



Leopoldina

news

Deutschen Akademie der Naturforscher Leopoldina –
Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften

Halle (Saale), 30 August 2011

03 | 2011



A unique work: 21 text and commentary volumes with several sub-volumes make up the Leopoldina edition of "Goethes Schriften zur Naturwissenschaft" (Goethe - Works on the Natural Sciences").

Photo: Thomas Meinicke

Leopoldina's Goethe edition is now complete

Seventy years after it began, work on the historical-critical edition of "Goethes Schriften zur Naturwissenschaft" („Goethe - Works on the Natural Sciences“) has been completed. The Leopoldina edition brings together, for the first time, all of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's texts on the natural sciences, presents them in chronological order with commentaries and associated documents, and supplements them with contemporary references. The publication also reveals connections between his scientific and literary work, and between the philosophical and scientific trends of his time.

The Leopoldina edition, which is made up of 21 volumes of text and commentary together with several sub-volumes, presents the complete range of Goethe's scientific writings in chronological order, places them in context and discusses them. In doing so, it replaces the second section of the Weimar (Sophie) edition of Goethe's writings in line with the latest standards in editorial philology. Rather than providing their own criticisms of Goethe's scientific work, the latest Munich and Frankfurt editions of the complete works of Goethe used the texts pub-

▶ Continued on page 2

Dear members

and friends of the Leopoldina,

The question "What is life?" sounds very philosophical. But today it is actually extremely relevant from a scientific perspective too.



Genome research, for example, has made it possible to describe the life processes of simple organisms at a molecular level – a breakthrough that for a long time was unimaginable.

The annual assembly

of the Leopoldina, to take place in Halle from 23 to 25 September, will address the question "What is life?" and provide leading scientists and scholars with an interdisciplinary forum for exchange. The conference will thereby help to promote dialogue between the humanities and the natural and life sciences. I am very much looking forward to the discussions, which will focus on topics such as the origin of life, methods of synthetic biology, and the issues surrounding stem cells and their use. I am also delighted that Chancellor Merkel has agreed to join us for the event. Also on the agenda are outstanding lectures from such distinguished scholars as Nobel laureate Prof. Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard ML and theologian Prof. Richard Schröder.

Kind regards,

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News

lished in the Leopoldina edition.

Alongside his poetic work, Goethe, who was a member of the Leopoldina, dedicated himself to the natural sciences throughout his life. He published numerous scientific papers and considered the Theory of Colours to be his most significant work. The knowledge he gained from his study of science was not just an end in itself – it very often found its way into his literary work. The novel „Die Wahlverwandtschaften“ (“Elective Affinities”) (1809) shows this connection particularly clearly. The title itself, which describes how chemical species can either attract or reject each other, comes from chemistry. Thus, exploring Goethe’s scientific writings is also important to literary scholars studying his poetry. The Leopoldina edition encourages continued and new investigation of Goethe’s complete works, and offers potential new approaches to interpreting it.

The idea to publish a complete edition of Goethe’s writings on the natural sciences was born all the way back in the 1930s. Leopoldina members Karl Lothar Wolf, Wilhelm Troll and Günther Schmid found that Goethe’s holistic view of na-

ture made exploring his writings beneficial to their own research, and wanted to make them accessible to readers as a contrast to the positivist view that dominated science at the time. In 1941 they signed a contract for publishing the texts with the publishing house Hermann Böhlhaus Nachfolger Weimar. After 1945, with the significant involvement of Dorothea Kuhn, a biologist and scholar of German, the first outlines emerged for a historical-critical edition of Goethe’s scientific writings. Kuhn remains lead editor on the project to this day. In 1970, all eleven volumes of Goethe’s texts were ready. Now, the commentary volumes that were begun at the same time have also been completed. Indexes and registers will follow. The first index book will be published in 2011.

Over the past 70 years, the Leopoldina has continually provided the edition with funding and support. In 1952, the German Research Foundation (DFG) also began lending its support to the project. From 1993 until its completion, the publication is receiving financing as a long-term research project under the Academies’ Programme of the Union of

the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities.

