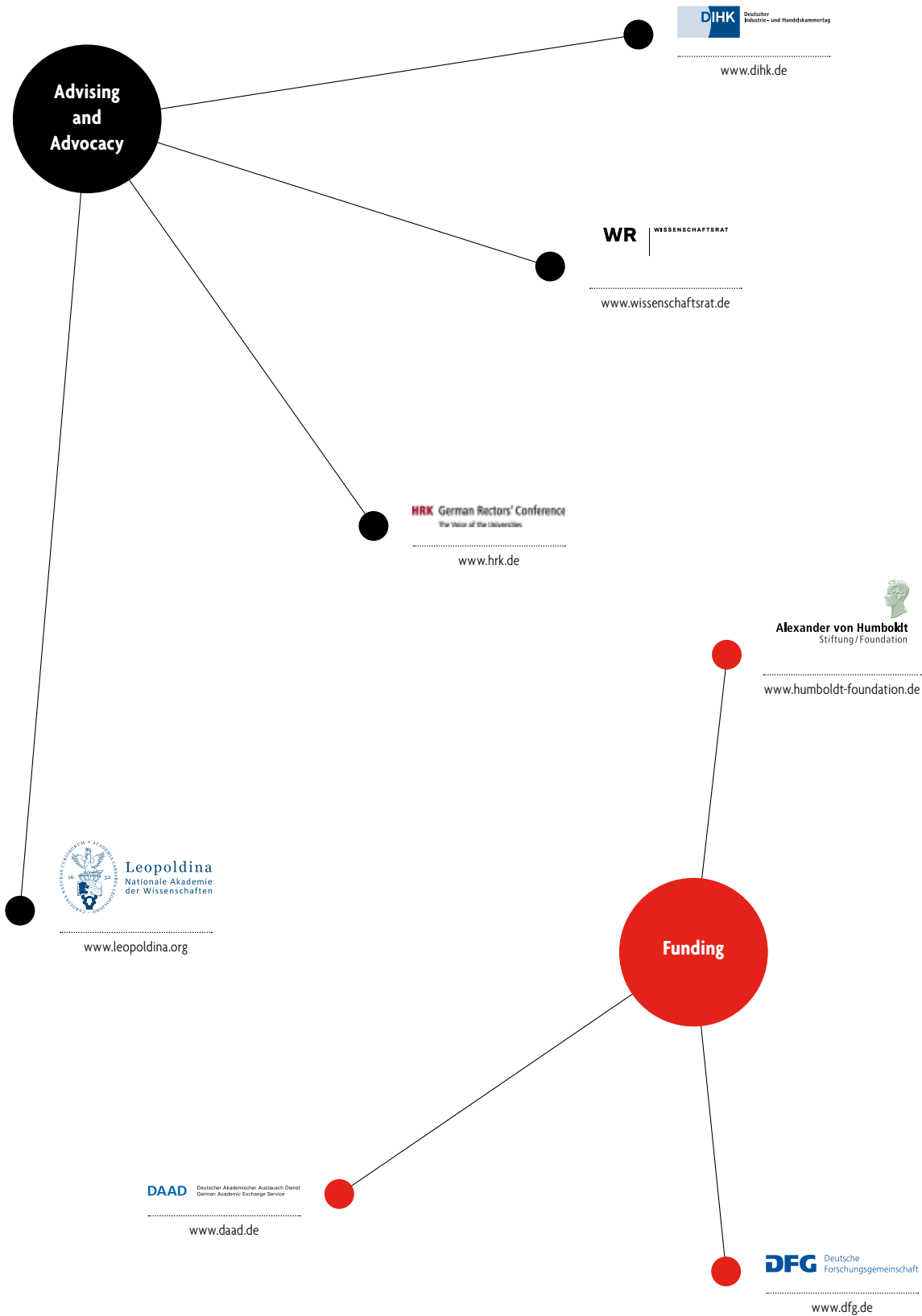
Phone: + 81 (0)3 5276 8829

General questions:

info@dwih-tokyo.jp
www.dwih-tokyo.jp

Source: German Federal Foreign Office



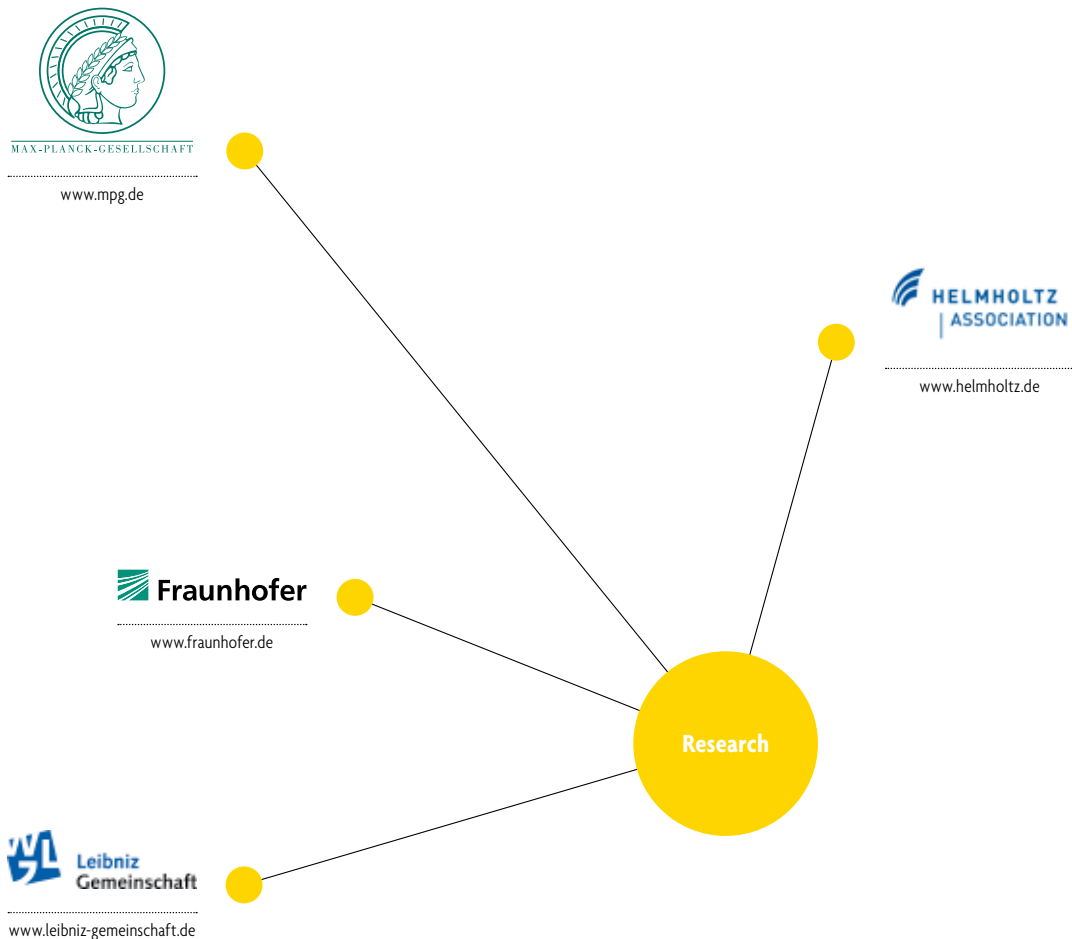


GCRI Partner Institutions

Germany has a long tradition of outstanding research and development. With first-rate research facilities and a high degree of innovation, Germany is one of the top research destinations in the world.

