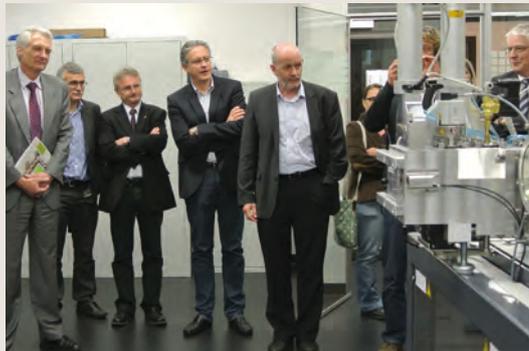


OCCR Flash – News from the Oeschger Centre

The Oeschger Centre has strengthened its structure over the last months. A new 14C-AMS laboratory has started operations and a «Mobiliar lab for climate risks and natural hazards» will be established.

New radiocarbon dating system inaugurated

A new 1.8 million franc ¹⁴C laboratory initiated by the OCCR was inaugurated on 3 May 2013 with a scientific symposium. The event was attended by 140 participants interested in the possibilities offered by the new accelerator mass spectrometer known as MICADAS (Mini radioCARbon DAting System). The new laboratory is open not only to researchers attached to the Oeschger Centre, but also to any other interested party. «This project is a prime example of the way in which the Oeschger Centre can pool strengths, exploit synergies and implement major projects,» OCCR director Martin Grosjean said at the ceremony. The facility allows for very small samples to be analysed and thus opens up new opportunities in climate and environmental research. (www.14c.unibe.ch)



Guests at the formal ceremony inauguration of MICADAS marvel at the new facility.

Mobiliar Lab for climate risks and natural hazards

The Swiss Mobiliar cooperative insurance company has decided to substantially expand its existing collaboration with the Oeschger Centre. A «Mobiliar lab for climate risks and natural hazards» is to be established as part of the Mobiliar Chair for Climate Impact Research in the Alpine Region at the OCCR. The research conducted by the Mobiliar lab will concentrate on quantifying climate risks and natural hazards, particularly wind, hail, water and mass wasting with very high spatial resolution. The planned research projects will study the recent

past, the present and the next few decades. Extreme events from the last millennium, which are of great importance for the present and the future, will also be investigated. In conjunction with the Mobiliar Chair and other research groups both inside and outside the OCCR, the Mobiliar lab is to combine pure research, interdisciplinary practical research and implementation projects. Financing for the Mobiliar lab is initially secured until 2020. The lab will come into operation in autumn 2013.

A record audience at the «Tag für Hydrologie»

Over 300 researchers and practitioners met in Bern on 4–6 April 2013 for the 15th «Tag der Hydrologie». The annual meeting for hydrologists from Germany, Austria and Switzerland took place for the first time in its history in Switzerland and was co-sponsored and organised by the OCCR's Hydrology group. It caused more interest than ever, more than 100 different research projects were presented and some 30 presentations were held. The conference proceedings can be downloaded from

<http://chy.scnatweb.ch/d/Service/tdh13.php>.

NCCR Climate activities for young researchers to be continued

The Oeschger Centre has taken over the Young Researchers Meeting, which was originally initiated by the NCCR Climate, and opened it to all young climate researchers working in Switzerland. 35 PhD students and PostDocs met on 6 and 7 June 2013 for workshops on how to optimally market themselves. The Summer School, another trademark event of the NCCR Climate, will also continue beyond the closure of the research programme. It has been renamed Swiss Climate Summer School and is now jointly organised by the OCCR and the C2SM. The 2014 edition will be on «Impacts of Climate Change». (www.oeschger.unibe.ch -> education)

For an overview of OCCR activities and events see www.oeschger.unibe.ch

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