



Science in Potsdam

Potsdam is a city of knowledge. Approximately 9,000 of its 159,000 citizens work in scientific institutions. No other city in Germany has a higher percentage of scientists among its population. Nearly 25,000 students are currently enrolled at the University of Potsdam, the University of Applied Sciences Potsdam, the Academy for Film and Television "Konrad Wolf" and the University of Applied Sciences for Sport and Management. More than 40 other research institutions are located in this region such as Max Planck Institutes, Fraunhofer Institutes, institutes of the Leibniz Society and the Helmholtz Centres. The Hasso Plattner Institute for Software Systems Engineering (HPI), founded in 1998, is the first and only fully privately funded university institute in Germany.

Visiting scientists from all parts of the world make up roughly 25 percent of Potsdam's scientific community. Before their arrival and during their stay in Potsdam, the Welcome Centre Potsdam, located both at the city hall (Stadthaus) and at the university, provides support and assistance for them and their families.

Potsdam's scientific institutions engage in bilateral and multilateral networks, with the University of Potsdam at the centre. The university's constitution stipulates that new chairs be filled jointly by the university and by non-academic research facilities. The university offers joint study programmes with the Potsdam University of Applied Sciences and with several universities abroad. LAUF, an association of non-university research institutions unique to the state of Brandenburg, represents the common interests of independent research facilities.

Since 2007, the State Capital Potsdam presents an annual award for young scientists from Potsdam and the surrounding region for extraordinary achievements at the beginning of their scientific careers. The award is presented on Einstein Day, celebrated by the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (BBAW).

Various technology and start-up centres serve to link science with the business world and support entrepreneurs to establish new enterprises in Potsdam. The Potsdam Founders Forum aims at fostering a positive business climate for founders and improving the cooperation between science and industry, in order to attract innovative businesses into the city.

In 2010 the hotels of the ERFA group and ProWissen, an association for science in Potsdam, initiated the first congress award. This annual award honours hosts in the fields of science, research, industry, and culture, who have become ambassadors of the state capital Potsdam at their congresses and conferences.

ProWissen Potsdam, founded in 2004, connects science and research with administration, business, cultural institutions and the general public. The ProWissen Association, which is one part of the Bildungsforum Potsdam, is set to organize and run the Wissenschaftsetage (WIS), which will open on the 4th floor in the 4th quarter of 2013. The Bildungsforum Potsdam, with its Stadt- und Landesbibliothek, the Volkshochschule and the Wissenschaftsetage (WIS), located under one roof in the city centre, will be open to all citizens of Potsdam and is unique in Germany.

Legende Legend

- ● Wissenschaftliche Einrichtungen
Scientific Institutions
- Tramhaltestelle mit Start- und Endhaltestelle
Tram stop, listed with departure point and terminal
- Bushaltestelle mit Start- und Endhaltestelle
Bus stop, listed with departure point and terminal
- S-Bahn-Station
S-Bahn suburban train station

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