On 4 November 2011, the Leopoldina will be holding an event in cooperation with the Goethe Society in Weimar to celebrate the publication of the Leopoldina edition. (mab)

For further information on the edition and a list of the individual volumes (in German), please visit:

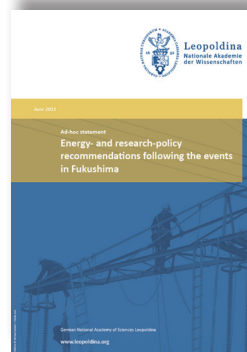
www.leopoldina.org/de/akademie/forschungsprojekte/akademienvorhaben/goethe/zielsetzung.html

Publication details: Goethe. Die Schriften zur Naturwissenschaft. The complete scientific works of Goethe, and discussions of the writings. Produced on behalf of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. Begun by Lothar K. Wolf and Wilhelm Troll, edited by Dorothea Kuhn, Wolf von Engelhardt and Irmgard Müller. Published by Hermann Böhlhaus Nachfolger Weimar, ISBN: 978-3-7400-0024-0 (complete edition)

Energy- and research-policy recommendations following the events in Fukushima now available in English

The Leopoldina’s ad-hoc statement “Energiepolitische und forschungspolitische Empfehlungen nach den Ereignissen von Fukushima“ (June 2011) is now available in English, entitled “Energy- and research-policy recommendations following the events in Fukushima“. The statement includes twelve key declarations that primarily address research-policy questions connected to restructuring the energy system.

The authors say that from a scientific perspective, it appears possible to phase out nuclear power within about a decade. They then go on to sketch out the conditions that must be met to achieve this.



not affect Germany’s long-term energy-research goals. This means that energy research in Germany must continue to address a broad spectrum of topics co-

These include establishing for the long term a neutral body to monitor the restructuring process. The statement also claims that an accelerated nuclear phase-out would

vering everything from basic research to highly application-oriented investigations in order to present society with additional options. According to the statement, one of the most important short-term measures is to increase our energy efficiency. The paper also emphasises the international dimension of energy policy, since many plans are being made at a European level.

To access the statement in German and English visit: www.leopoldina.org

PGD statement assists political decision-making

Overview of a political consulting process by the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina

Preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) is a type of genetic screening. It allows people who are carriers of a genetic disease to become parents of a child that does not suffer from the disorder. Until the summer of 2010, PGD was prohibited in Germany under the country's Embryo Protection Act. However, the German Federal Supreme Court ruled on 6 July 2010 that PDG is not in violation of the law because the wording of the Act does not clearly reject the procedure.

As the legislative body, the German Bundestag, was then asked to provide a statutory regulation here. As the German National Academy of Sciences, the Leopoldina felt that it was its responsibility to discuss the possibility of approving PGD from a scientific perspective and to take a stand in the debate. It produced an ad-hoc statement, which also had the support of acatech – the German National Academy of Science and Engineering, and of the majority of the state academies in the Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities.

In November 2010 a workgroup was set up, comprising outstanding experts from the fields of reproductive biology and medicine, gynaecology, human genetics, developmental biology, general genetics, philosophy/ethics and law. The facilitator in the workgroup was Prof. Hans-Peter Zenner ML (University of Tübingen), member of the Presidium of the Leopoldina and spokesperson for the Leopoldina's standing committee on scientific ethics. Over several meetings and in an ongoing process of circulating written documents, the working group discussed specific points of PGD and repeatedly revised draft documents on them. Items addressed included the legal and medical questions surrounding PGD, the international situation, and the ethical aspects of the procedure. The aim was to ensure that the statement was sufficiently thorough, while still presenting it early enough to ensure that legislators and the public were aware of the arguments relevant to the discussion and decision-making process in good time before the

start of parliamentary proceedings.

In early January 2011 the statement, along with its recommendations, was published under the title "Preimplantation genetic diagnosis – the effects of limited approval in Germany". The statement calls for approving PGD within strict limits and under certain conditions. On 18 January, members of the working group and the Presidents of the Leopoldina and the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities – Prof. Jörg Hacker ML and Prof. Günter Stock – presented the statement to interested parliamentarians in the building of the Bundestag. Afterwards, the media were informed of the statement at a federal press conference.

Writing in the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* newspaper, Prof. Norbert Lammert, President of the Bundestag, said that the Leopoldina's PGD statement proved that it was possible to overcome the communication problems that often exist between politics and science: "The Leopoldina has produced a written statement on PGD that is easy to read, both in terms of its scope and formulation. What is more, the experts involved provided politicians with a clear explanation of the statement within a very acceptable length of time (an intensive hour-long session)." Lammert continues: "The other members of the Bundestag present will, like me, have experienced this presentation as a short, yet precise and highly informative explanation of the facts. I am in no doubt that they will have found the conclusions easy to follow and thus genuinely helpful in forming their own judgement."

The PGD statement sparked a debate in the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* about the extent to which a national academy of sciences has the right to make recommendations on ethical matters. This debate, which Leopoldina President Jörg Hacker also contributed to, was taken up by other media and the general public.

