

## **Press Release**

**Cologne, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2011  
CECAD Cologne**

**CECAD Graduate School heads for London: The Excellence Cluster goes international with its research networking and recruitment drive for young scientists.**

Over 300 international scientists collaborate closely in interdisciplinary teams at the DFG-funded Excellence Cluster CECAD at the University of Cologne, the focus of their research being processes within the body involved in aging and aging-associated diseases. The Cluster's vision is to discover the common triggers of aging processes and from there to develop new treatments. Thus, in an aging society, CECAD has an interactive and proactive role to play.

### **Creating sustainable careers:**

Research requires excellent training. Through its internationally oriented Graduate School, CECAD is committed to providing outstanding training for young scientists. It offers a comprehensive scientific training in the interdisciplinary, pioneering and challenging field of aging research. The three-year old program provides optimal research conditions combined with intensive supervision and state-of-the-art technical platforms within an international working environment. Beyond the structured doctoral program, many young scientists are attracted by the opportunity to stay on and obtain a doctorate within a research team of international standing, or to carry out postdoctoral research.

Not only business but also science can cross borders. Its international outlook enables the Cluster to connect with the best scientists and thus to extend its avenues of research, lines of enquiry and collaborative networks.

### **High dynamic:**

CECAD puts great emphasis on international recruitment. Besides the cluster's key scientific features, the CECAD stand at the Naturejobs Career Expo, opening in London on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2011, will emphasize the *esprit*, dynamism and close collaboration between the scientific teams at the Excellence Cluster.

The Cluster currently focuses on four main areas of research:

- cellular stress reactions
- aging of membranes and aging-associated defects in immune defense against pathogens
- inflammation in connection with aging-associated diseases
- metabolic signaling pathways in connection with aging-associated diseases

The Cluster continues to grow: Application has been made for another 5-years of DFG funding, with widening of the research concept and addition of new research areas and teams.

It's onwards, with no slackening of pace.

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