Academia meets Industry
A Political-Scientific Discussion

From Ideation to Innovation
Innovation Partners and Innovation Management in the Med-Tech Sector

Prof. Dr. med. Hanns-Peter Knaebel, MBA
Chairman of the Management Board of the Aesculap Division of B. Braun Melsungen, Germany

Moderator: Prof. Dr. Sabine Rollberg
WDR/Arte and Member University Council

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Otto Krayer Haus
Albertstrasse 25
Prof. Knaebel was born 1968 in Stuttgart, Germany and attended medical schools at the Universities of Ulm and Tübingen, Germany and Yale, USA. He received his medical degree at the University of Tübingen in 1995 and the title of a medical doctor from the University of Ulm in 1995. He started his internship at the Department of Surgery at the University of Heidelberg under Chairman Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Christian Herfarth in 1995. He received his board certification in General Surgery in 2000 and completed his training in Visceral Surgery in 2004 with the board certification. In 2006 he completed his thesis (“Habilitation”) and was appointed “Associate Professor” at the University of Heidelberg. He also finished a Master program in Health Care Management at the University of Salzburg, Austria and received the title of a Master of Business Administration (“MBA”). Prof. Knaebel’s main clinical interest was in the field of Hepato Pancreato Biliary disorders, colo-rectal and transplantation surgery, as well as in hereditary tumor syndromes. His clinical research activities focused on clinical trials in surgery evaluating therapeutic strategies and novel operation techniques in randomized controlled trials. The experimental research concentrated on patients with pancreatic resections, and on the 3D-reconstruction of pancreatic imaging. He has published several articles and contributed to a number of scientific books. He was co-chairman of the Study Centre of the German Surgical Society and member of several national and international surgical and scientific societies, as well as co-editor of five international scientific journals.

In January 2007, Prof. Knaebel joined the Aesculap Division as Vice President Clinical Science & Business Development Biosuricals. In May 2007, he was promoted to Senior Vice President Marketing & Sales and Clinical Science, responsible for the business areas of Orthopaedics, Spine, Power Systems and Vascular Systems, and, in May 2008, he became Executive Vice President for Marketing & Sales and a Member of the Management Board. Since April 2009, he has assumed leadership of the Aesculap Division as the Chairman of the Management Board and represents, in this function, the Aesculap Division as a Member of the B. Braun Managing Board. Prof. Knaebel is married, has four children and enjoys sports and outdoor activities as his pastime.

The seminar series “Academia meets Industry” aims at stimulating interdisciplinary discussions between university members and high profile managers from industry and public health organizations. It addresses the complex challenges in science, management, politics and society which are promoted by both university and industry in a concerted action. At these seminars the practical perspective of the guest speakers encounters the education and research priorities of the university, and thus allows an unprecedented dialogue on chances and risks of current and future research developments in life sciences.