On 14 April 2011 the first reading of the new regulation for PGD was held in the German Bundestag. Proposals from three cross-party groups were discussed. The first proposal, tabled by a group of 192 members of the German Bundestag

and led by Brigitte Bender (Green Party) and Johannes Singhammer (CSU), called for a complete ban. The second proposal, tabled by 36 members of the Bundestag who were led by René Röspel (SPD) and Priska Hinz (Green Party), was in support of a ban that permits exceptions that are not unlawful. Such exceptions would be cases where there is a very high chance of miscarriage or stillbirth, or of the child dying within its first year of life. This proposal was later amended. The exception to the ban in the case of the probable death of the child in its first year of life was deleted.

The third proposal was tabled by a group of 215 parliamentarians led by Ulrike Flach (FDP), Peter Hintze (CDU), Dr Carola Reimann (SPD), Dr Petra Sitte (The Left Party) and Jerzy Montag (The Greens). It was in support of approving the procedure within strict limits. When one or both parents is predisposed to a severe hereditary disease, or if there is a very high chance of stillbirth or miscarriage, PGD could be approved provided the parents attended obligatory counselling and an ethics committee voted in favour of the procedure. This draft was later amended to the effect, among others, that the German Federal Government should draw up a regulation on how many PGD centres to approve and on the requirements these centres must fulfil to receive approval. After the first reading, none of the proposals achieved a majority vote. Of the 621 parliamentarians, 178 did not back any of the proposals.

To encourage public debate on the topic, the Leopoldina and the Haus der Wissenschaft Braunschweig organised a discussion panel on PGD on 26 April in Halle. The event, entitled "Auf dem Weg zum Designerbaby? Das Für und Wider der Präimplantationsdiagnostik" ("The pros and cons of PGD"), involved discussions among four experts with active audience participation. It highlighted the different points of view – from limiting PGD and the dangers of embryo selection to research funding and the question of social solidarity with people with disabilities. The event was held as part of the "Research for our Health" Year of Science

run by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

A hearing on PGD took place on 25 May in the Committee on Health of the German Bundestag. The second and third readings of the draft law were held on 7 July, directly before parliament adjourned for the summer. The Leopoldina's statement was referred to a number of times during the four-hour debate. The Flach/Hintze proposal for limited approval was finally adopted; it is the one

that most closely reflects the recommendations of the Leopoldina. The proposal received 326 of the 594 votes submitted. A total of 260 parliamentarians voted against it; eight abstained.

The Leopoldina is continuing its involvement in the PGD debate. On 15 August 2011, for example, members of the PGD workgroup attended an expert meeting on the topic that was held at the German Federal Ministry of Health. The discussions focused on the requirements

for approving centres to perform the procedure; on how many centres to approve; on the establishment, structure, and financing of the necessary ethics committee; and on setting up an expert central PGD office. (elk)

• The PGD statement is available online under Policy Advice at: www.leopoldina.org

International Issues

German-Russian Year of Science launched

The Leopoldina conference "Molecular Basis of Infections" took place from 14 to 15 June 2011 in Novosibirsk / by Prof. Jutta Schnitzer-Ungfug

The Leopoldina's inauguration event for the German-Russian Year of Education, Science and Innovation was a conference entitled Molecular Basis of Infections, held in Novosibirsk, Russia on 14 and 15 June 2011. Three weeks earlier, on 23 May 2011, Germany's Federal Minister of Education Annette Schavan and her Russian counterpart Andrei Fursenko launched the German-Russian Year of Science in Moscow. The President of the Leopoldina, Prof. Jörg Hacker ML, was also in attendance. The Year of Science is intended to further develop the long-standing partnership in the domains of education, research and innovation between the two countries, and provide it with fresh impetus.

The Leopoldina's German-Russian Conference, the content of which was chosen by the President of the Leopoldina, Prof. Hacker, goes back to an initiative of the president of the Koch-Mechnikov Forum, Prof. Helmut Hahn. It was held in cooperation with the Koch-Mechnikov Forum and the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences' Siberian branch, whose member Prof. V. Kozlov played a key role in organising the meeting from the Russian side. The conference was one of the first official scientific events in the German-Russian Year and was held in Novosibirsk city hall. Key topics at the conference included tuberculosis and virology.

Numerous high-ranking scientists from Germany attended.

At the opening celebrations, representatives of the mayor of Novosibirsk and the regional health minister emphasised how important this medical conference was for promoting exchange between Russian and German scientists and doctors. The rector of Novosibirsk State Medical University, Prof. I. Marinkin, and the co-organiser of the conference, clinical immunologist Prof. V. Kozlov, welcomed the plans for intensifying collaboration between Germany and Russia, as well as the initiatives embarked on by the Koch-Mechnikov Forum and the Leopoldina.

