

## **Study trip for journalists from EUSJA to Helmholtz Research Centres in September 2011**

### **Introduction**

The Helmholtz Association is organising a study-trip for **up to 14** EUSJA journalists to selected Helmholtz Research Centres in Germany. The trip will take five days: from September 18<sup>th</sup> until September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The thematic focus of the study-trip is “**Health Research in the Helmholtz Association**”. Participants will visit different research facilities and speak to scientists about their work. The Helmholtz Association will arrange and bear the expenses for transfer, accommodation and meals during the journalists’ stay in Germany. Participating journalists will be responsible for arranging their transport to and from Germany. Detailed information about transfer from the airport or train station to the hotel as well as names of hotels and restaurants will be provided at a later stage.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

Our Research Centres are located in different areas across Germany. Therefore, the study trip will **start in Munich on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> September** and end in **Berlin on Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September**. The study trip coordinator Ms Christin Liedtke Phone: +49-30-20632964, [christin.liedtke@helmholtz.de](mailto:christin.liedtke@helmholtz.de)  
(In special cases, we will provide up to one extra night of accommodation.)

### **Preliminary Programme**

#### **SUNDAY, 18 September 2011**

18:30          Arrival in **Munich** & Get-together at hotel & Dinner

#### **MONDAY, 19 September 2011**

German Research Center for Environmental Health (Munich)

#### **TUESDAY, 20 September 2011**

German Cancer Research Centre (Heidelberg)  
&  
German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases (Bonn)

#### **WEDNESDAY, 21 September 2011**

Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (Braunschweig)

#### **THURSDAY, 22 September 2011**

Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ (Leipzig)  
&  
Helmholtz Annual Assembly – Presentation and Evening Reception (Berlin)

#### **FRIDAY, 23 September 2011**

Meeting with the press officers of all Helmholtz-Centres  
&  
Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC) (Berlin)

### **End of the trip in Berlin**

## **HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION STUDY TRIP FOR JOURNALISTS: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE RESEARCH CENTRES OF THE HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION**

### **German Research Center for Environmental Health (HMGU), in Munich**

The Helmholtz Zentrum München's mission is to increase understanding of disease mechanisms which affect human beings and essential parts of their environment. To ensure rapid and efficient transfer of findings from basic research into medical applications, scientists of Helmholtz Zentrum München work closely in translational centers and clinical cooperation groups together with medical partners in the universities and hospitals in Munich.

#### ***Research areas which we'll offer for the study trip:***

- The Comprehensive Pneumology Center as translational institution
- KORA – Cooperative Health Research in the Augsburg Region  
For more than 20 years the internationally known KORA Study has been examining the health of thousands of citizens in and around the city of Augsburg to investigate the effects of the environment, behavior, and genes.

### **Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ in Leipzig**

As an international competence centre for systemic, interdisciplinary environmental research, the UFZ investigates the complex interactions between nature and human beings under the influence of global change. The aim of UFZ research is to work out solutions for the management of complex environmental systems and for the handling of environmental problems.

#### ***Research areas which we'll offer for the study trip:***

- Sustainable mosquito control strategies
- Arsenic detection in drinking water

### **German Cancer Research Centre (DKFZ) in Heidelberg**

The German Cancer Research Center is the largest biomedical research institute in Germany and is a member of the Helmholtz Association of National Research Centers. The scientists at the German Cancer Research Center are investigating the mechanisms of cancer and are working to identify cancer risk factors. They provide the foundations for developing novel approaches in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer.

#### ***Research areas which we'll offer for the study trip:***

- Cancer Stem Cells – The evil twin
- New Strategies for better Diagnostics – 7Tesla MRI, PET-CT,

### **German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE)** **in Bonn**

The German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases is a research institute within the Helmholtz association that studies neurodegenerative diseases. Its mission is to understand the causes and risk factors that lead to a predisposition for neurodegeneration and to develop new therapeutic and health care strategies. In order to promote high quality research in the field of neurodegeneration, the DZNE closely collaborates with its partner Universities.

#### ***Research areas which we 'll offer for the study trip:***

- New concepts to understand and treat neurodegeneration
- Physical and mental activity as an intervention in Alzheimer's disease

### **Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI)** **in Braunschweig**

The focus of the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research is the study of pathogens which are medically relevant or can be used as modelsystems for investigating infection mechanisms. The goal is to solve the challenges in infection research and make a contribution to public health with new strategies for the prevention and therapy of infectious diseases.

#### ***Research areas which we 'll offer for the study trip:***

- Molecular biology – salmonella against cancer
- Systems biology – the connection between biology and maths

### **Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC)** **in Berlin**

The Max Delbrueck Center for Molecular Medicine is a major biomedical research institute and a member of the Helmholtz Association. The MDC was founded in 1992 with a mission of translating discoveries from molecular research into applications to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of major human diseases. The site in Berlin-Buch, home to hospital clinics, research institutes and a flourishing biotech industry, is fertile ground for interdisciplinary and patient-oriented research.

#### ***Research areas which we 'll offer for the study trip:***

- Drinking water as regulation of blood pressure
- Discovery of genes for the proliferation of cancer