



BIOVALLEY- COLLEGE NETWORK (BCN): Trinationl Network to Intensify the Teaching of Natural Science at Gymnasia Level in the trinational region near Basel

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BIOVALLEY-COLLEGE-NETWORK (BCN):

Trinational Network to Intensify the Teaching of Natural Science at Gymnasia Level in the trinational region near Basel within the Biovalley region

Summery: There is a very firm opinion in the BioValley that the competitiveness and prosperity of the region on the Rhine Bend depend greatly on an excellent education and further training in the core disciplines of life sciences and biomedicine.

The BioValley College Network (BCN) was created in 2003, to improve the crosslinkage of the Gymnasiums and Schools located in the three regions South Baden (Germany), Basel (Switzerland) and Alsace (France) on the one hand, and with research and the economy in the field of Life Sciences in the BioValley (Regio Basiliensis) on the other.

Therefore, BCN is a good example of Public Private Partnership.

Core Objectives of the BCN:

1. Furtherance of engaged and gifted young persons in the field of Life Sciences through the definition and implementation of a «Curriculum Plus»
2. Support for teaching staff imparting the knowledge of Life Sciences (Symposia, Labs)
3. Intensification and enrichment of the teaching of natural science at gymnasia level

Structures and Events: We provide:

- School laboratories (for example: DNA fingerprint) in the 3 regions CH, DE and FR,
- Scholar Congress and Scholar Olympiads: Students built Life Science projects, design experiments, contact and meet experts from universities, participate and present results at symposia or contests;
- BioValley College Day with the bestowal of the College Award: for example in October 2010 the topic was “Biodiversity”, in 2009 “neurobiology” and in 2008 “Evolution”: we invite more then 400 students and great Professor as Prof. Walter J. Gehring. . . .
- Symposium for teachers, common projects with teachers from CH, DE, FR with a lot of workshops: the last one in march 2010 was organised in the lycée Jean Mermoz in Saint Louis (Fr) with 130 teachers; the next will stay in April 2011 in Wettingen (CH);
- Practical training places at institutes of technology and in industry

You can visit our website and see the different activities: www.biovalley-college.net

Future Projects:

- Adaptation and professionalization of the Corporate Identity and the home page;
- Expansion of the co-operation with other institutions in the region or farer! (Universities, Specialist Colleges, MOS Boston, Life Science Learning Center Zurich, Industry, Phaenovum Lörrach . . .) etc.
- Setting-up of constructive interactions with institutions beyond the BioValley region
- Development of standards, setting of benchmarks
- Encouraging the pursuing of real experiments that train add-on-capabilities like self-responsibility, self-organization and frustration tolerance for the pupils.

Partners of the BCN:

- Regierungspräsidium Freiburg im Breisgau, Department Schools & Education (DE)
- Académie de Strasbourg, Pole Pédagogique (FR)

- Education Departments of the Cantons Basel-Stadt and Basel-Land (CH)
- Interpharma, association of research-based Swiss pharmaceutical companies, Basel (CH)

Groupe de pilotage du BCN : <http://www.biovalley-college.net>

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