On behalf of the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Novosibirsk, attaché Jutta Held described the further-reaching objectives of the conference, which are soon to take shape in the form of specific collaborative projects. Speakers for the German delegation were: President of the Koch-Mechnikov Forum, Prof. Helmut Hahn; Secretary General of the Leopoldina, Prof. Jutta Schnitzer-Ungfug; and long-time Member of the European Parliament, Dr Ingo Friedrich, who served for many years as its Vice-President.

Participants from the German delegation included: Prof. Wolfgang Witte from the Robert Koch Institute; Prof. Ivar Roots from the Koch-Mechnikov Forum/

Charité Berlin; Dr Marlies Höck from the Koch-Mechnikov Forum/DRK Kliniken Berlin; and Prof. Hans-Dieter Klenk ML from Philipps-Universität Marburg. Research findings from the Russian side were presented by representatives from Novosibirsk State University, from the Institute of Clinical Immunology of the Siberian department of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, from the Novosibirsk Tuberculosis Research Institute, from the Institute of Chemical Biology and Fundamental Medicine in Novosibirsk, and from the Siberian State Medical University in Tomsk.

Contributions from the German participants ranged from survey lectures to presentations of current research findings from the individual working groups. The Russian lectures on tuberculosis mostly addressed applied aspects of the theme. The second key topic of the conference was virology. All lectures reflected a very high level of work (on subjects such as virus morphology, electron microscopic diagnostics, artificial ribonucleases in the treatment of viral diseases – particularly HBV – and molecular epidemics of TBE and of rotaviruses). In total, around 100 people took part in the conference.

The delegation members also held talks with the Mayor of Novosibirsk, Dr V. F. Gorodetsky, the Presidential Plenipotentiary Envoy to the Siberian Federal District, Dr. Viktor Aleksandrovich Tolo-

konsky, and the health minister for the Novosibirsk region, Dr Olga Kravchenko. In the course of the talks, a cooperation agreement was signed between the Ministry of Health and the Koch-Mechnikov Forum.

The Secretary General of the Leopoldina also presented the activities the Academy is planning in collaboration with its Russian partners for the German-Russian Year of Education, Science and Innovation. In addition to the Novosibirsk conference organised with the Koch-Mechnikov Forum, other activities include a series of lectures in both countries. Lectures are currently being prepared by: Prof. Otfried Höffe ML, Tübingen, on the

philosopher Immanuel Kant, to be held in Kaliningrad in October 2011; Prof. Dieter H. Bimberg ML, Berlin, on nanoscience, to be held in Moscow in December 2011; and by the Russian Nobel laureate in physics Prof. Zhores I. Alferov, Vice-President of the Russian Academy of Sciences, to be held in Berlin and Halle in spring next year. Plans also exist for a series of seminars for young Russian and German scientists to promote exchange between upcoming talent in both countries. The seminars should provide the basis for establishing a German-Russian Young Academy.

Further, as part of the World Health Summit 2011 to be held in Berlin in Oc-

tober, plans are under way for a symposium entitled Berlin trifft Moskau (Berlin meets Moscow). It will provide a forum for sharing experiences and exploring synergies in the field of health science, healthcare provision and the healthcare industry.

► For the latest information on the other Leopoldina events for the German-Russian Year of Science, browse the events calendar at: www.leopoldina.org

► For further information on the German-Russian Year of Science, please visit: www.deutsch-russisches-wissenschaftsjahr.de

EASAC is the European network for the InterAcademy Panel

As part of a restructuring process, the InterAcademy Panel (IAP) – a global union of the world's science academies – has selected four academy networks through which it will operate at a regional level in future. It selected the European Academies Science Advisory Council (EASAC) as its network for Europe. This means that EASAC will plan and run all IAP-supported academy projects in Europe in the future. Since April 2010, the EASAC Secretariat has been located at and run from the Leopoldina in Halle.

IAP has existed since 1993. Its aim is to strengthen all science academies in the fulfilment of their tasks and to support them in providing scientific expertise to government and the public. IAP's headquarters are located in Trieste, Italy, and it receives a substantial part of its funding from UNESCO. To date, IAP itself has issued annual calls for tender to award this financing to academy projects around the world. However, IAP attaches great importance to the regional links of all its academies, since these enable politically relevant scientific issues to be addressed in the most appropriate way. For this reason, IAP is now moving away from centralised project evaluation and allocations.