Its science infrastructure consists of a unique network of university and non-university research institutions that work closely with industry and commerce.

The interconnection of science and industry is facilitated, to a great extent, by the organizations listed, which are designated partners of the German Center for Research and Innovation. Based on their functions, these institutions have been divided into three categories: advising and advocacy, funding, and research.



GCRI Advisory Council

The GCRI is fortunate to have the expertise and wide-ranging networks that the Advisory Council brings to the organization. The profiles of the Council members, featured below, attest to GCRI's reach across the business, government, academic, and nonprofit sectors.

The Council members' leadership ensures that GCRI is well-connected to key stakeholders in the United States and Germany. Their involvement in programming, strategizing and periodically reviewing GCRI's overall effectiveness enabled GCRI to become a fully functioning organization within months of its launch. Under the leadership of its chair, Dr. Cathleen Fisher, and GCRI's Governing Directors, Dr. Sebastian Fohrbeck and Dr. Max Vögler, the Advisory Council works tirelessly to enhance the GCRI's outreach as it presents Germany to the North American market.



Adam Moore, Andrea

Executive Director,
German University Alliance



Freitag, Dr. Horst

Consul General,
Consulate General of the Federal Republic of
Germany in New York



Bunse, Dr. Benno W.

President and CEO,
German American Chamber of Commerce, Inc.



Jörgens, Christian

Head of the Science & Technology Section,
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany



Fisher, Dr. Cathleen S.

President,
American Friends of the
Alexander von Humboldt Foundation



Müller, Dr. Marion

Director,
DFG Office North America
(until November 2010)



Fohrbeck, Dr. Sebastian

Director,
DAAD North America



Vögler, Dr. Max

Director,
DFG Office North America
(since November 2010)

GCRI Team

Under the joint leadership of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Research Foundation (DFG), GCRI is advised by Dr. Sebastian Fohrbeck, Director of DAAD North America, and Dr. Max Vögler, Director of the DFG North America Office.



Halpern, Dr. Joann

Director

Main responsibilities:

- » Strategic Planning
- » Strategic Outreach
- » Program Development



Deierlein, Andrea

Communications Officer

Main responsibilities:

- » E-INNOVATION GERMANY, GCRI's monthly newsletter
- » GCRI Web presence, including social media profiles
- » Public Relations & Marketing



Shoemaker, Stephanie

Program Officer

Main responsibilities:

- » Program Planning and Coordination
- » Event Logistics
- » Office Administration



2011 Outlook

One of GCRI's primary goals in 2011 is to provide a forum for international experts to network, exchange ideas, present their research, and collaborate.



June 6

Export Controls

Co-Sponsors:

- » Noerr LLP
- » German American Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (GACC)

June 28

Data, Discourse, Dispute: Scientific Experts and the Public in the U.S. and Germany

Co-Sponsors:

- » German Research Foundation (DFG)
- » National Science Foundation (NSF)

July 5

GCRI Career Workshop

Co-Sponsor:

- » Albert Einstein School of Medicine

Sept 2

Entrepreneurship Roundtable – San Francisco, CA

Co-Sponsor:

- » German Academic International Network (GAIN)

Sept 13

Biotechnology Panel Discussion

Co-Sponsor:

- » German State of Hessen U.S. Office for
Economic Development

Oct 13

The Aging Brain

Co-Sponsors:

- » The German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
- » Jacobs University Bremen

Nov 1

Sustainability Expert Roundtable

Co-Sponsors:

- » German American Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
(GACC)
- » German Federal Foreign Office
Transatlantic Climate Bridge

Oct 21

The New Geography of Science and Learning and its Impact on Researchers' Career Patterns: Launching a Network of "Researcher Alumni"

Co-Sponsor:

- Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Oct 20

Cybersecurity Workshop Ottawa, Canada

Co-Sponsors:

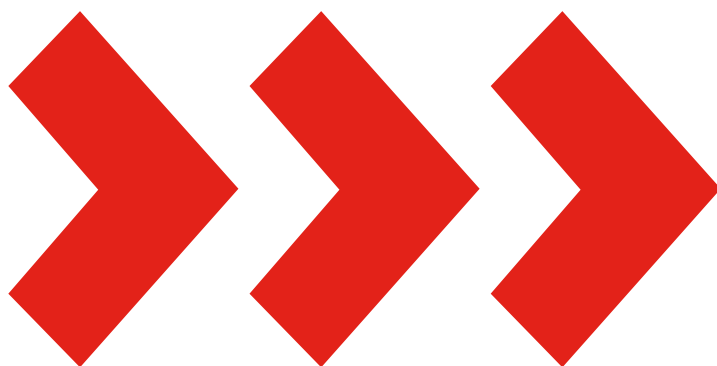
- » Research in Motion (Blackberry)
- » German Embassy Canada

Oct 18

Boosting Competitiveness by Connecting Science and Industry – Insights from Germany's Innovation Model

Co-Sponsor:

- » Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany



PERFORMANCE DURING THE FIRST YEAR



GERMAN CENTER RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Deutsches Wissenschafts- und Innovationszentrum

