

The Helmholtz Open Access Project

Open Access in the Helmholtz Association

H. Pampel, A. Hübner

Mission

The Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres was one of the initial signatories of the "Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities" in 2003. This commitment towards open access was formally adopted by its Assembly of Members: *"Publications from the Helmholtz Association shall in future, without exception, be available free of charge, in so far no conflicting Agreement with the publishers or others exists."* (Agreement of the Assembly of Members, 27.09.2004)

Realisation

Since 2005 the Helmholtz Open Access Project supports the Helmholtz Centres in the realisation of Open Access. The project's working committee and coordination office implement the project's activities in close collaboration with scientists, librarians, computer specialists, and administration.

Green Road

Status quo: Most of the 15 Helmholtz Centres run OAI-PMH compliant institutional repositories or publication databases. These databases contain postprints of journal articles and other digital objects. The number of archived objects is significant and steadily growing.

Research data: Helmholtz Centers are involved in the Publication and Citation of Scientific Primary Data (STD-DOI) project. Two of a total of three German ICSU-World Data Centres are run by Helmholtz institutions, and a further World Data Centre is currently being founded.

Project activities: The Helmholtz Open Access project informs and consults the Helmholtz Centres in technical, legal and organisational aspects of repositories. An important task of the project is to inform scientists of their rights as authors.

Golden Road

Status quo: Scientists in the Helmholtz Centers are active as editors and members of review boards of Open Access Journals. Open Access editors/reviewers are important multipliers who promote the concept of open access in their individual centres.

