



Press Release

Promoting Young Female Researchers

The Cluster of Excellence BIOSS Centre for Biological Signalling Studies Is Accepting Applications for the Barbara Hobom Prize

Strengthening and encouraging female natural scientists at the beginning of their careers: That is an important goal of the program for the promotion of female researchers at BIOSS Centre for Biological Signalling Studies. Each year the Cluster of Excellence of the University of Freiburg awards the Barbara Hobom Prize. Female PhD candidates with outstanding dissertation projects in synthetic biology, signaling research, and bio-engineering are called upon to apply for the prize by

30 November 2012.

The prize is worth 10,000 euros. The prize money may be used for laboratory supplies or for participating in a cooperative project with an international institution.

BIOSS is awarding the Barbara Hobom Prize for the third time. In 2010 the prize went to the Swedish PhD candidate **Maria Karlsson**, who is conducting research on the transmission of signals at the University of Freiburg. Her dissertation project involves an analysis of the mechanisms governing tissue regeneration. Last year BIOSS awarded the prize to **Elina Kiss**, a Finnish junior researcher at the Spemann Graduate School of Biology and Medicine of the University of Freiburg. Her dissertation project

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■ focuses on the role played by cells of the inborn immune system in the intestines.

The prize is named after **Barbara Hobom**, a former University of Freiburg biologist and science journalist. She coined the term synthetic biology in a 1979 article in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

Information on application documents:

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The University of Freiburg achieves top positions in all university rankings. Its research, teaching, and continuing education have received prestigious awards in nationwide competitions. Over 22,000 students from 100 nations are enrolled in 186 degree programs. Around 5,000 teachers and administrative employees put in their effort every day – and experience that family friendliness, equal opportunity, and environmental protection are more than just empty phrases here.