NEW YORK

INTERNATIONALIZING EXCELLENCE



Connecting worlds of knowledge





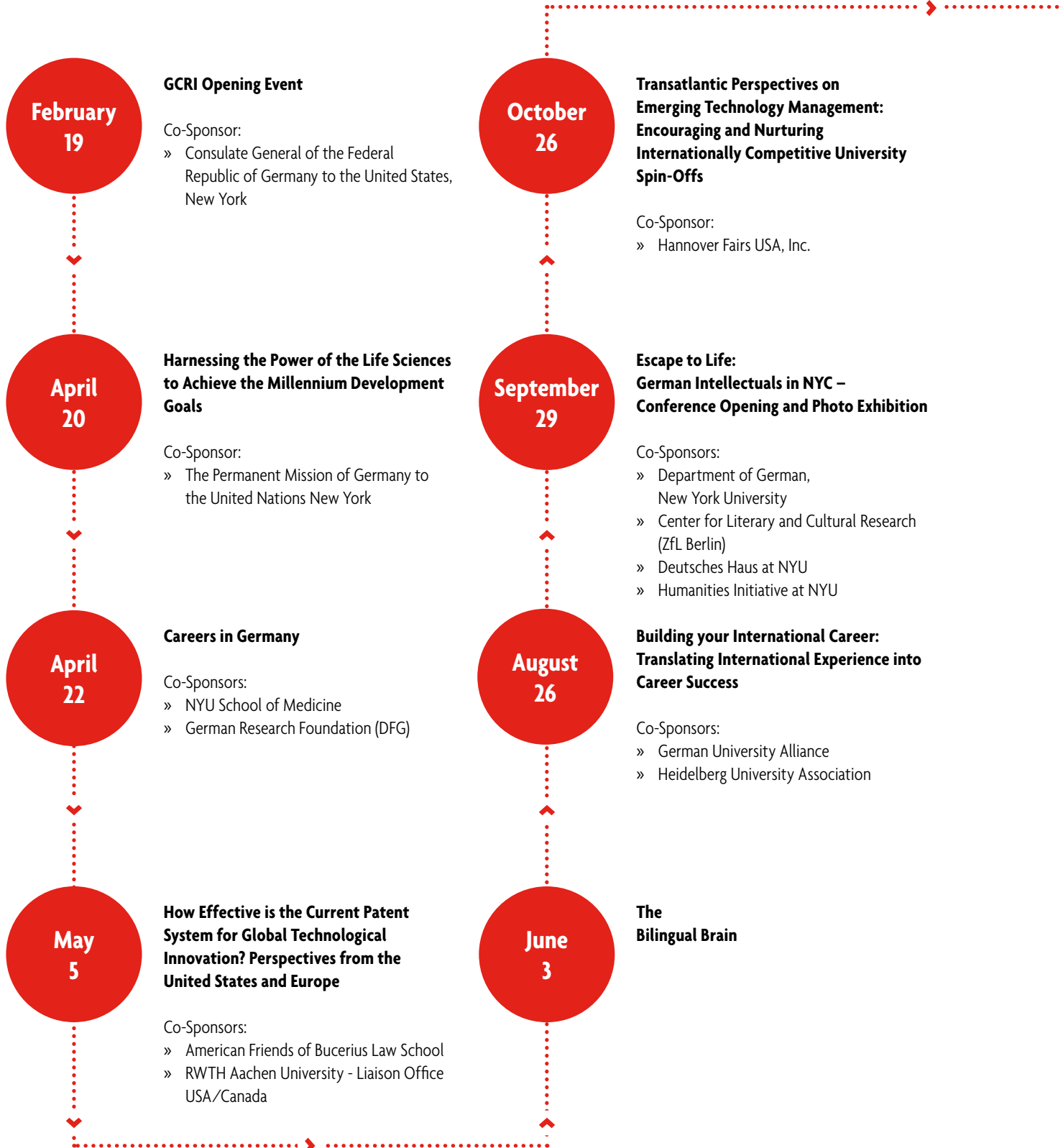
Internationalizing Excellence

The German Center for Research and Innovation (GCRI) is dedicated to strengthening collaboration in science and technology between partners in Germany and North America.

An initiative of the German government, GCRI is one of five centers worldwide that have been established to bring together international experts and researchers from academic institutions, industry, and government, thereby enhancing communication on the critical challenges of the 21st century. In addition to creating networking opportunities, GCRI showcases Germany as a land of ideas, know-how, and innovation. The other centers are located in Moscow, New Delhi, São Paulo, and Tokyo. GCRI New York is under the joint leadership of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Research Foundation (DFG).

- ◆ Prof. Dr.-Ing. Matthias Kleiner, President of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation, DFG), at the GCRI opening. The DFG and the German Council for Science and the Humanities are jointly responsible for running the Excellence Initiative, which has been promoting top-level research since 2005. It has enhanced the quality of German universities and research institutions, making Germany a more internationally competitive and attractive research location.

2010 Calendar of Events



**October
28 – 30**

**Facing the four Elements:
Developing a Transatlantic Approach to
Sustainability**

Co-Sponsors:

- » German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
- » American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH)

**November
3**

**Mapping the Brain:
Unlocking the Cerebral Cortex**

Co-Sponsor:

- » Max Planck Florida Institute (MPFI)

**November
8**

**The Widening Atlantic:
Market Gap - War Gap - God Gap**
Presented in conjunction with Universität
Heidelberg's 625th Anniversary

Co-Sponsor:

- » Heidelberg University Association

**November
10**

**Sustainable Cities and Urban
Development - A Transatlantic
Conversation**

Co-Sponsor:

- » American Friends of Bucerius Law School

**December
8**

**Plasma Medicine:
Scientific Challenges and
Technological Opportunities**

**November
20**

**Yes, You Can...
Advance Your Career with a European
Grant**

Co-Sponsor:

- » German Research Foundation (DFG)

**November
18**

**Focus:
Smart Grid**

Co-Sponsor:

- » German American Chamber of Commerce, Inc. – New York



February 19, 2010

Opening of the German Center for Research and Innovation

The Federal Minister of Education and Research, Prof. Dr. Annette Schavan, and the German Ambassador to the United States, Dr. Klaus Scharioth, opened the German Center for Research and Innovation in New York on February 19, 2010.

The President of the German Research Foundation (DFG), Prof. Dr.-Ing. Matthias Kleiner, and the Vice President of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Max Huber, conducted the celebration. The keynote speech was given by German Nobel Prize Laureate in Physics (2001), Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ketterle. Currently MIT's John D. MacArthur Professor of Physics, the Associate Director of the Research Laboratory of Electronics, and the Director of the MIT-Harvard Center for Ultracold Atoms, the German scientist clearly and enthusiastically articulated how new forms of matter can be created near absolute zero temperature. Madeleine Jacobs, the Executive Director and CEO of the American Chemical Society (ACS), discussed the significance of transatlantic collaboration in enhancing the quality of innovation. More than 200 guests attended the opening.

"The German Center for Research and Innovation reflects the diversity and excellence of the German research landscape."

Prof. Dr. Annette Schavan,

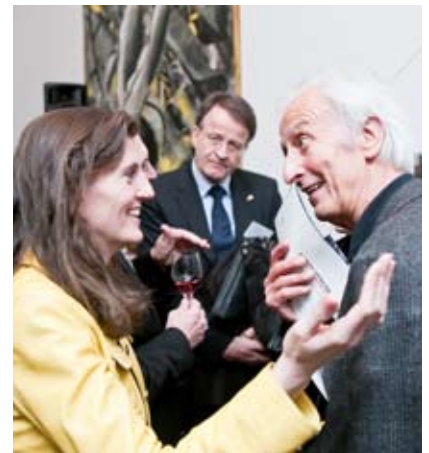
Federal Minister of Education and Research, Germany

"The rich network of people and ideas which Germany and the U.S. share will now be enriched by the German Center for Research and Innovation in the world metropolis of New York."

Dr. Klaus Scharioth,

Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United States of America





“The German Center for Research and Innovation reflects the diversity and excellence of the German research landscape. It also enables German institutions that are involved in research and development to present a united front in North America,” said Prof. Dr. Annette Schavan, the Federal Minister of Education and Research at the opening ceremony. The opening was held at the German House New York in Midtown Manhattan, which houses the GCRI, the German Consulate General, the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations, the German Exchange Service (DAAD), the German Research Foundation (DFG), the German Academic International Network (GAIN), and the representations of 27 German universities.

News about the opening was published throughout Germany, the United States, and Canada.

