

ChemBioNet

is a network of experts and resources to support primarily chemical biology projects in academic basic research.



(www.chembionet.org)

It serves as interdisciplinary communication and collaboration platform for chemists and biologists who want to use low molecular probes to unravel biological processes. Chemists from universities and large research institutes are pooling their collections in a central library where scientists can browse for bioactive compounds that help to characterise and investigate biological systems. The current library of about 20,000 compounds comprises commercially available and proprietary chemicals collected from members, and is systematically expanded. The screening facilities of the network offer modern infrastructure for high throughput screening experiments and diverse tools for the data analysis including interpretation by bioinformatics methods and virtual screening. The open screening platforms of the ChemBioNet enable the development of innovative high throughput screening assays. Joining forces with other chemical biology centres, ChemBioNet initiates a European infrastructure of open screening centres.

Status Seminar Chemical Biology

The Joint Working Group Chemical Biology participates in relevant events of the partnering societies and other national and international conferences. The working group organises the "Status Seminar Chemical Biology", its own annual conference, which is held in Frankfurt every late fall.

These two-day symposia serve to present current research by invited speakers and members. A posters session and company exhibition are traditionally part of the events. Every status seminar is devoted to a special topic:

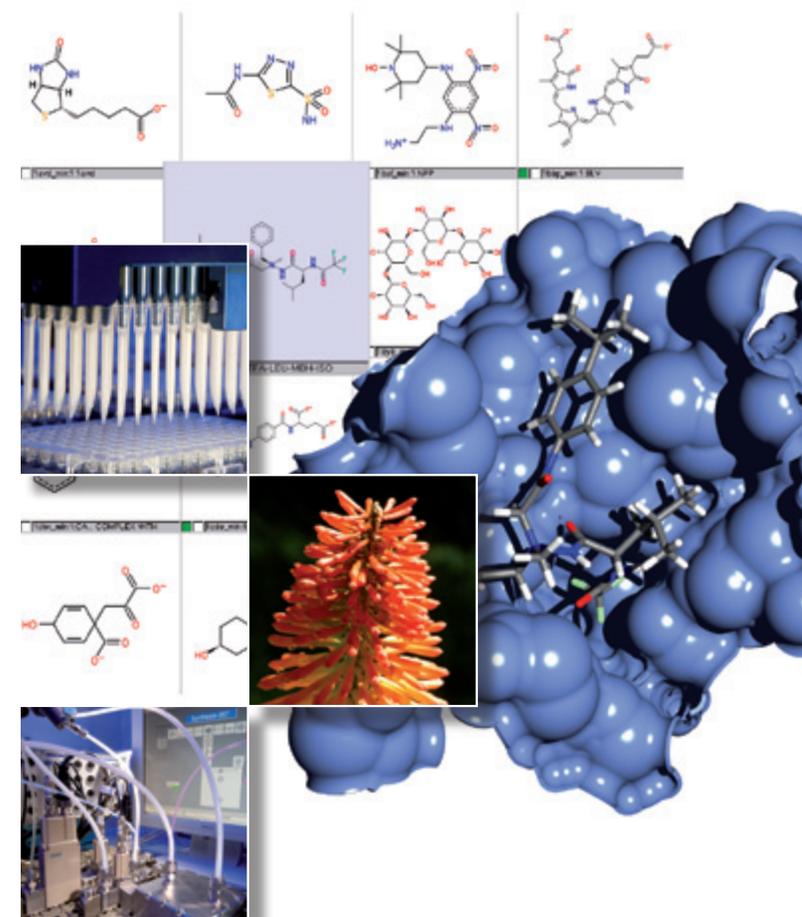
- 2005 Meeting European BioPerspectives**
- 2006 Intellectual Property Rights in the era of high-throughput research and electronic communication**
- 2007 From total synthesis to therapeutics strategies**
- 2008 Chemical Biology in Europe: research across disciplines and countries**
- 2009 Natural products and nucleic acids serving as chemical tools**
- 2011 Biologically active peptides & Chemical systems biology**

The annual members' assembly is held at the venue of the Status Seminar.

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Joint Working Group Chemical Biology



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On May 10th, 2005

**The Society for Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology
(DECHEMA e.V.),**

**the German Pharmaceutical Society
(DPhG e.V.),**

**the Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
(GBM e.V.),**

**and the German Chemical Society
(GDCh e.V.)**

founded the Joint Working Group Chemical Biology.

Board

The board consists of nine members (2011-2014):

Prof. Dr. Hans-Dieter Arndt (Vice Chairman)	University of Jena
Dr. Mark Brönstrup	Sanofi-Aventis, Frankfurt
Prof. Dr. Jutta Eichler (Vice Chairwoman)	University of Erlangen-Nürnberg
Prof. Dr. Shirley Knauer	University of Duisburg-Essen
Dr. Eberhard Krauß	Janssen Pharmaceutica NV, Belgium
Prof. Dr. Stefan Laufer	University of Tübingen
Prof. Dr. Thomas Mayer	University of Konstanz
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Sippl	University of Halle-Wittenberg
Dr. Jens Peter von Kries (Chairman)	FMP Berlin

They represent bioinformatics, chemistry, biology, and pharmacology and are delegates of the four societies.

Membership information

Individual members of any of the four societies are eligible for membership in the Joint Working Group Chemical Biology with no additional fees charged.

Members can attend the annual meeting, the "Status Seminar Chemical Biology", at reduced fees. They receive the electronic newsletter.

Applications for membership can be submitted to any of the four societies; please send one form only.

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Objectives of the Joint Working Group Chemical Biology

The elucidation of molecular biological processes employing small molecules for probing the functions and interactions of proteins is the core strategy of Chemical Biology. Small molecules have been used for many decades as reagents, and they are at the heart of drug development in pharmaceutical research, veterinary medicine and agriculture. Chemical biology nowadays employs modern methods for the rapid discovery of bioactive compounds: computer-aided design, parallel synthesis, combinatorial chemistry, and screening assays for profiling their biological activities. Low-molecular inhibitors/activators are especially attractive for molecular biological research: In contrast to anti-sense or RNAi technologies which turn off whole gene functions, small molecules putatively allow for modulating individual functions of proteins while leaving other functions unaffected, thus, enabling the characterisation of multifunctional gene products.

The Joint Working Group aims for enhancing the exchange of knowledge and expertise from the different scientific disciplines in academia and industry that interface in chemical biology by organising

- Conferences such as the annual Status Seminar on chemical biology and special sessions at the events of the supportive societies
- Workshops (e.g. chemoinformatics, data base usage, logistics of compound libraries)
- Courses (e.g. assay development, hit evaluation, substrate management)
- Information session and networking opportunities

Central objective of the working group was the launch of the German ChemBioNet. It will also support efforts to initiate national and European interdisciplinary networks and research programmes in chemical biology.