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(Anne Hardy, Dept. Marketing and Communication, Goethe University)

Medical Faculty
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Ivan Dikic becomes a member of the Leopoldina
-Frankfurt researcher is admitted to the German Academy of Sciences-

**Institute of
Biochemistry II**

FRANKFURT. Ivan Dikic (44), the Director of the Institute of Biochemistry II at the Goethe University Frankfurt will today be formally admitted as a new member to the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. The Leopoldina is Germany's National Academy of Sciences that elects distinguished scientists from all over the world as members. The Academy advises the government on scientific issues and encourages an exchange of ideas with academies abroad and international scientists.

Dikic, who was born in Croatia, is internationally recognised for his work on cancer research and will join the Biochemistry section of the Leopoldina. In accepting the accolade, he said: "I am very honoured by this highly esteemed recognition and look forward to actively participating in Academy's programmes, particularly in science, education and the popularisation of science".

Frankfurt University's President Professor Werner Müller-Esterl congratulated his colleague, commenting that Ivan Dikic "wholeheartedly deserves this honour". Dikic has earned recognition for his work on ubiquitin, a protein that - among other things - plays a role in carcinogenesis. Within just the last few months the biochemist has won both, the *Sir Hans Krebs Preis* from Hannover's Medical School and the *German Cancer Prize 2010*. Dikic also received a EUR 2.5 million European Research Council "Advanced Investigator Grant", a prestigious award that enables top European scientists to focus on innovative research projects. As Scientific Director of the Frankfurt Institute for Molecular Life Sciences (FMLS), funded by the Cluster of Excellence Macromolecular Complexes, Ivan Dikic is currently establishing a multi-disciplinary programme for cancer and inflammation research.

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The German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina is the world's oldest academy involved in natural sciences. It was founded in 1652 in the Free Imperial City of Schweinfurt. Since 1878, it has been seated in Halle on the Saale river. The Leopoldina was appointed Germany's National Academy of Sciences in July 2008. Scientists are elected members who represent subject areas corresponding to the Leopoldina's section structure and who have distinguished themselves by demonstrating academic excellence.

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