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UniCat – Facts and Figures

“Unifying Concepts in Catalysis“ (UniCat) is the only natural science cluster of excellence in Berlin and Brandenburg. It is an interdisciplinary research network whose central topic is catalysis, and within this framework future-related research topics ranging from the chemical conversion of natural and biogas, the activation of carbon dioxide and the creation of hydrogen from light and water, to the synthesis of active ingredients using enzymes. UniCat is supported by the German Research Association with funds of up to 5.5 million euro annually from the Initiative for Excellence (*Exzellenzinitiative*).

Participating Institutions

- Technische Universität Berlin (approx. 30,000 students)
- Freie Universität Berlin (approx. 33,000 students)
- Universität zu Berlin (approx. 30,000 students)
- Universität Potsdam (approx. 21,000 students)
- Fritz-Haber Institute of the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft in Berlin-Dahlem
- Max-Planck Institute for Colloids and Interfaces in Potsdam-Golm

Projects

- 46 project leaders, of which 11 are junior-scientist group leaders.
- About 240 scientists in total are involved in group research work.
- Co-operation with more than 35 national and international universities (e.g. Oxford and Cambridge [GB], Argonne National Lab [USA], Northwestern University Evanston [USA], Universitat Rovira i Virgili Tarragona [Spain]), polytechnic universities and non-university research organisations.
- More than 15 industrial co-operations, e.g. BASF SE, Bayer AG, BioProtect, Bruker BioSpin, Clariant, Endress+Hauser, Evonik, IonGate Biosciences, Johnson Matthey, PolyanGmbH, Sanofi-Aventis AG, Siemens, Uhde.

Graduate Schools BIG-NSE

The Berlin International Graduate School of Natural Sciences and Engineering (BIG-NSE) is part of UniCat. Up to 10 scholarships are awarded every year.

