

# Water Chemistry at the EBI

# 2009

Annual Report of the Chair for Water Chemistry and the  
DVGW Research Institute at the Engler-Bunte-Institut

Dear colleagues and friends,

What has been happening at the Chair of Water Chemistry in Karlsruhe in 2009? As in past years, this Newsletter gives you a selection of reports on projects you might be interested in.

Since 1 October 2009, the "road is clear" and we are all part of the KIT system, which stands for "Karlsruhe Institute of Technology". It is the merger of our Research University and the Federal Research Center, based on a specific state law which gives the framework for hopefully smooth functioning. It is one of the biggest research units in Europe right now with about 8,000 scientists and 20,000 students. In addition to the already working and internationally visible KIT center of research on nanomaterials, "NanoMikro", there are centers on "Energy" and on "Climate and Environment" *in statu nascendi*, both with significant contributions from our institute.

The beginning winter term 2009/10 is also the start for the newly introduced Bachelor and Master courses in Chemical Engineering and Life Science Engineering. Both aim for a faster and more focussed curriculum which should make our students even more attractive for companies or fit to start their own business after their exams. We will see how things develop.

A highlight was the visit to Moscow in a delegation of the minister president of the state of Baden-Württemberg, Günther Oettinger. Rector Hippler signed an agreement of cooperation with the Lomonosov Moscow State University which will include an exchange program for PhD students, post doctoral fellows and professors for research on "Understanding Complex Systems". The first visiting scientists are already with us.

The work in our group is going well. There are AOPs and especially photocatalysis, and there are UF and NF membrane techniques. Most of our investigations also centre on the function of nanoparticles. Florencia Saravia and Markus Delay finished their PhD work. Christian Zwiener has got

a professorship at the Universität Tübingen, where he will join an environmental research cluster in the geology faculty. We will miss him and wish him all the best for his new position.

I want to thank the staff, students, coworkers and colleagues for their valuable work, inspiring ideas and loyal support which made the past year successful and enjoyable. The activities of an institute are also reflected in the number of visitors and guest scientists. They made our labs so interesting and colourful.

I also want to thank our funding agencies and state ministries, the German Technical and Scientific Association for Gas and Water, DVGW, and all our other partners, customers and friends for their valuable help.

The new KIT dimension makes us eager to use its promising tools, and we are looking forward to the challenges to come next year. This of course includes the contact with you and our fine cooperation. Send us an e-mail or come to see us.

Best regards and all good wishes,

Fritz H. Frimmel



## Contents

- 02 Research topics & projects
- 11 News & events
- 12 International guests
- 13 Visits abroad
- 14 Our group
- 15 Publications



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