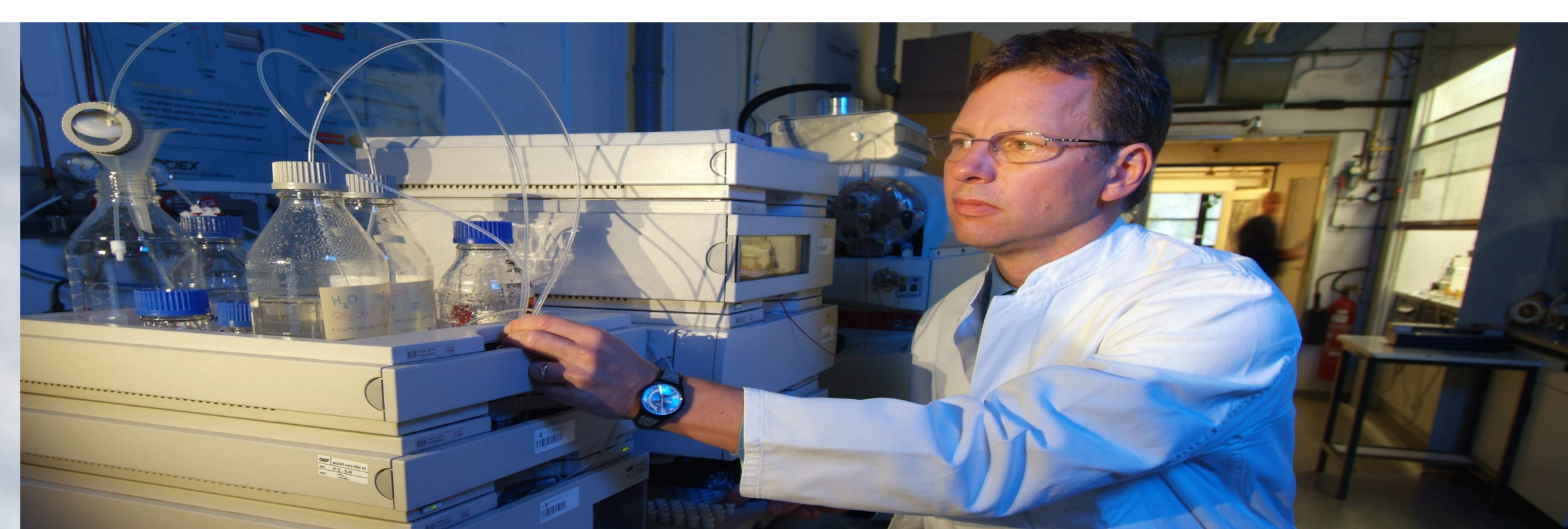
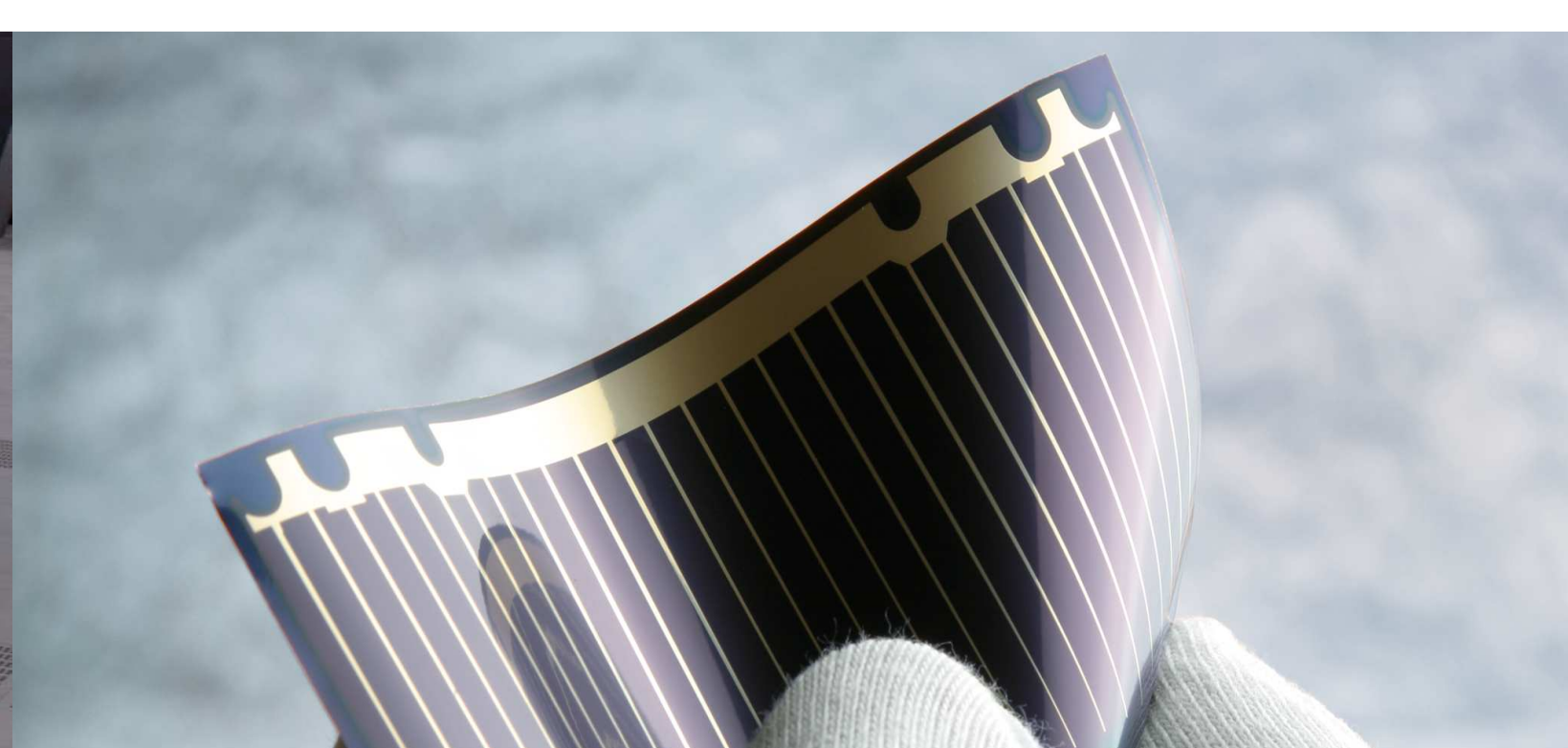
Helmholtz Centres fund Open Access Journals with institutional memberships and one of the Helmholtz Centres, DESY, has a leading role in the SCOAP³ – initiative.

Research data: Helmholtz scientists push forward innovative open research data publication activities (e.g. the data journal Earth System Science Data - ESSD).

Project activities: The Project supports scientists to publish Open Access Journals and stimulates interdisciplinary discussions on organisational issues and business models.

Network

Collaborations with: ▪ Coalition for Action "Copyright for Education and Research", ▪ DRIVER - Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for European Research, ▪ DINI - German Initiative for Network Information, ▪ Information platform open-access.net, ▪ Open Access Working Group of the Alliance of German Science Organizations, ▪ SCOAP³ - Sponsoring Consortium for Open Access Publishing in Particle Physics and other stakeholders of Open Access.



Helmholtz Association:

The Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres contributes to solving major challenges facing society, science and the economy with top scientific achievements in six research areas. With 26,500 employees in 15 research centres the Helmholtz Association is Germany's largest scientific organisation.

Mission:

We contribute to solving grand challenges which face society, science and industry by performing top-rate research in strategic programmes in the fields of Energy, Earth and Environment, Health, Key Technologies, Structure of Matter, Transport and Space.

Website:

<http://oa.helmholtz.de>

Picture credits:

FZJ, HZB, Helmholtz-Zentrum München

Presented on occasion of Berlin 6, Open Access Conference at Düsseldorf, Germany 11-13 November 2008