

Press Release – Halle (Saale), 17/04/2018

The Future Through Interdisciplinary Competencies

Socioeconomic research is becoming increasingly important in the bioeconomy

The second junior research group at the ScienceCampus Halle – Plant-Based Bioeconomy (WCH) has commenced its work at the Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Development in Transition Economies (IAMO). The group is headed by Dr. Lioudmila Chatalova and is examining the topic "Economics and Institutions of the Bioeconomy". Over the next three years, the junior research group will receive 390,000 euros from the WCH to fund its socioeconomic research.

The transformation from an oil-based to a plant-based economy is accompanied by numerous processes of change that offer both opportunities and potentials for conflict. This upheaval must be understood at the social, political and economic level, which makes socioeconomics an integral part of bioeconomic research. Against this background, socioeconomic research is also becoming increasingly important in calls for research proposals in the bioeconomy sector. The aim is to establish the bioeconomy in the social, political and economic sciences, as well as in the cultural sciences and the humanities, because change is not possible without social acceptance. Prof. Alfons Balmann (IAMO) a member of the board of directors at the ScienceCampus Halle also emphasizes the importance of socioeconomic research in the bioeconomy: *"For the further development of the bioeconomy it will be extremely important to win over society and to deal openly with people's concerns and fears. Not only did genetic engineering neglect to do this, too little effort was made in preventing a shattering of social trust. It should be added that all processes of change have winners and losers."*

Top-class experts from the partner region Scandinavia

Alfons Balmann will be chairing the session SOCIAL-ECONOMIC ISSUES OF THE BIOECONOMY at the 7th International Bioeconomy Conference 2018. Due to the increasing relevance of socioeconomics within bioeconomic research, the 7th International Bioeconomy Conference will focus on this topic in a separate session. Renowned experts will provide information on current developments and offer insights into socioeconomic research in the bioeconomy.

In this context Dr. Teis Hansen from Lund University in Sweden will identify the most important challenges facing the commercialization of biorefineries in the Nordic countries.

Press contact:



ScienceCampus Halle

Nadja Sonntag

Public Relations

Tel.: +49 345 5522 682

Fax: +49 345 5527 222

nadja.sonntag@

sciencecampus-halle.de

www.sciencecampus-halle.de

The ScienceCampus Halle – plant-based bioeconomy and the Cluster BioEconomy are two associations whose stakeholders are working on the basics of the bio-based economy. Both not only are situated in the German Federal State Saxony-Anhalt, but are direct neighbors on the WeinbergCampus of the city of Halle/Saale. The Leibniz-ScienceCampus mainly is working on a bio-economic basic research for agriculture. In the Cluster BioEconomy industrial partners and research institutions are working on bio-based value chains based on renewable raw materials.

The ScienceCampus Halle and the BioEconomy Cluster Central Germany are organizing together the 7th International Bioeconomy Conference in Halle from June 6–7, 2018. The motto of the conference will be "Bio meets Economy – Science meets Industry".

This will be followed by Dr. Antje Klitkou from Norway who will analyze and compare new methods that specialize in forestry-based value creation.

In the associated subsession on the model bioeconomy region of Central Germany, Prof. Daniela Thrän will present the potential environmental impact of a wood-based bioeconomy network on the production of bio-based products in the region of Central Germany.

The 7th International Bioeconomy Conference is jointly organized by the ScienceCampus Halle and the BioEconomy Cluster Central Germany. The event is one of the most important dates in the national bioeconomy calendar and every year it brings together a host of renowned scientists, bioeconomy stakeholders and political representatives. The conference allows you to gain insights into the opportunities and potentials of the bioeconomy and, in particular, the region of Central Germany. This year's partner region Scandinavia will also be represented by numerous renowned experts and company representatives.

The 7th International Bioeconomy Conference will take place on June 6 – 7, 2018 at the Leopoldina in Halle (Saale). Find out more and register at: <https://www.bioeconomy-conference.de>.

Press contact:



ScienceCampus Halle

Nadja Sonntag

Public Relations

Tel.: +49 345 5522 682

Fax: +49 345 5527 222

nadja.sonntag@

sciencecampus-halle.de

www.sciencecampus-halle.de

The ScienceCampus Halle – plant-based bioeconomy and the Cluster BioEconomy are two associations whose stakeholders are working on the basics of the bio-based economy. Both not only are situated in the German Federal State Saxony-Anhalt, but are direct neighbors on the WeinbergCampus of the city of Halle/Saale. The Leibniz-Science-Campus mainly is working on a bio-economic basic research for agriculture. In the Cluster BioEconomy industrial partners and research institutions are working on bio-based value chains based on renewable raw materials.

The ScienceCampus Halle and the BioEconomy Cluster Central Germany are organizing together the 7th International Bioeconomy Conference in Halle from June 6–7, 2018. The motto of the conference will be “Bio meets Economy – Science meets Industry”.