In future, four regional networks will plan and run IAP-financed acade-

my projects: for North and South America, IANAS (InterAmerican Network of Academies of Sciences); for Asia, AASA (Association of Academies of Sciences in Asia); for Africa, NASAC (Network of African Science Academies); and for Europe, EASAC. IAP has also appointed two "theme-based networks" for its project work: IAMP (InterAcademy Medical Panel), a network for collaboration in medicine and on health-related issues; and IAC (InterAcademy Council) for producing detailed scientific policy advice at a supra-regional or global level.

EASAC will benefit from its status as IAP's European network. The regular financial support that it will receive from IAP as of 2012 will provide resources for a series of new projects that will boost collaboration between the EU science academies in EASAC. EASAC will also become more closely linked to IAP's other regional networks and will be able to exchange knowledge on an international level when it comes to tackling issues of global importance. It is currently planning a meeting with NASAC, entitled Concentrating Solar Power, and one with AASA, entitled Direct-to-Consumer Genetic Testing. (csd)

► For further information, please visit: www.interadacemies.net and www.easac.eu



November celebration in Brussels to mark ten-year anniversary of EASAC

This year EASAC, a union of national science academies from EU Member States, celebrates its tenth anniversary. To mark the occasion, an evening event will be held on 7 November 2011 in the Palace of the Academies in Brussels. Official speeches will be given by Prof. Annette Schavan, German Federal Minister of Education and Research, and Lord May of Oxford, former Chief Scientific Advisor to the British Government and former President of the Royal Society. During the evening Prof. Robert Pitz-Paul (Institute of Solar Research at the German Aerospace Center in Cologne), chair of the EASAC working group on concentrated solar power, will present the report Concentrating Solar Power: its contribution to a sustainable energy future. The organisers are expecting guests from all the academies in EASAC, as well as from the European Commission and Parliament, from diplomatic representations in the Member States and from important NGOs working in Brussels. (csd)

Events 2011

September

7 September

9.00 a.m.

CONFERENCE:

„KULTURGUTSCHUTZ IN HALLE“
CONFERENCE OF THE ARCHIVE OF THE
LEOPOLDINA AND THE TOWN OF HALLE
**Leopoldina, Emil-Abderhalden-Straße
36, 06108 Halle (Saale)/Germany**

8 to 9 September

9.00 a.m.

LEOPOLDINA SYMPOSIUM:

“HUMAN RIGHTS AND SCIENCE - PROTEC-
TION OF HUMAN BEINGS IN BIOMEDICAL
RESEARCH AND PRACTICE“

**Palais d'Europe, 67000 Strasbourg/
France**

10 to 11 September

9.00 a.m.

LEOPOLDINA SYMPOSIUM:

“THE LEGACY OF SIR JOHN ECCLES“
**Nordrhein-Westfälische Akademie
der Wissenschaften und der Künste,
Palmenstraße 16, 40217 Düsseldorf/
Germany**

► Scientific organization:
Alfons Labisch ML (Düsseldorf)

16 to 18 September

6.00 p.m.

LEOPOLDINA SYMPOSIUM:

“PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION: FROM
MOLECULAR BIOLOGY TO CLINICAL PER-
SPECTIVES“

**Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-
Wittenberg, Löwengebäude (main
building), Universitätsplatz 1, 06108
Halle (Saale)/Germany**

► Scientific organization: Rolf Edgar Sil-
ber (Halle), Andreas Simm (Halle), Ursula
Werdan (Halle)

16 September to 2 October

6.00 p.m. (Vernissage)

LEOPOLDINA PHOTO EXHIBITION:

“NEUE BILDER VOM ALTER(N)“

**Theater Rudolstadt, Anger 1, und
Galerie KulTourDiele, Marktstraße 57,
07407 Rudolstadt/Germany**

18 to 21 September

6.00 p.m.

LEOPOLDINA SYMPOSIUM:

“FROM MOLECULES TO CIRCUITS IN NEU-
ROPSYCHIATRIC DISEASES“

SYMPOSIUM OF THE LEOPOLDINA AND
THE ISRAEL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND
HUMANITIES

**Würzburg Residence, Toscana audito-
rium, Balthasar-Neumann-Promena-
de, 97070 Würzburg/Germany**

► Scientific organization: Michael Frot-
scher ML (Freiburg) und Peter Riederer
ML (Würzburg)

23 to 25 September

9.00 a.m.

LEOPOLDINA'S ANNUAL ASSEMBLY:

“WAS IST LEBEN?/WHAT IS LIFE?“

**DORMERO Kongress- und Kulturzen-
trum, Franckestraße 1, 06110 Halle
(Saale)/Germany**

► Scientific organization:
Jörg Hacker ML (Halle/Berlin), Michael
Hecker ML (Greifswald)

► The complete programme can be found
at: www.leopoldina.org

24 September

3.30 p.m.