Co-Sponsor





November 20, 2010

Yes, You Can... Advance Your Career with a European Grant



U.S. and international researchers learned about the European Research Council's funding opportunities for research in Europe. The day's program culminated in a Leibniz Lecture by renowned neurobiologist Hannah Monyer, entitled "A Walk Down Memory's Path."

The German Center for Research and Innovation (GCRI), in cooperation with the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the German Contact Point of the European Research Council (ERC), hosted two parallel half-day workshops. The program content focused on the ERC's Starting Independent Researcher and Advanced Investigators Grants for research talents and exceptional leading researchers looking for funding to conduct their work in Europe. Participants received hands-on information on application and evaluation procedures, success rates and insider tips from European Research Council representatives and current grant recipients.

"With the changing funding landscape and increased opportunities for European and German funding for research, there is a need for information events for U.S. researchers to learn about these emerging programs. The GCRI/DFG/ERC workshop held in November was an outstanding opportunity for both junior and senior researchers to obtain information on several existing funding programs and guidance as to how to pursue these opportunities."

Don Lucca, Regents Professor and Tom J. Cunningham Chair,
School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Oklahoma State University

"The GCRI event offered an excellent opportunity to share information about European research funding with high-ranking scientists in the US. The presentations given in the sessions and the exchanges afterwards at the reception will certainly have a positive effect on US-European – and especially US-German – cooperation in research."

Uwe David, Director Bonn-Office,
European Liaison Office of the German Research Organisations (KoWi)

Co-Sponsor

DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft





April 20, 2010

Harnessing the Power of Life Sciences to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals

United Nations Ambassadors from over 30 countries and seven UN agencies exchanged views on biotechnology at a round table discussion.

The event was hosted by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations and co-sponsored by the GCRI. Invited speakers included: Dr. Prabhu Pingali of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Dr. Robert Orr, the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Planning in the United Nations Executive Office; and Dr. Jörg Hacker, the president of the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina.

"This roundtable discussion was an excellent and timely opportunity to provide valuable input on how biotechnology could contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The newly created German Center for Research and Innovation provides an ideal platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas at the scientific as well as political level."

Ambassador Dr. Peter Wittig,

Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

Co-Sponsor





June 3, 2010

The Bilingual Brain

At a GCRI Science Dinner and discussion, Professors Jürgen M. Meisel, University of Hamburg & University of Calgary, and Michael T. Ullman, Georgetown University, shared their linguistic and neuroscientific insights on the differences between learning a second language in youth and adulthood. Research into the neurobiology of bilingualism has shown that people who speak more than one language fluently have an advantage over those who are monolingual - and not just in terms of communication skills. Scientists have found that regardless of the age of acquisition, bilingual people have increased brain density, which leads to improved skills and abilities. Linguistics Professor Jürgen M. Meisel spoke about the simultaneous and successive acquisition of bilingualism and the age of onset of second language acquisition in early childhood. The declarative and procedural memory systems, which were presented by Professor Michael T. Ullman, are distinct cognitive systems which have distinct roles in language acquisition and involve different neural circuits.

Event outcomes:

- » GCRI article and interview published in German American Trade Magazine (print edition: 3,000)
- » Article appeared in a French-language publication
- » Numerous U.S. university representatives contacted GCRI about German research on this topic

"The GCRI science dinner provided an innovative format to discuss the importance of linguistic and neuroscientific research. I appreciated being invited to speak together with Jürgen Meisel, and I very much enjoyed the lively discussion and questions after each of our talks."

Michael Ullman,

Professor in the Department of Neuroscience, with secondary appointments in the Departments of Linguistics, Psychology and Neurology, Georgetown University





October 26, 2010

Transatlantic Perspectives on Emerging Technology Management

At a panel discussion, co-sponsored by GCRI and Hannover Messe Research and Technology, Richard Bendis, President & CEO of Innovation America, Edward Reinfurt, Executive Director of the New York State Foundation for Science, Technology and Innovation, and Prof. Christos Christodoulatos, Associate Provost of Academic Entrepreneurship at Stevens Institute of Technology discussed national frameworks, best practices, and funding schemes for early-stage high-tech companies in the United States and Germany. Within this context, the panel focused on examples of, opportunities for, and remaining obstacles to international collaboration, adopting best practices, and accessing non-domestic sources of seed money to establish university spin-offs and other vehicles of successful research commercialization. Kurt Becker, Associate Provost for Research & Technology Initiatives and Professor of Physics at the Polytechnic Institute of New York University, moderated.

Event outcomes:

- » Joann Halpern invited to give symposium keynote at Hannover Messe 2011
- » Article published in Innovation America blog, which has over 700,000 unique visitors daily
- » Richard Bendis connected GCRI with several key players who have developed collaborations with German organizations, e.g. American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

"Transatlantic innovation and commercialization collaboration is critical for entrepreneurial SME's and researchers to be competitive in the global economy. Emerging technology managers in both the United States and Germany need to be proactive in developing transatlantic relationships, through effective innovation intermediaries, that will accelerate their rate of commercial market acceptance. The German Center for Research and Innovation is an excellent example of an organization, that can provide assistance and introductions to innovative SME's and improve their chances of success."

Richard Bendis,

President and CEO Innovation America

Co-Sponsor





November 3, 2010

Mapping the Brain: Reconstructing the Cerebral Cortex

Featuring German Nobel Prize Laureate Dr. Bert Sakmann, the GCRI hosted a lecture on how nocturnal rodents, such as rats, rely on sensory input from their facial whiskers for navigation through the environment.

Dr. Sakmann's presentation focused on the creation of a three-dimensional map of the normal rodent brain. As the Inaugural Scientific Director of the Max Planck Florida Institute, Dr. Sakmann conducts a program dedicated to the precise structural arrangement of nerves in the cerebral cortex with the intention of creating a three-dimensional atlas of nerve cell bodies, dendrites and axons. During his lecture, approximately 60 scientists and other interested participants learned that whiskers are instrumental in a rat's decision-making process. Dr. Bert Sakmann was awarded the 1991 Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine with Erwin Neher for their invention of the patch clamp technique.

"In my presentation at the GCRI, I described how our work provides a template for the understanding of a rodent's cerebral cortex under normal conditions, which then can be used to accurately describe alterations in the anatomy that might be associated with a number of neurological diseases, like epilepsy or Alzheimer's. The reconstructions that we do can open a potential new window on the cellular structure of a significant part of the brain that could lead to a far better understanding of brain function and how minor changes can cause various sensory and cognitive abnormalities."

Dr. Bert Sakmann,

Inaugural Scientific Director and Research Group Leader,
Max Planck Florida Institute, and German Nobel Prize Laureate in Medicine (1991, with Erwin Neher)

Co-Sponsor

MAX PLANCK
FLORIDA INSTITUTE





December 8, 2010

Plasma Medicine: Scientific Challenges and Technological Opportunities

A panel discussion on new developments in plasma medicine in Germany and the United States.

