



# The German Primate Center

Research for Humanity



Ring-tailed lemurs in an outdoor enclosure at the DPZ.  
Photo: Hampe

## The primate husbandry

The primate husbandry currently houses about 1300 monkeys from seven different species. Part of them are needed for research at the DPZ or provided to other publicly funded research institutes.

The expert knowledge of the veterinarians and animal keepers at the DPZ is also made available to other institutions and animal facilities. The center offers examinations, autopsies and treatments of non-human primates as a service for scientists, institutions, companies, and zoos.

## The open center

The DPZ offers free guided tours and presentations on its different research topics for school classes (students from 10th grade on) and other groups of at least ten persons (min. age 15). Should this be of any interest to you then please send us an e-mail to [presse@dpz.eu](mailto:presse@dpz.eu). We offer a variety of information on our webpage in the form of texts, images and films on topics such as HIV, influenza, neuroprosthetics, stem cell research, biodiversity and animal experiments.

## Contact

Deutsches Primatenzentrum GmbH  
Leibniz Institute for Primate Research  
Kellnerweg 4 ■ 37077 Göttingen ■ Germany  
Tel: +49 551 3851-0  
[info@dpz.eu](mailto:info@dpz.eu)  
[www.dpz.eu/en](http://www.dpz.eu/en)



August 2016

Cover photo: Tilch





**Infection biologists** at the DPZ research viruses, bacteria and prions. Photo: Tilch

## Research with and about non-human primates

How do viruses spread in the body? What happens in the brain as we plan movements? What can we learn from non-human primates about evolution, ecology and behavior? The scientists at the German Primate Center – Leibniz Institute for Primate Research in Göttingen research infectious diseases, neuroscience, and primate biology. As a service for the science community, the DPZ houses and breeds different non-human primate species, operates four field stations in the tropics and maintains a library with a main focus on non-human primates.

The German Primate Center (DPZ) is a non-university research institute and member of the Leibniz Association. It is funded by the Federal Republic of Germany and its federal states and has approximately 400 employees. Due to its unique expertise in breeding, husbandry and research of non-human primates, the DPZ is actively involved in numerous national and international research collaborations and is engaged in scientific communication and policy advice. There is a particularly close collaboration with the University and other research institutions of the Göttingen Campus. This is obvious in the substantial participation in teaching and the appointment of joint professors.

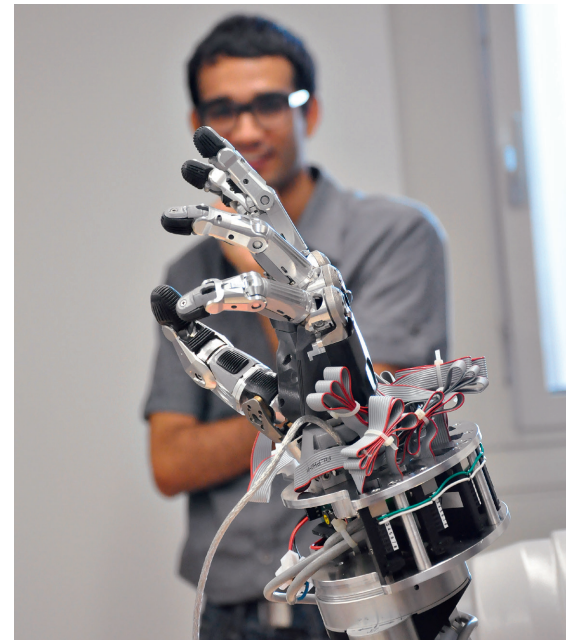
## The sections

### Infection Research

The infection researchers study viruses such as HIV, influenza and the Ebola virus, as well as various infectious diseases caused by bacteria. This research forms the basis for the development of new therapies and vaccines.

### Neuroscience

Neuroscientists study information processing, visual perception and motion planning in the brain. Current magnetic resonance techniques provide the scientists at the DPZ with structural, metabolic and functional insights into the living brain without doing any harm to the organisms. Their findings contribute to our understanding of neurological disorders as well as to the development of neuroprosthetics.



**Neuroprosthetics** should bridge damaged nerve connections between the brain and extremities. For this, it is necessary to know where and how movement commands are processed in the brain. Photo: Tilch



At the DPZ's field station **Simenti** in Senegal, scientists research the social life of baboons. Photo: Maciej

### Organismic Primate Biology

The primate biologists perform research on the evolutionary causes of social and mating systems, ecology, communication, stem cell biology and primate genetics. Research is conducted at the DPZ and in countries where primates are endemic.

## The field stations

The German Primate Center runs four year-round staffed research stations in Peru, Senegal, Madagascar and Thailand. Behavioral scientists study the habitats, the behavior and the genetic relationships of various non-human primate species. These findings are of particular importance, since many primate species are threatened by extinction.

The scientists at the field stations focus not only on their research but they are also engaged in conservation and species protection: They are locally engaged in the education of pupils and students, training of national park rangers and in cooperation with the locals, they work on the development of income sources as an alternative to slash-and-burn and poaching.