History

The Georg-August-University was founded in 1737. At that time professors already held chemical lectures to a private audience. The first chemical institute was officially founded in 1783, laboratories being the first facilities. Practical courses were not, however, introduced until 1805.

Important chemists from the first days of the Institute of Chemistry were Johann Friedrich Gmelin and his son Leopold. Famous successors were Friedrich Wöhler as well as Otto Wallach, who, as the first Göttingen chemist, received the Nobel Prize for his thesis on the turpene field in 1910.

Subsequently, several chemists from Göttingen were awarded this renowned prize for their research. Among them are Adolf Windaus, Walther Nernst and Richard Zsigmondy. The latter has a special meaning to Göttingen, because the division »membrane filter separation technique« of the Sartorius AG and the foundation of a membrane filter society can be traced back to the work of Zsigmondies.

In the course of time, the research spectrum of chemistry in Göttingen became broader and was divided into different areas. Separate Institutes of Organic Chemistry, Inorganic Chemistry and Physical Chemistry were founded. After the war, the directors of these institutes, Hans Brockmann, Oskar Glemser and Wilhelm Jost, were successful in reviving the international reputation of Chemistry in Göttingen.

In 1973/1974, there was a change of location. The chemistry buildings in the centre of Göttingen had been outgrown, resulting in a move to facilities on the University site in the north of town.

Initiatives

- International co-operation

The Faculty of Chemistry maintains a multitude of national and international co-operations and partners. The Faculty is involved in Socrates and Erasmus programs of the EU and in the XLAB e.V., the experimental laboratory for young people.

- Museum of Chemistry

The Museum of Chemistry shows historical laboratory equipment, detailed original experimental records from prominent generalities associated with the history of chemistry in Göttingen, as well as documents and information on numerous people who have worked and taught at the Faculty of Chemistry.

- Gender aspect of the course of studies of chemistry

With the project »Course of studies in chemistry under the gender aspect« supported by the Ministry of Science and Culture of Lower-Saxony from 2002 to 2004, the Faculty of Chemistry has developed a holistic concept of gender questions that is unique nationwide. From school up to entrance to the profession, women are specifically and continuously supported.

- Industry partners

The Faculty of Chemistry presently has eight industry partners that enable students to acquire professional expertise as early as possible. Among them are large-scale chemical industries as well as regional companies. Besides practical courses, seminars are offered in these companies to provide additional qualifications.

- Partner schools

The Felix-Klein-Gymnasium and the Georg-Christoph-Lichtenberg-Gesamtschule in Göttingen are partners of the Faculty of Chemistry. Early contact should kindle interest for chemical studies, thus practical courses are offered regularly. The contact between teachers and lecturers of the university is strengthened and the exchange of experience is made possible in special workshops.

Service Addresses

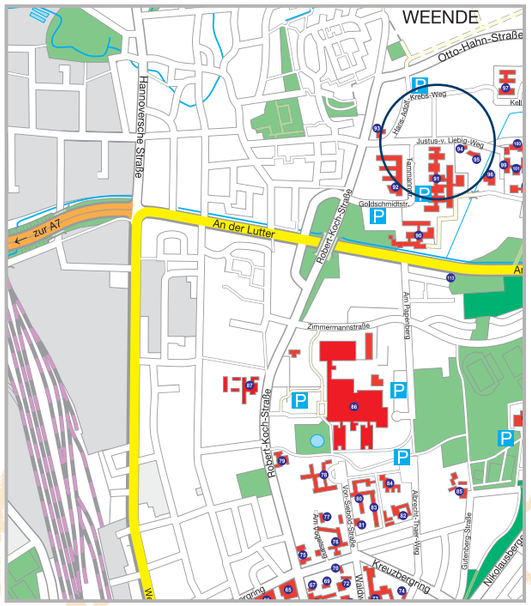
- *Deanery of the Faculty of Chemistry (with course guidance service)*
  Tammannstraße 4, 37077 Göttingen
  Phone: 0551/39-2799 · Fax 0551/39-3087
  Internet: www.chemie.uni-goettingen.de

- *Student organisation (student representation)*
  Tammannstraße 4, 37077 Göttingen
  Phone 0551/39-3417 · Fax 0551/39-3087
  e-mail: FSChemie.Goettingen@web.de

- *Common examination board for the mathematical-scientific faculties*
  Wilhelmsplatz 2 · 37073 Göttingen
  Phone: 0551/39-5761, Fax 0551/39-12483