Plasma medicine is an emerging field of research which aims to understand and utilize the interaction of plasmas with living tissue and cells. Practical applications of plasma medicine currently being investigated include, among others: inducing rapid blood coagulation; killing bacteria, sterilizing wounds, medical instruments, and implants; and selectively modifying living cells and tissue. Prof. Klaus-Dieter Weltmann and Nadja Dahlhaus (Leibniz Institute for Plasma Science and Technology, INP Greifswald e.V.), Prof. Alexander Fridman and Prof. Gary Friedman (Drexel University) and Dr. Van Thompson (NYU College of Dentistry) discussed this interdisciplinary field that is beginning to have an impact on health care. Prof. Kurt Becker, Associate Provost for Research & Technology Initiatives and Professor of Physics at NYU-Polytechnic Institute, moderated.

Event outcomes:

- » Agreement between INP Greifswald and Drexel University to exchange graduate students
- » Discussions about investment in plasma pen technology
- » GCRI Plasma Medicine newsletter (E-NNOVATION GERMANY Issue 8) forwarded by the invited speakers to over 50 individuals in the field

"Plasma Medicine is a new and dynamic field of research where much work has to be done concerning networking transfer of result into practice . We found new partners from industry and research in the US because of this focused and well organized event."

Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dieter Weltmann,

Director, Leibniz Institute for Plasma Science and Technology (INP Greifswald e.V.)





August 26, 2010

Hands-on Workshop: Building Your International Career

At a GCRI hands-on workshop with Professor Sarah L. Poynton, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, approximately 60 biomedical Ph.D. students and Post-doctoral fellows learned how to strategize and plan an international research career.

In this interactive workshop Dr. Poynton covered a broad range of topics from the need and importance of an international career to developing a personal and professional “win-win” situation. Encouraging the scientists to invent their own routes, she successfully engaged all participants in open dialogue, individual written and small group exercises, and endearingly illustrated the power of networks. With a particular focus on the role of mentors, culture, and logistics, she said: “Never underestimate the global professional currencies of Thank you, time, and information.”

Event outcomes:

- » Both Ph.D. students and Postdocs reported a statistically significant increase in their knowledge in all of the topics Dr. Poynton presented
- » Within a month of the workshop, approximately ten of the workshop participants contacted GCRI about funding opportunities in Germany
- » Many of the workshop participants have become regular attendees at GCRI events

“The staff at the GCRI did an exceptional job of hosting the workshop on planning successful international research careers, bringing together an effective blend of speakers, attracting a large and attentive audience of young biomedical scientists, and stimulating innovative approaches.”

Sarah Poynton, Ph.D.,

Associate Professor of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology, and Art as Applied to Medicine, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore

Co-Sponsors



UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG
Zukunft. Seit 1386.





September 29, 2010

Escape to Life: German Intellectuals in NYC – Conference and Photo Exhibition

The GCRI and New York University (NYU) hosted a symposium on the impact of German intellectuals on the cultural and educational landscape of New York and the United States. GCRI collaborated with NYU on an exhibition of Peter Stein's photographs of German intellectuals.

Sponsored by a consortium of cultural and educational institutions, the symposium explored the impact of German-speaking authors, artists, and scientists on American life and culture. In the 1930s and 1940s, the United States gave shelter to a large number of leading intellectuals in the German-speaking world, among them Albert Einstein (1921 Nobel Prize laureate in Physics), Max Horkheimer, Hannah Arendt, and Arnold Zweig.

Event outcomes:

- » A book is being published based on the presentations given during this event
- » A retrospective of Peter Stein's photographs will take place at the Jewish Museum in Berlin in 2013

"As part of my high school seminar on German Culture, my students attended a lecture on Hannah Arendt's bilingual writing at the GCRI. Our visit represented our first exposure to university-level academics and the lecture brought us very close to the most current Academic writing and research. The experience, which included a lively and interactive question and answer session, was invaluable."

Alex Levin,

English Teacher, Saint Ann's School, Brooklyn

Co-Sponsors



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



Zentrum für Literatur- und
Kulturforschung Berlin





October 28, 2010

Facing the Four Elements: Developing a Transatlantic Approach to Sustainability

More than 100 German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH) alumni gathered at the German House New York from October 28 to 30, 2010, to discuss and share their expertise on sustainability and transatlantic relationships.

The networking event, which was co-sponsored by the GCRI, also addressed new approaches to supporting academic and scientific research and exchange. Ulrich Grothus, DAAD Deputy Secretary General, and Professor Dr. Enno Aufderheide, Secretary General of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, welcomed the participants to three days filled with panel discussions, networking opportunities, and a dinner cruise around Manhattan. During the conference's opening night, Professor Dr. Roland Schindler, Director of the Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems, spoke about the challenges and opportunities of extending Fraunhofer research to the United States. Alison Taylor, Vice President, Sustainability for the Americas, Siemens Corporation, spoke about Siemens' approach to sustainability.

"The GCRI is showcasing German research and innovation as no other institution in the U.S. can. Though the GCRI's programs, website, and outreach, Americans are learning that German research facilities and industry are world leaders in the research areas that matter for the future."

Dr. Cathleen S. Fisher,

President, American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Co-Sponsors





November 18, 2010

Focus: Smart Grid

The German Center for Research and Innovation and the German American Chamber of Commerce, Inc. (GACC) held a discussion to inform the public of current and future steps in smart grid development from the German and U.S. perspectives.

The roundtable focused on the technology, policy and business outlook of intelligent energy management systems. The featured speakers were Christian Hoepfner, Director of Technical Operations (Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems), Jim Gallagher, Senior Director of Energy Policy (New York City Economic Development Corporation), and Barbara Kates-Garnick, Consultant of Urban Technologies (Polytechnic Institute of New York University). Kurt Becker, Associate Provost for Research and Technology and Professor of Physics (Polytechnic Institute of New York University), moderated.

Event outcome:

- » After the event, over fifteen organizations, including IBM, ConEd, Cisco, Verizon, and National Grid contacted GCRI and speakers on the panel
- » Several smart grid participants developed business relationships with Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems, which was represented on the panel

"The event on the smart grid provided an opportunity to explore how the smart grid can be used to further technology and innovation on multiple levels. What made it so useful is that it presented a broad perspective that included government, academia and practitioners and facilitated discussion among all of the participants around the table."

Dr. Barbara Kates-Garnick,
Adjunct Professor, NYU-Poly

Co-Sponsor





May 5, 2010

How Effective is the Current Patent System for Global Technological Innovation?

GCRI, in cooperation with the American Friends of Bucerius and RWTH Aachen University, hosted a panel discussion on the efficacy of the current patent system in the United States and Europe.

Peter J. Esser, General Counsel, Representative of German Industry & Trade, Myles Jackson, Professor of the History of Science, Director of Science and Technology Studies, NYU, and Regina Oertel, Director of Technology Transfer and Research Funding at RWTH Aachen University, addressed the philosophical questions associated with the patenting of genes; the relationship between exclusive intellectual property rights and technical progress; and the conflict faced by university researchers who collaborate with industry.

