

PRESS RELEASE JUNE 8, 2012

Fraunhofer Chile Research Foundation signs collaboration agreement with Andrés Bello University.

The goal is to implement programs to support research and development projects driven by both Chilean institutions

In order to promote applied research, the Fraunhofer Chile Research Foundation (FCR) and the Andrés Bello University (UNAB) signed a Cooperation Agreement this past Friday, June 8th. The signing ceremony was held at the Rector's office, and it was attended by Dr. Pedro Uribe Jackson, Rector of the UNAB, Dr. Wolfgang Schuch, General Manager, FCR, and Dr. Martin Montecino, Director of the Center for Biomedical Research, among other authorities and researchers from the University.

FCR is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft of Germany which is the leading organization in applied research in Europe. It operates 60 institutes at different locations in Germany, addressing the applied research needs of local industries. It also promotes international cooperation through centers in Europe, America, Asia and Latin America, where FCR has its headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

The essential mission of the Andrés Bello University is to be an education entity that offers, to those who seek personal advancement, an inclusive educational experience of excellence for a global world, based on the critical culture of knowledge and the systematic generation of new knowledge in areas selected.

The alliance signed with UNAB aims to generate a broad base of agreement to implement research and development programs in the area of Nanobiomedicine, in order to support applied research leading to increased innovation and impact in the medical sector.

Dr. Pedro Uribe Jackson, rector of the UNAB, said that "the signing of this agreement represents a support for our main pillar, which is scientific research, where we are clearly ahead compared to other private universities, since we are the first university accredited in research, therefore we are very interested in growing in that field and this is a great opportunity".

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Meanwhile, Dr. Wolfgang Schuch, General Manager of Fraunhofer Chile Research indicates that "the opportunity to work with UNAB strengthens the implementation of the Fraunhofer model of innovation, which is based on the ability to provide research services to clients in public and private sector".

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Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft is the leading organization for applied research in Europe. Its research activities are conducted by 60 Fraunhofer Institutes at over 40 different locations throughout Germany. The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft employs staff of around 18,000, who work with an annual research budget totalling 1.65 billion euros. Roughly two thirds of this sum is generated through contract research on behalf of industry and publicly funded research projects. Branches in Europe, USA, Latin America and Asia serve to promote international cooperation.

Fraunhofer Chile Research Foundation (FCR) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft of Germany. Its aim is to improve industrial competitiveness through applied research. The Centre of Systems Biotechnology is the first research activity of the Foundation and is supported by InnovaChile under a program created by the Corporation for the Promotion of Production (CORFO) whose objective is the establishment of International Centers of Excellence and promotion of international joint research and development.