

PRESS INFORMATION

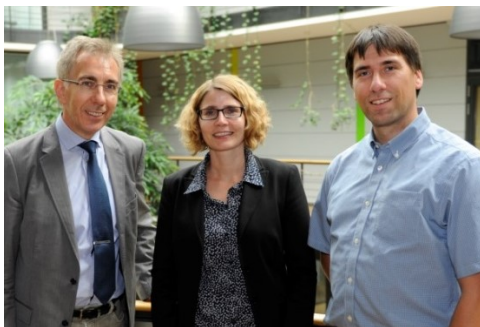
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Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology IZI and Coburg University of Applied Sciences and Arts join forces in the field of protein biomarker development

On 20 September 2016, Professor Susanne Aileen Funke, Vice President of Coburg University of Applied Sciences and Arts (HaW Coburg), and Professor Frank Emmrich, Director of the Fraunhofer IZI, concluded a cooperation agreement between the two research institutes.

The cooperation is centered around the takeover of the Protein Biomarker Unit in the Department of Therapy Validation by Professor Stefan Kalkhof, who also holds the research professorship for instrumental bioanalytics at the HaW Coburg. The cooperation aims to identify and validate proteins which can subsequently be used in analytical and diagnostic procedures.

“While we are able to identify and characterize relevant biomarkers using mass spectrometric procedures in Coburg, we can validate them and prepare them for clinical application using antibody-based procedures in the Leipzig unit,” comments Professor Kalkhof, summarizing the complementary approach pursued by the cooperation. Our new colleague will find all of the expertise required to develop and manufacture high-affinity antibodies in the Department of Therapy Validation at the Fraunhofer IZI, besides a quality management system certified in accordance with GLP (Good Laboratory Practice). The newly formed unit supplements the existing range of services offered by the Department of Therapy Validation with bioanalytical expertise.



Dr. Jörg Lehmann (l.), Professor Susanne Aileen Funke (m.), Professor Stefan Kalkhof (r.) and Professor Frank Emmrich (not pictured) concluded the cooperation agreement between the Fraunhofer IZI and Coburg University of Applied Sciences and Arts on 20 September 2016.

Editor

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FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR CELL THERAPY AND IMMUNOLOGY IZI**The Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology IZI****PRESS INFORMATION**

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The Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology IZI investigates and develops solutions to specific problems at the interfaces of medicine, life sciences and engineering. One of the institute's main tasks is to conduct contract research for companies, hospitals, diagnostic laboratories and research institutes operating in the field of biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and medical engineering. The Fraunhofer IZI develops, optimizes and validates methods, materials and products for the business units Cell and Gene Therapy, Drugs, Diagnostics and Biosystems Technology. Its areas of competence lie in cell biology, immunology, drug biochemistry, biomarker, bioanalytics and bioproduction as well as process development and automation. In these areas, research specifically focusses on the indications oncology, neuropathology, autoimmune and inflammatory diseases as well as infectious diseases and regenerative medicine.

The **Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft** is the leading organization for applied research in Europe. Its research activities are conducted by 67 Fraunhofer Institutes and research units at locations throughout Germany. The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft employs a staff of 24,000, who work with an annual research budget totaling more than 2.1 billion euros. Of this sum, more than 1.8 billion euros is generated through contract research. More than 70 percent of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft's contract research revenue is derived from contracts with industry and from publicly financed research projects. Branches in the Americas and Asia serve to promote international cooperation.

Further contacts

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