"This event was an excellent opportunity for participants from a variety of disciplines to gain new insights into the complex field of patents, and to examine how differing patent systems can impact innovation. Speakers at the event, all from diverse backgrounds, provided valuable perspectives on the important role patent systems play in academia, research, and industry in the U.S. and Germany. The panel discussion was part of a collaboration between American Friends of Bucerius and GCRI that started in 2010 and will continue in 2011."

Dr. Nina Smidt,

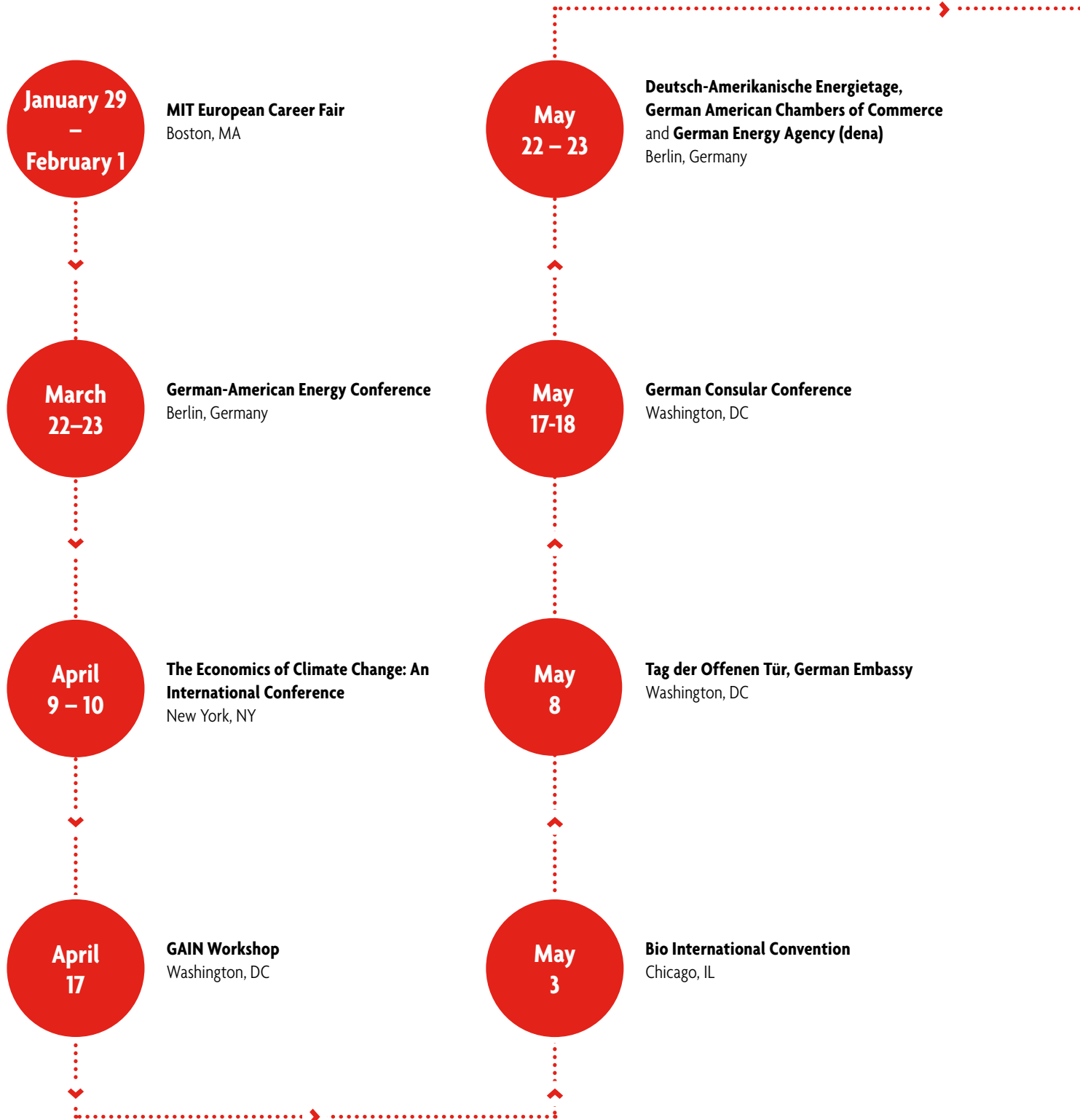
President, American Friends of Bucerius

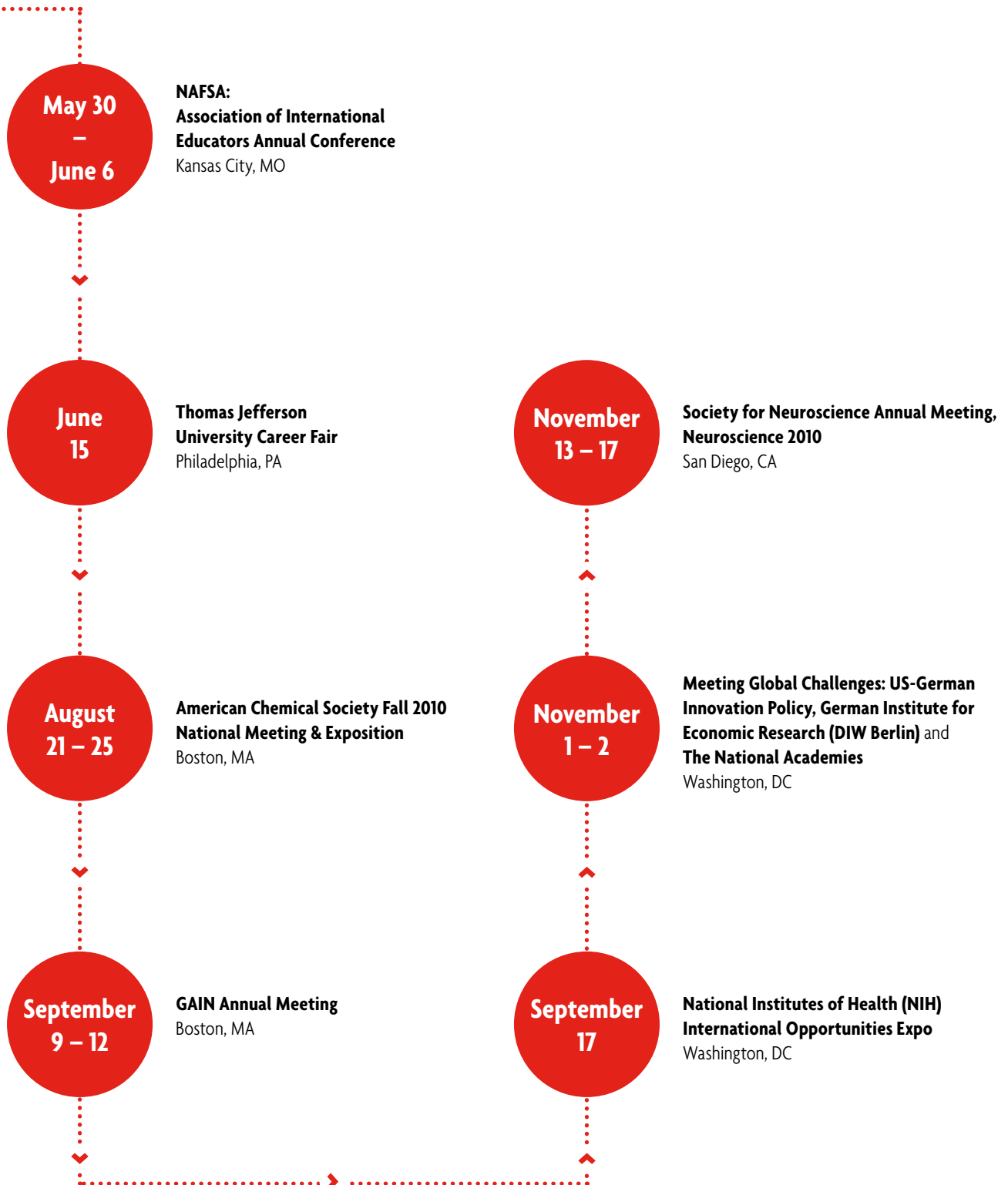
Director International Strategic Planning and Business Development, ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius

Co-Sponsor

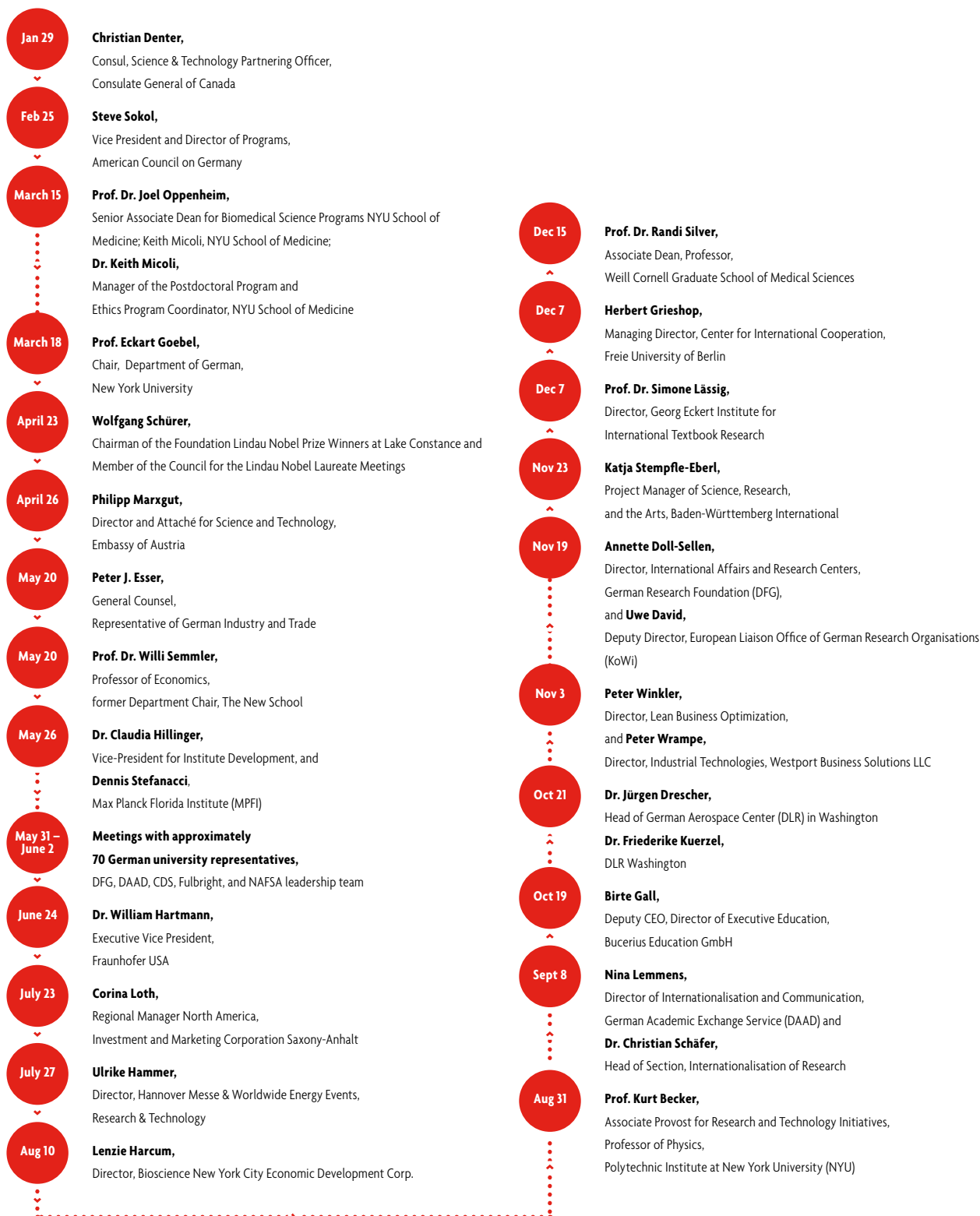


GCRI on the Road – Conference Participation



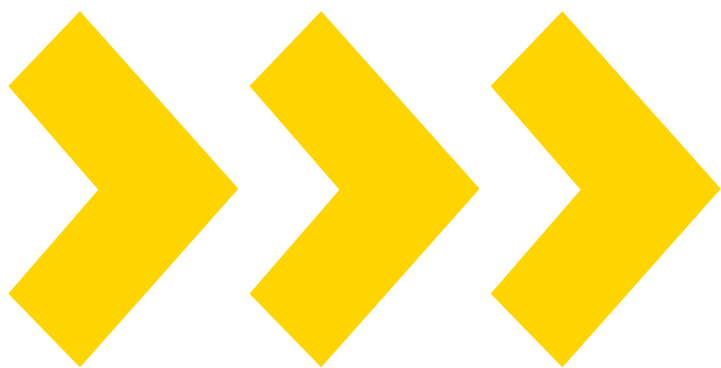


Selected Organizational Meetings for Co-Sponsored Events



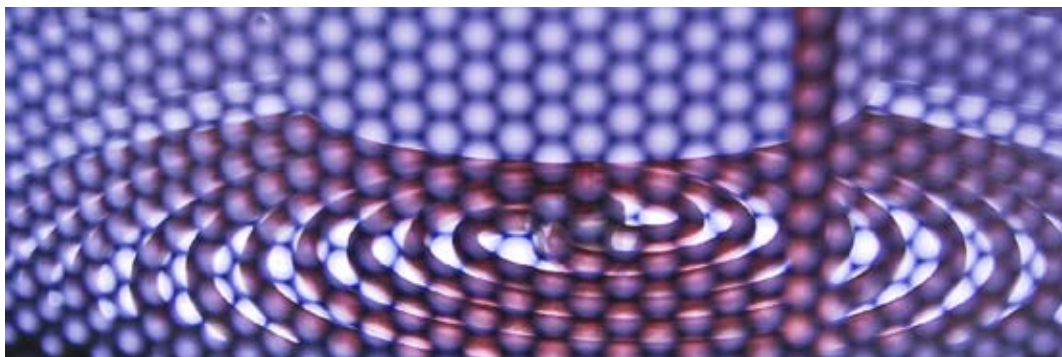
Selected Strategic Outreach Meetings





GCRI AND THE MEDIA





Plasma Medicine for a Cleaner and Healthier Tomorrow

Unbeknownst to many, plasma is more than a fluorescent component of TV screens and electronics. It has the potential to disinfect, heal wounds, and generate tissue. The plasma effect on cells is also very different from antibiotics, which lead to the hope of a cure against multiresistant strains of bacteria, a common concern in hospitals.

