

## The Vienna BioCenter Core Facilities contributed to the research that led to 2017 Nobel Prize in Medicine

**Vienna, 6 October 2017** – *The 2017 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to three scientists who used the fruit fly to unravel the molecular mechanisms of circadian rhythms. Two of the researchers ordered fly stocks for their experiments from the Vienna Drosophila Resource Center (VDRC) many times over the years. This underlines the world-class scientific support provided by the Vienna BioCenter Core Facilities in general and by the VDRC in particular.*

The winners of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine that was announced earlier this week are three *Drosophila* researchers who discovered the molecular mechanisms controlling the circadian rhythm in the fruit fly (*Drosophila*) and then extended the knowledge to other organisms.

Two of the Nobel Prize winners, Michael Rosbash and Michael Young, have ordered fly stocks from the VDRC for their experiments in the USA, at Brandeis University and at The Rockefeller University respectively, many times over the last ten years.

“This prize has reignited an interest in *Drosophila* and highlighted that, due to their similarity on a genetic level, many fundamental biological processes in humans can first be more easily studied in *Drosophila*”, said Lisa Meadows, Core Facility Head of VDRC. “VDRC is a leader in providing support to fundamental research in the *Drosophila* community that has helped lead to this year’s Nobel Prize”.

VDRC has the biggest *Drosophila* collection in Europe and one of the three biggest in the world. Established in 2007, VDRC maintains more than 38,000 independent transgenic fly lines. As of today, VDRC has shipped over 1,3 million lines to scientists across the world for their use in basic research. In addition to maintaining transgenic fly stocks and creating new ones, VDRC provides services such as plasmid DNA distribution, private *Drosophila* stock keeping and fly food. Located on the grounds of Vienna BioCenter, VDRC employs 22 people.

VDRC is one of the eleven Vienna BioCenter Core Facilities (VBCF). These state-of-art facilities are funded by the City of Vienna and the Austrian Ministry of Science.

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**About VDRC**

The Vienna Drosophila Resource Center (VDRC) is a professionally organized bioresource center which aims to promote scientific discoveries in *Drosophila*, primarily by maintaining transgenic *Drosophila melanogaster* stocks and DNA resources and distributing them to *Drosophila* researchers both locally and worldwide. [www.vdrc.at](http://www.vdrc.at)

**About VBCF**

The Vienna BioCenter Core Facilities GmbH (VBCF) is a publicly funded non-profit research institute, situated at the Vienna BioCenter. We offer access to state-of-the-art research infrastructure and scientific services. Our customers are academic research institutions and companies in the field of Life Sciences. VBCF operates 11 scientific core facilities and the shared Child Care Center at Vienna BioCenter. <http://www.vbcf.ac.at/>

**About Vienna BioCenter**

Vienna BioCenter (VBC) is a leading life sciences location in Europe, offering an extraordinary combination of research, business and education on a single campus. About 1.700 employees, 86 research groups, 18 biotech companies, 1.300 students, and scientists from 69 nations create a highly dynamic environment of international standards. [www.viennabiocenter.org](http://www.viennabiocenter.org)

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