LEOPOLDINA SYMPOSIUM:

“WHAT IS LIFE? PERSPECTIVES FROM THE
PHILOSOPHY OF BIOLOGY“

**Dormero Kongress- und Kulturzen-
trum, Franckestraße 1, 06110 Halle
(Saale)**

► Scientific organization: Michael
Esfeld ML

October

4 October

4.30 p.m.

SEMINAR ON THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE:

PROF. DR. FLORIAN STEGER (HALLE):

“MEDIZINISCHER ALLTAG IN DER RÖMI-
SCHEN KAISERZEIT“

**Leopoldina, Emil-Abderhalden-Straße
36, 06108 Halle (Saale)/Germany**

24 October

12.00 p.m.

LEOPOLDINA SYMPOSIUM:

“BERLIN MEETS MOSCOW“

GERMAN-RUSSIAN YEAR OF SCIENCE

**Deutsche Kreditbank Aktiengesell-
schaft, Taubenstr. 7-9, 10117 Berlin/
Germany**

25 October

6.00 p.m.

LEOPOLDINA FISHBOWL:

“ARBEITEN IN EINEM LÄNGEREN LEBEN:
WIE WIR GESUND UND AKTIV BLEIBEN“

COOPERATION OF LEOPOLDINA AND
THE HAUS DER WISSENSCHAFT BRAUN-
SCHWEIG

**Kulturzentrum Schlachthof, Findorff-
straße 51, 28215 Bremen/Germany**

31 Oktober

LEOPOLDINA-LECTURE:

OTFRIED HÖFFE ML:

“IMMANUEL KANT - DER WELTBÜRGER
AUS KÖNIGSBERG“

GERMAN-RUSSIAN YEAR OF SCIENCE

**Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal Univer-
sity, Kaliningrad/Russia**

November

4 November

5.00 p.m.

FESTIVITY ON OCCASION OF THE PUBLI- CATION OF THE LEOPOLDINA EDITION:

“GOETHE. DIE SCHRIFTEN ZUR NATURWIS-
SENSCHAFT“

**Stadtschloss Weimar, Burgplatz 4,
99423 Weimar/Germany**

7 November

1.00 p.m.

EASAC ANNIVERSARY:

10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE
EUROPEAN ACADEMIES SCIENCE ADVISORY
COUNCIL (EASAC)

► Further Information page 6

**Palais des Académies, Rue Ducale 1,
1000, Brussels/Belgium**

8 November**4.30 p.m.****SEMINAR ON THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE**

WOLFGANG ECKART ML, HEIDELBERG:
 "EIN DEUTSCHER HUNGER: ERNÄHRUNGS-
 KRISEN, ERNÄHRUNGSPHYSIOLOGIE UND
 ERNÄHRUNGSPOLITIK IM KONTEXT DES
 KRIEGES 1914-1918"

**Leopoldina, Emil-Abderhalden-Straße
 36, 06108 Halle (Saale)/Germany**

25 to 26 November**10.00 a.m.****SYMPOSIUM:**

"INNOVATIVE THERAPIEN IN DER
 PALLIATIVMEDIZIN"

Symposium of the Paul-Martini-Stiftung
 und the Leopoldina

**Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-
 Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin/Germany**

Scientific organization: Peter Scri-
 ba ML (Munich), Torsten Strohmeyer
 (Berlin)

25 November**10.30 a.m.****LEOPOLDINA SYMPOSIUM:**

"SEPSIS 2011 - A TRANSLATIONAL
 APPROACH"

**Max-Planck-Institut für molekulare
 Biomedizin, Röntgen-Straße 20, 48149
 Münster/Germany**

Scientific organization: Dietmar Vest-
 weber ML (Münster), Hugo Karel Van
 Aken ML (Münster)

13 December**4:30 p.m.****LEOPOLDINA CHRISTMAS LECTURE:**

HANS JOACHIM MEYER: "VOM SINN WIS-
 SENSCHAFTLICHER MEHRSPRACHIGKEIT"
**Leopoldina, New Main Building, Lec-
 ture Hall, Jägerberg/Moritzburgring
 10, 06108 Halle (Saale)/Germany**

December**6 December****4.30 p.m.****SEMINAR ON THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE:**

JUTTA ECKLE (HALLE): "GOETHE ZWISCHEN
 PLUS UND MINUS"

**Leopoldina, Emil-Abderhalden-Straße
 36, 06108 Halle (Saale)/Germany**

Further information about all events can be found at www.leopoldina.org



Leopoldina
 Nationale Akademie
 der Wissenschaften

**Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher
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 ternal Internet pages.

