

The **Hartmut Hoffmann-Berling**

**International Graduate School of  
Molecular & Cellular Biology**

H e i d e l b e r g



**HBIGS**

# What are the benefits of HBIGS?

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HBIGS will support you on all levels during and after the PhD.

HBIGS helps you to finish your PhD under optimal conditions within 3 to 3.5 years.

1. The **HBIGS** team helps (international) students with visa matters and registration at the university and find housing and accommodation
2. PhD fellowships
3. Travel stipends
4. Postdoc fellowship
5. Social activities: BBQ, guided city tours, football matches, beer hours,...



# HBIGS-Teaching program

## HBIGS

PhD Core Course

Once

HBIGS Lecture

Monthly

Thesis Advisory Committee

Annually

Science & Soft Skills

Summer School

Annual Meeting

Annually

## Host Lab

Lab Meeting

Weekly

Journal Club

Weekly

## Others

Science & Soft Skills

Scientific Meeting



HBIGS

# HBIGS-Teaching program

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**Student´s total work load in HBIGS training during a three-year PhD term: ca. 250-300 h (15 CP)**

- Min. 6 CP must be collected in HBIGS Core Course.
- Up to 9 CP must be collected in accompanying teaching modules, either HBIGS or other institutions. Modules may include Workshops, Scientific Meetings, Summer schools, Soft skill trainings etc.
- Hartmut Hoffmann-Berling Lecture (8-10 per year, mandatory)
- HBIGS Annual Meeting (mandatory)
- Summer school on Infectious Diseases in 2010 (optional)



# Thesis Advisory Committee (TAC)

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## Thesis advisory committee (TAC)

- HBIGS will implement TACs. The TAC consists of the main supervisor and two additional members
- The first TAC will meet within the first six months post commencement of the PhD
- The TAC will monitor the student's scientific progress on an annual basis and recommend future directions and strategies



# HBIGS - Application

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## Application

Three tracks to HBIGS:

1. *via* applications to announced & funded PhD positions  
-> selection
2. *via* unsolicited applications  
-> selection
3. *via* MSc Mol Biotech & Mol Biosciences Heidelberg  
-> no selection



# HBIGS - Selection process

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Application

Skype Interview



Panel-Interview

**Heidelberg**

## **Panel Interview**

5 - 7 min Presentation  
13 - 15 min Discussion

## **Personal Interview** with the PI

45 min



# Impact and Vision of the Graduate School

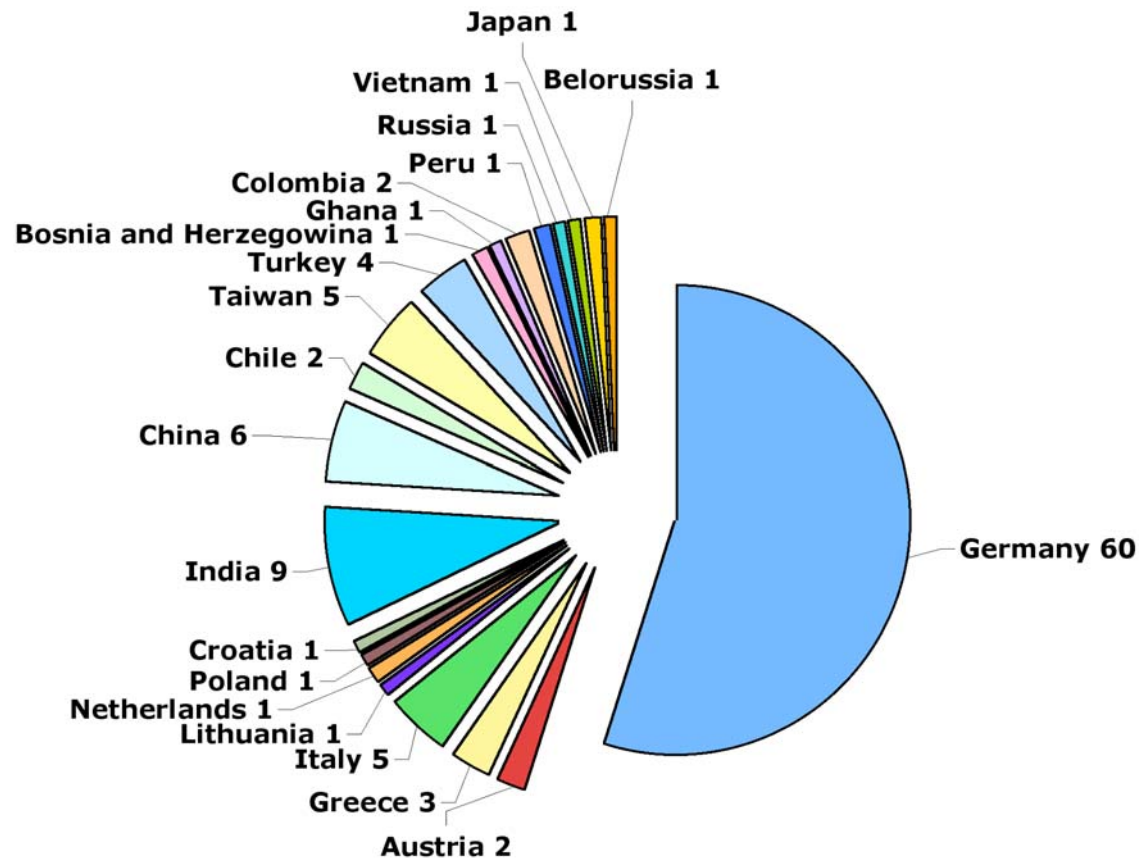
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- Highly visible center of higher education: attracts the best students to Heidelberg
- Harmonizes PhD student education in Heidelberg
- Strong interdisciplinary education and research
- Establishes high common standards
- International integration
- Full faculty rights for all members

