

## Press release

### **New Head of Department at Leibniz Institute DSMZ**

*The 38-year-old microbiologist Associate Professor Dr. Yvonne Mast has been appointed head of department at the Leibniz Institute DSMZ and professor at the TU Braunschweig.*

(Braunschweig - May 22, 2019): Since April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019, Yvonne Mast has been the new head of the Department of Bioresources for Bio-economics and Health Research at the Leibniz Institute DSMZ-German Culture Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures GmbH at the Science Campus Braunschweig-Süd (Germany). The microbiologist was appointed Professor of Applied Microbiology by the TU Braunschweig. The DSMZ is the most diverse bioresource centre in the world, the institute is recognized as a non-profit organization and is supported by the Federal Government and the State of Lower Saxony. For almost ten years, the internationally renowned microbiologist Professor Dr. Jörg Overmann heads the Leibniz Institute DSMZ as Scientific Director.

The microbiologist Yvonne Mast would like to focus her future research work at the DSMZ on genome mining in order to discover the natural substance biosynthesis potential of actinomycetes. Prof. Dr. Yvonne Mast is married and mother of two children (6 and 8 years old). She lives in Wolfenbüttel not far from the Science Campus Braunschweig-Süd. Since May 2009, she was head of the research group "Molecular analysis of secondary metabolite biosynthesis" at the Chair of Microbiology and Biotechnology at the Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen. Following her diploma and doctoral theses in Tübingen, she habilitated there in 2017 with the topic "Regulation mechanisms in antibiotic-producing streptomycetes".

Prof. Dr. Yvonne Mast is an expert for internationally renowned scientific journals such as Metabolic Engineering, Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy or Frontiers in Microbiology. Her list of publications includes 25 articles in renowned journals such as Nature Chemical Biology, Nucleic Acids Research and Microbiology. After the approval of the new building (B2 building) on the Science Campus Braunschweig-Süd by the Trade Supervisory Office Braunschweig, the microbiologist can move into her offices and laboratories. The Bioresources for Bioeconomics and Health Research Department, headed by Professor Mast, includes the working groups Actinomycetales, Health-Relevant Fungi, Fungi and Mushroom Systematics, Clinical Phage and Regulations, Phage Genomics and Application, and Pathogenic Bacteria with a staff of around 18 technicians and scientists.

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Prof. Dr. Yvonne Mast  
Source: DSMZ

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### About the Leibniz Institute DSMZ

The Leibniz Institute DSMZ-German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Cultures is the world's most diverse collection of biological resources (bacteria, archaea, protists, yeasts, fungi, bacteriophages, plant viruses, genomic bacterial DNA as well as human and animal cell lines). Microorganisms and cell cultures are collected, investigated and archived at the DSMZ. As an institution of the Leibniz Association, the DSMZ with its extensive scientific services and biological resources has been a global partner for research, science and industry since 1969. The DSMZ is the first registered collection in Europe (Regulation (EU) No. 511/2014) and certified according to the quality standard ISO 9001:2015. As a patent depository, it offers the only possibility in Germany to deposit biological material in accordance with the requirements of the Budapest Treaty. In addition to scientific services, research is the second pillar of the DSMZ. The institute, located on the Science Campus Braunschweig-Süd, accommodates more than 69,701 cultures and biomaterials and has 198 employees. [www.dsmz.de](http://www.dsmz.de)

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### The Leibniz Association

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