

KIT and Heidelberg University Cooperate

Establishment of the “Heidelberg Karlsruhe Research Partnership“ as a Joint Scientific Institution

Today (October 27, 2011), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and Heidelberg University have agreed on a partnership for strategic cooperation in research in order to intensify successful collaboration in certain fields of research by establishing a joint scientific institution, the “Heidelberg Karlsruhe Research Partnership“. The corresponding framework agreement was signed in Heidelberg by the President of KIT, Professor Horst Hippler, and the Rector of Ruperto Carola, Professor Bernhard Eitel.

As was explained by Professor Eitel, it is aimed at pooling specific competences of scientists of Heidelberg University and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology to reach a critical mass for internationally visible top research in groundbreaking fields of work. “For the ‘Heidelberg Karlsruhe Research Partnership’, we will build strategic bridges in four areas in order to achieve maximum potential synergies of both institutions,” said Professor Hippler.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and Heidelberg University have already been cooperating successfully for years in various areas. “Both partners will now combine their different orientations for mutual enrichment and complement their portfolio”, as outlined in the agreement signed. With the “Heidelberg Karlsruhe Research Partnership“, Ruperto Carola and KIT want to enhance and further extend their cooperation in an institutionalized form.

Strategic bridges are established between the research areas of Organic Electronics and Synthetic Biology. In addition, central issues of nature, engineering, and society will be covered. It will be focused on Technology Assessment and Medicine and Technology for Health Care and in particular on Translational Medical Engineering. Another defined task is the intensified promotion of young scientists.

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The “Heidelberg Karlsruhe Research Partnership“ will be managed by a joint Board of Directors and supported by a Research Board. After a setup phase until February 2012, it is planned to initiate first projects from May 2012.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation according to the legislation of the state of Baden-Württemberg. 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.