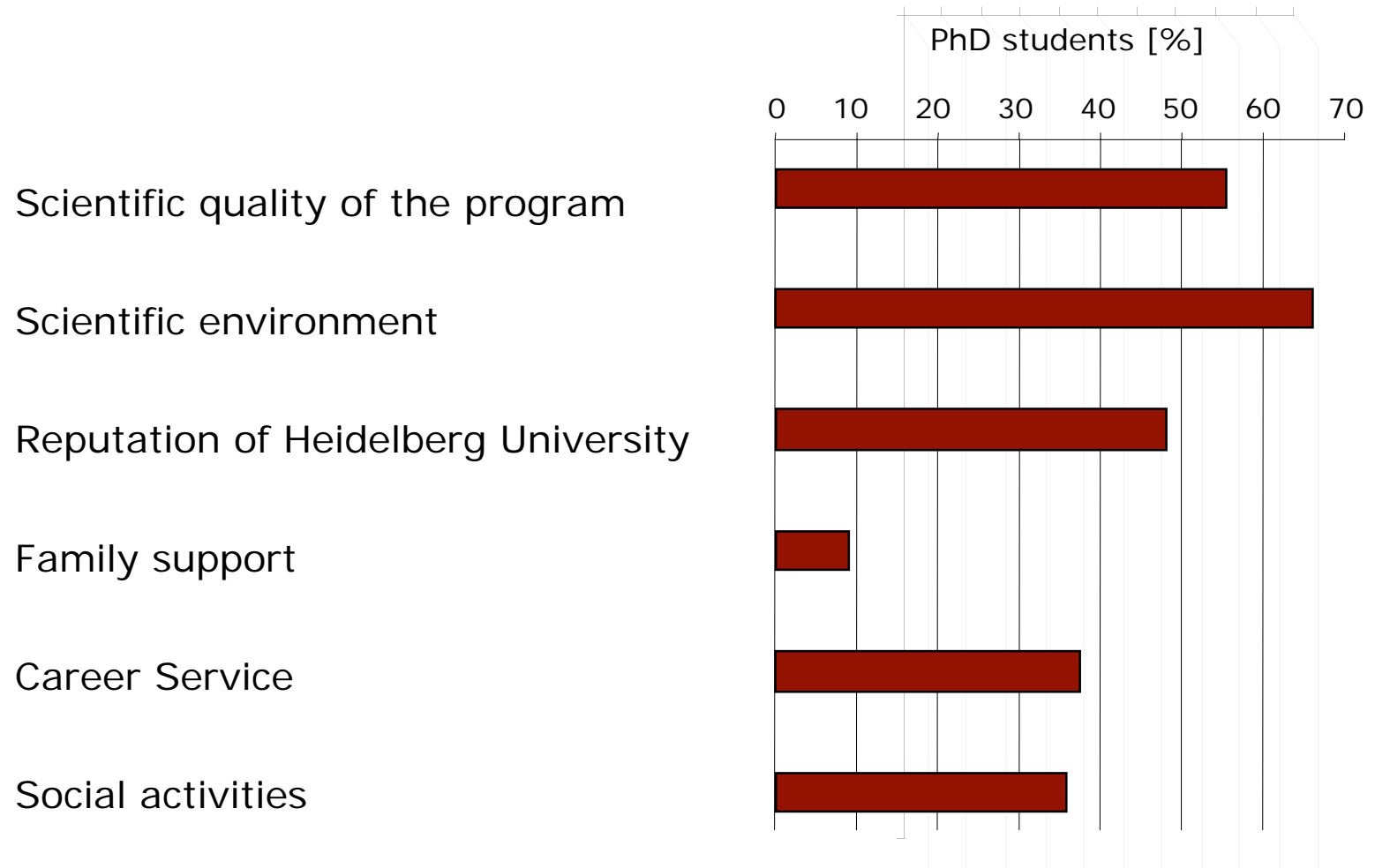


# HBIGS PhD students

- from **21** different **nations** worldwide (number of students: **109**)
- **EU countries**: 74 students, **non-EU countries**: 35 students
- gender: 53% **female** students, 47% **male** students



# Reasons to decide for a PhD at HBIGS



(source: HBIGS survey, February 2009, n = 56)



# Heidelberg - Molecular and Cellular Biology

>8.000 scientists

Graduate students in molecular and cellular biology: ~360

Two new professorships and six junior group leaders

3rd party funding: annual 120.400.000 Euro

Collaborative Research Networks and The Cluster of Excellence:  
Cellular Network

Numerous prizes including:

7 Leibniz

EMBO Gold Medal

3 EMBO Young Inv.

5 Bio Future

2 Feldberg

Nobel Prize



# HBIGS- Career Service

## Information

- Job market situation
- vocational fields in and beyond academia
- Trainee Programs
- cooperation with industrial partners (“Kamingespräche”)
- compatibility of family and career
- ...



## Individualized career advisory session

- talk about goals and needs
- discuss different career options
- analyze strengths & weaknesses
- address open questions of job search and application procedure
- CV and resume review

Duration approx. 1-1.5 h

## Training

- Job interview
- Assessment Center
- Basic Business Administration
- Projekt Management
- Marketing & Sales
- Self-Marketing
- Soft Skills
- ...



# HBIGS Family Support

## Family Support

- helps organizing childcare for infants
- reimbursement of childcare costs
- 5 PhD students/10 kids supported
- 1 technical assistant employed for 6 months to support PhD student during pregnancy/maternity leave



# Contact

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[www.hbiggs.uni-heidelberg.de](http://www.hbiggs.uni-heidelberg.de)

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Wed 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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