Abbreviations

ML = Member of the Leopoldina

People

Deceased members

Prof. Dr Klaus Betke ML,

30 October 1914 – 26 June 2011 in Gräfelfing, Germany

Gynaecology and Paediatrics Section

Prof. Betke was admitted to the Leopoldina in 1966 for his pioneering work in the field of paediatric haematology. Early on, he began serving the Academy as a medical assistant for the state of Bavaria. He held this important role until 1980, when he was elected “external” Vice-President on the basis of his outstanding ideas and work. He remained in office until 1990. During this time, Prof. Betke applied his expertise in science and scientific policy to serving the good of the Academy. In 1989, for example, he helped to found the “Adolf-Butenandt-Förderkreis für Naturforscher der Leopoldina“, a society for the promotion of Leopoldina scientists. The Leopoldina awarded Prof. Betke honorary membership in recognition of his academic and organisational initiatives.

Prof. Dr Thomas Eisner ML,

25 June 1929 – 25 March 2011 in Ithaca, New York, USA

Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Section

Prof. Eisner was elected a member of the Leopoldina in 1986 for his groundbreaking work in the field of chemical ecology, which included research on the defence mechanisms of arthropods.

Prof. Dr Norbert Elsner ML,

11 October 1940 – 16 June 2011 in Göttingen, Germany

Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Section

Prof. Elsner was elected to the Leopoldina in 2000 for his research into the mechanisms of sound production and sound perception in animals, and particularly for his work on the central-nervous basis of song production.

Prof. Dr Niilo Hallman ML,

15 July 1916 – 13 January 2011 in Helsinki, Finland

Gynaecology and Paediatrics Section

Prof. Hallman was elected a member of the Leopoldina in 1973 for his numerous publications on the mineral metabolism and gastroenterology of newborns, on the problems of premature infants, and above all on issues relating to paediatric nephrology.

Prof. Dr Emilie Jäger ML,

4 January 1926 – 27 July 2011

Earth Sciences Section

Prof. Jäger was made a member of the Leopoldina in 1988 for her outstanding work in the field of geochronology. She was the first to succeed in determining the relatively young geological ages of micas and of the rocks that contain them. She made valuable contributions to the international definition of the decay constant for rubidium-strontium and for potassium-argon. Prof. Jäger was also involved in setting up research laboratories in third-world countries.

Prof. Dr Zdenek Lodin ML,

11 June 1927 – 19 May 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic

Neurosciences Section

Prof. Lodin was admitted to the Leopoldina in 1977 for his work in the field of neurohistochemistry. He focused on the histophysical analysis and cultivation of ganglion and glial cells, the ontogenesis of the cerebellum and the protein metabolism of the brain.

Prof. Dr Rudolf Klöti ML,

03 June 1926 – 1 July 2011 in Zurich, Switzerland

Ophthalmology, Oto-Rhino-Laryngology and Stomatology Section

Prof. Klöti became a member of the Leopoldina in 1985 for his work in the field of ophthalmology. He developed methods and devices for performing vitreous surgery. The procedure became integral to all surgical eye clinics – due in large part to his newly designed surgical equipment.

Prof. Dr Martin Kramer ML,

22 February 1926 – 24 May 2011 in Wiesbaden, Germany

Physiology and Pharmacology/Toxicology Section

Prof. Kramer was admitted to the Leopoldina in 1985 for his work on the pharmacodynamic effects of inflammatory processes, for his steroid research and for his general statements on the significance of medical toxicology.

Prof. Dr Wolfgang Künzer ML,

3 November 1919 – 30 June 2011 in Freiburg, Germany

Gynaecology and Paediatrics Section

Prof. Künzer was made a member of the Leopoldina in 1973 for his commendable work on haematology in the embryonic and foetal stage and in the perinatal phase. He was one of the first to recognise the significance of blood-clotting disorders in neonates. In 1954 he was involved in the discovery of embryonic haemoglobin.

Prof. Dr Fritz Peter Schäfer ML,

15 January 1931 – 25 April 2011 in Hannover, Germany

Physical Chemistry Section

Prof. Schäfer was made a member of the Leopoldina in 1992 for his groundbreaking work in the field of laser measurement. In 1968 he developed the tunable dye laser, and later turned his attention to generating short light pulses which would make it possible to follow reaction processes in real time. He also used this work to develop the x-ray laser.