In physics and chemistry plasma is known as the fourth state of matter and consists of a collection of free moving electrons and ions. Plasma medicine is an emerging field of research which aims to understand the interaction of plasmas with living tissue and cells. Plasma medicine shows promise in the area of increased and accelerated wound healing, a market worth at least \$ 2.5 billion, according to Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dieter Weltmann.

One of the editors-in-chief of the new Plasma Medicine Journal, which was first published in October 2010, Prof. Weltmann, who also heads the Leibniz Institute for Plasma Science and Technology in Greifswald, Germany, will speak at the German Center for Research and Innovation on December 8. In the GCRI-Interview below, he talks about current developments, breakthroughs and opportunities in plasma medicine in Germany and the U.S.

Another group that has conducted groundbreaking research on plasma and its use in medicine is the Plasma Health Care group at the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics in Garching, Germany. At the university level, research on plasma medicine is being conducted by the German Research Foundation-supported group Physics of Microplasmas at Ruhr-University Bochum.

Further articles in this issue

- » GCRI-Interview with Prof. Dr. Klaus-Dieter Weltmann
- » Plasma Medicine: Scientific Challenges and Technological Opportunities
- » Innovation: Plasma Pen
- » Plasma Technology against Germs
- » Research Department "Plasmas with Complex Interactions" at Ruhr-University Bochum

E-NNOVATION GERMANY – The GCRI's Monthly Newsletter










Since its first issue in April 2010, GCRI's monthly newsletter E-NNOVATION GERMANY has captured the attention of a rapidly growing readership.

More than 1,200 subscribers to date receive highlights of significant topics in German science, research, and innovation. Each newsletter features a "German Innovation of the Month," a "GCRI-Interview" and current research projects. In 2010, GCRI conducted interviews with the German Nobel Prize Laureate Dr. Bert Sakmann, the German Ambassador to the United States Dr. Klaus Scharioth, as well as German scientists and heads of successful German organizations, such as Prof. Dr. Roland Schindler, Executive Director of the Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems.

To subscribe to the GCRI newsletter, write to newsletter@germaninnovation.org

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Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung



Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Press release

19 February 2010
xx/2010

Showing German Research Around the World
Schavan: "German Center for Research and Innovation inaugurated in New York"
German centers to be opened in Japan, Russia, India and Korea
The German Center for Research and Innovation (GRI) will be inaugurated in New York on 19 February 2010. The GRI is a center for research and innovation in the field of nanotechnology. The GRI is a center for research and innovation in the field of nanotechnology. The GRI is a center for research and innovation in the field of nanotechnology.



Internationalizing
Excellence



GCRI Press Coverage

From the beginning, the GCRI has invited and welcomed journalists to all of its events. The opening in February 2010 was attended by media representatives from

- » **ARD/WDR**
- » **Atlantic Times**
- » **Chronicle of Higher Education**
- » **Deutsche Presseagentur dpa**
- » **Financial Times Deutschland**
- » **Focus**
- » **Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung**
- » **German World**
- » **Handelsblatt**
- » **New York German Press**
- » **Scientific American**
- » **Stern**
- » **Süddeutsche Zeitung**
- » **UN Foreign Press Association**

Throughout 2010, over 150 articles about the GCRI were published in the U.S., Germany, Canada, and the U.K.

GCRI in the News

Germany – The Home of Smart Innovation

“Germany also actively encourages its researchers to network internationally. It has set up centers for research and innovation in countries such as Brazil, Russia, India, China, and the U.S.

‘The BRIC nations and the U.S. and Canada are exciting partner countries for German players, both in academia and industry,’ says Joann Halpern, director of the German Center for Research and Innovation in New York. ‘All of these countries are making significant investments in research and development, and Germany is also committed to long-term investment in R&D.’

The centers ‘were created to bring together international experts and researchers from academic institutions, industry and government, thereby enhancing communication on the critical challenges of the 21st century,’ she says. ‘Innovation is enhanced by collaboration.

We bring the greatest minds together and play a facilitator role.’

Both international researchers and foreign investors find a positive partner in Germany, Dr. Halpern says. ‘The collaboration between research and industry makes Germany attractive.’”

The Wall Street Journal

September 30, 2010



Fostering warmth after the supercold: Nobel laureate Wolfgang Ketterle talks up U.S.-German collaboration for innovation

“Citing his success, Ketterle called for even greater scientific collaboration between disciplines, universities and countries during a brief lecture he gave Friday to mark the opening of the German Center for Research and Innovation (GCRI) in New York City.”

Scientific American Observations, Editorial Blogpost of the Scientific American

February 20, 2010



Germany Opens Center in New York to Foster Research Partnerships

“German officials unveiled in Manhattan last week a ‘one-stop shop’ for American academics and institutions looking to establish scientific and technological research collaborations in Germany.

‘The new German Center for Research and Innovation underscores the country’s growing attractiveness as a research-and-study destination,’ said Annette Schavan, Germany’s minister of education and research.”

The Chronicle of Higher Education

February 24, 2010



Focus on Germany

“Importantly, the initiative is as much about innovation and industry as pure research. The US already has good research links with Germany (there are almost twice as many German scholars working in the US as there are British staff), so the need is for a real push to strengthen business ties. The New York house is therefore aiming to ease the translation of research breakthroughs into new inventions and innovations,” says Kurt Becker, a German scientist working at the Polytechnic Institute of New York University.”

New Scientist, UK

June 2, 2010



A Saturday in New York City – With a Difference

“Joann Halpern, Director of the DWIH, whose team was largely responsible for preparing the event, was thus already in a position to take stock after a first glance at the evaluation sheets: the event was a success, and all participants had something positive to say about the learning effects. Europe had successfully wooed American research.”

DFG-Magazine

December 2, 2010



Transatlantic Perspectives on Emerging Technology Management: Encouraging and Nurturing Internationally Competitive Spin-Offs

“The German Center for Research and Innovation (GCRI), in cooperation with HANNOVER MESSE Research & Technology, the leading international trade fair for R&D and technology transfer in Hannover, Germany, hosted a panel discussion on national frameworks, practices, and funding schemes for early-stage high-tech companies in the U.S. and Germany on October 26, 2010.”

Innovation Daily

November 18, 2010



OPENING
2010

GERMAN CENTER FOR
RESEARCH & INNOVATION

Franklin-Wissenschaften und Innovationshaus
NEW YORK

INTERNATIONALIZING
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Land of Ideas





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Imprint

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Research in
Germany



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Ruhr-University Bochum, Research Department Plasma

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