

KIT Is among the Best in Europe

2010 CHE Excellence Ranking: Chemistry and Physics Are Strong in Research and Internationally Oriented



Excellent research conditions for young scientists: KIT is in the “excellence group” in Europe. (Photo: KIT)

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Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) offers master and pre-doctoral students of chemistry and physics excellent research conditions and international orientation. This is obvious from the just published Europe-wide “2010 CHE Excellence Ranking”. According to the CHE ranking, KIT is in the “excellence group” in both subjects in Europe.

The ranking covered the subjects of chemistry, physics, biology, and mathematics. In total, 130 universities in Europe were found to be strong in research and have an international orientation in these subjects. Hence, they belong to one or several “excellence groups”. While KIT was only in one “excellence group” in 2009, it now is among the best in two subjects. The ranking was based on eight criteria: The number of publications and citations, the mobility of students and lecturers, and the number of Erasmus-Mundus masters or Marie Curie projects. It is also important whether researchers at the departments were awarded an ERC grant or the Nobel Prize.

In Germany, 54 scientific departments of 26 universities were ranked in one or several “excellence groups”. Hence, the ranking of Germany corresponds to that of Great Britain. In the past year, the

subjects of economics, psychology, and political sciences were analyzed. The ranking comprises information about more than 4500 research groups in 19 states. The CHE Excellence Ranking is aimed at supporting future master and PhD students in their Europe-wide search for a suitable university.

Apart from quantitative parameters, the ranking also provides information on master and PhD study courses as well as facts on research groups and focuses at the departments, the size of the departments, acceptance conditions, and accommodation options. In addition, current students pass on their opinions to persons interested in starting studies.

The non-profit Center for University Development (CHE) is an independent institution located in Gütersloh, Germany. Detailed results of the ranking are available on the internet at www.zeit.de/excellenceranking and will be published in the weekly magazine DIE ZEIT on October 28.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation and state institution of Baden-Württemberg, Germany. It fulfills the mission of a university and the mission of a national research center of the Helmholtz Association. KIT focuses on a knowledge triangle that links the tasks of research, teaching, and innovation.

This press release is available on the internet at www.kit.edu.

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