- *Museum of Chemistry*
  Opening hours and guided tours by special arrangement. Phone: 0551/39-3326
  e-mail: guenther.beer@chemiegeschichte.de

How to find us:



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN

Chemistry in Göttingen

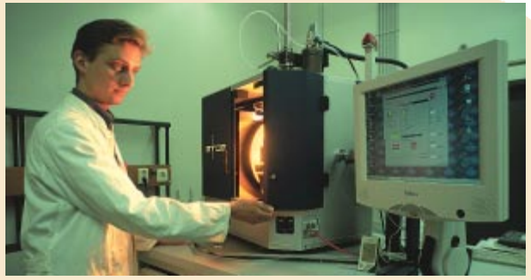
FACULTY OF CHEMISTRY

Structure

The Faculty of Chemistry consists of three institutes, at which numerous well-known research groups work in different, often inter-disciplinary fields.

- Institute of Inorganic Chemistry
  Tammannstraße 4, 37077 Göttingen
- Institute of Organic and
  Biomolecular Chemistry
  Tammannstraße. 2, 37077 Göttingen
- Institute of Physical Chemistry
  Tammannstraße 6, 37077 Göttingen

There are 21 research groups at the faculty at the moment including fourteen C4 and C3 professors as well as two C2-professors. Each of the institutes has a junior professor (assistant professor). The strong research orientation of the faculty has a decisive influence on teaching.



Faculty in numbers

Students (winter term 2003/2004)

- 725 students altogether, among them 285 women
- Diploma students: 456
- Teacher trainee students: 154
- Doctoral students: 117

Staff (as of August 2004)

- 250 people are employed in the faculty at present.

Course of studies

- Diploma course of studies

As of the winter term 2004/2005, the traditional course of studies is subdivided into ECTS-compatible modules. The four terms of the basic course covers the fundamentals in inorganic, organic and physical chemistry as well as mathematics and physics and leads to the »Vordiplom«.

In the main course that follows, there is the possibility of choosing a so-called »fourth subject« as an additional main focus of study. It ends with a six-month diploma thesis and an oral diploma examination.

- Teacher training for grammar schools (Gymnasium)

In Göttingen chemistry can be studied as a subject for the teaching profession for grammar schools. The course of studies consists of a basic course and a main course, each of four terms.

Subsequently the »Staatsexamenarbeit« should be written and the corresponding oral exams are taken for the first »Staatsexamen«. This course of studies for professional teachers provides the student with a profound knowledge of chemistry as well as didactical concepts and methods for teaching. Part of the course of studies is an internship at a school as well as – on a voluntary basis – an additional internship at one of the partner schools of the faculty.

- Orientational phase

Every term before the lectures begin there is an orientation day for all new chemistry students. The chemistry student organisation provides extensive details concerning study, university and the city of Göttingen.

Research

- Research groups and research networking

The research groups at the faculty are working on various multidisciplinary research projects. There is a strong interconnection of research between the institutes and other faculties and neighbouring research facilities such as the Max-Planck Institutes of Biophysical Chemistry and Experimental Medicine. In addition to research financed by the university, the Faculty of Chemistry is very successful in obtaining external funding and establishing research contacts with industrial partners. Many national and international co-operations illustrate the strong interconnection and, in particular, the high productivity of the chemical research in Göttingen.

- Research is focussed on the following themes:

Institute of Inorganic Chemistry: molecular inorganic chemistry, bio-inorganic chemistry, structural chemistry

Institute of Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry: preparative organic and natural product chemistry, organic catalysis, biomolecular chemistry

Institute of Physical Chemistry: reaction kinetics, spectroscopy, technical and macromolecular chemistry, theoretical chemistry

Research

- Collaborative research centre (SFB)

Presently researchers of the Faculty of Chemistry are involved in three collaborative research centres (SFB). Chemists in Göttingen are spokesman for two SFBs, the SFB 357 »Molecular Mechanismn Unimolecular Processes« and the SFB 416 »Chemical and biological synthesis and transformation of natural products and natural product analoga«

- Research Training Groups

Currently the Faculty of Chemistry is involved in an interdisciplinary Research Training Group entitled »Spectroscopy and dynamic of molecular aggregate, chains, coils and networking«. Members of the faculty are also involved in European post-graduate programs.

- ISOLAB

With the isotope laboratory, the Faculty of Chemistry has an efficient facility for radiochemical analyses that is also responsible for the radiation protection training at the university.