Prof. Dr Arnulf Schlüter ML,

24 August 1922 – 24 June 2011 in Munich, Germany

Physics Section

Prof. Schlüter was admitted to the Leopoldina in 1975 for his work on the behaviour of plasmas in magnetic fields. The results of his research had a major influence on the development of plasma physics in Germany and brought him international renown early on in his career.

Prof. Dr Harro Seyfart ML,

6 February 1921 – 13 August 2011 in Leipzig, Germany

Surgery, Orthopaedics, Anaesthesiology Section

Prof. Seyfart was made a member of the Leopoldina in 1974 for his pioneering work in the fields of surgery and orthopaedics. He developed and improved a number of surgical procedures, such as supratubercular tibial osteotomy to treat gonarthrosis.

Prof. Dr Meinhart H. Zenk ML,

4 February 1933 – 5 July 2011 in St. Louis, USA

Genetics/Molecular Biology and Cell Biology Section

Prof. Zenk was appointed to the Leopoldina in 1983 for, among other things, his work on the enzymology of secondary metabolism. By demonstrating and characterising a series of enzymes, particularly in in-vitro phenylpropanoid and tryptophan metabolism, he paved the way for research into the chemical, kinetic and regulatory details of these metabolic pathways.

Prof. Dr Gerwalt Zinner ML,

30 September 1924 – 7 August 2011 in Braunschweig, Germany

Chemistry Section

Prof. Zinner was made a member of the Leopoldina in 1972 in particular for his work in the field of organic synthesis. He was one of the most prolific scientists working in pharmaceutical chemistry.

Newly elected members of the Academy, May 2011

Ernst Bamberg, Frankfurt/Main, Germany, Professor of Biophysical Chemistry and Director of the Department of Biophysical Chemistry at the Max Planck Institute of Biophysics in Frankfurt/Main (Biochemistry and Biophysics Section)

Christian Bogdan, Erlangen, Germany, Professor of Medical Microbiology and Director of the Institute of Clinical Microbiology at the Universitätsklinikum Erlangen (Microbiology and Immunology Section)

Alexander Borst, Martinsried, Germany, Professor of Neurobiology at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich and Director of the Max Planck Institute of Neurobiology in Martinsried (Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Section)

Barbara Demmig-Adams, Boulder/USA, Professor of Plant Biology at the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder/USA (Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Section)

Ulf-Ingo Flügge, Cologne, Germany, Professor of Botany and Director of the Botanical Institute of the University of Cologne (Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Section)

Stanislav N. Gorb, Kiel, Germany, Professor of Special Zoology and Director of the Functional Morphology and Biomechanics Group at Christian-Albrechts-Universität in Kiel (Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Section)

Ueli Grossniklaus, Zurich, Switzerland, Professor of the Developmental Biology of Plants at the Institute of Plant Biology at the University of Zurich (Organismic and Evolutionary Biology Section)

Erich Gulbins, Essen, Germany, Professor of Molecular Biology and Director of the Department of Molecular Biology at the University of Duisburg-Essen (Physiology and Pharmacology/Toxicology Section)

Caroline Kisker, Würzburg, Germany, Professor of Structural Biology at the Rudolf Virchow Center at the University of Würzburg (Biochemistry and Biophysics Section)

Andreas Kulozik, Heidelberg, Germany, Professor of Paediatrics and Director of the Department of Paediatrics III at Heidelberg University (Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine Section)

Gopinath Balakrish Nair, Kolkata/India, Professor of Microbiology and Director at the National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Kolkata/India (Microbiology and Immunology Section)

Frits Richard Rosendaal, Leiden/Netherlands, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology as well as Thrombosis and Haemostasis and Chairman at the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and the Department of Thrombosis and Haemostasis, University Hospital Leiden/Netherlands (Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine Section)

Walter Rosenthal, Berlin, Germany, Professor of Molecular Pharmacology and Scientific Director at the Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine Berlin-Buch (Physiology and Pharmacology/Toxicology Section)

Manfred Schartl, Würzburg, Germany, Professor of Physiological Chemistry at the Department for Physiological Chemistry I at the University of Würzburg (Genetics/Molecular Biology and Cell Biology Section)

Geoffrey L. Smith, London/UK, Professor of Virology and Head of the Division of Infectious Diseases at the Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London (Microbiology and Immunology Section)

Sebastian Suerbaum, Hanover, Germany: Professor of Medical Microbiology and Director of the Institute for Medical Microbiology and Hospital Epidemiology at Hanover Medical School (Microbiology and Immunology Section)

Maciej Żylicz, Warsaw/Poland, Professor of Molecular Biology and Head of the Department of Molecular Biology, International Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Warsaw/Poland (Genetics/Molecular Biology and Cell Biology Section)