Dear Colleagues:

As Speaker and Co-Speaker of the Transregional Collaborative Research Center 127 (TRR127) “Biology of Xenogeneic Cell, Tissue and Organ Transplantation – from Bench to Bedside”, funded by the German Research Council (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), we would like to invite you to the 2019 IXA Congress in Munich, Germany.

Munich with its Ludwig-Maximilians University (LMU), the Technical University (TUM), and the Helmholtz Centre would provide an excellent environment for the 2019 IXA Congress. The University Hospital (Clinicum Grosshadern) has a long standing history dealing with all sorts of transplantation procedures like hearts, kidneys, livers, lungs, and pancreas. Munich is the only site in Germany involved in all six National Centers for Health Research, including the German Center for Diabetes Research (DZD) and the German Center for Cardiovascular Diseases (DZHK). In addition to its excellent academic networks, Munich is one of the leading Biotech and Pharma areas in Europe. We would expect major interest in the IXA Conference from both academia and industry.

As a general theme of the conference we proposed “Xenotransplantation and Complementary Approaches in the Treatment of Chronic Organ Failure”. We believe that this topic will be very attractive and strengthen the position of xenotransplantation as an important option in context with other therapeutic strategies.

We hope to see you at IXA 2019 in Munich, just in the week before our famous Oktoberfest starts.

With kind regards, sincerely yours,

Eckhard Wolf  and  Bruno Reichart
**Brief Description of the Host City**

Guest-Night: 14,1 million (2015)
Area: 31,070 ha
Official language: German
Currency: Euro (€) (EUR)

Munich is the capital and largest city of the German state of Bavaria, on the banks of River Isar north of the Bavarian Alps. Munich is the third largest city in Germany, after Berlin and Hamburg, and the 12th biggest city of the European Union, with a population of above 1.5 million. You will encounter the traditional charm of Bavaria and a rich cultural heritage with museums, parks, palaces, churches and the magic of days gone by combined with modern architecture.

Munich – a city of art and culture catering from a variety of tastes with its outstanding historical buildings, more than 60 famous theaters as well as around 100 museums and galleries. 37,477 hotel rooms and about 5,000 restaurants and bars ensure a pleasant stay. Munich recommends itself as first-rate conference site.

Munich combines the splendor of an old royal seat with the vitality of a modern high-tech location. Visitors are quickly captivated by the flair of the city which is experienced downtown, during a tour of the spectacular museums and collections, castles and churches or while strolling through the vast parks.

Munich is conveniently situated in the heart of Europe. Owing to its very modern airport Munich (airline connections to more than 60 countries) can be reached easily and comfortably from all over the world by air. Delegates arriving by airplane are advised that the airport is about 35 km away from the city center (regular suburban train lines S1 and S8, bus service, taxi fare about 55 €). With a travelling time of just 40 minutes it is only a short connection away from the center and the conference location.
Further Impressions of Munich

Dates

As the Oktoberfest takes place from September 21, to October 5, 2019, the two weeks before are great timing for the IXA Congress. These weeks fall within the semester break, so that the LMU facilities are available for conferences.
About LMU Munich

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München is recognized as one of Europe's premier academic and research institutions.

Since our founding in 1472, LMU has attracted inspired scholars and talented students from all over the world, keeping the University at the nexus of ideas that challenge and change our complex world.

LMU, the University in the heart of Munich, forms an integral part of the urban landscape and has campuses throughout the city.

For more information please click https://www.en.uni-muenchen.de/about_lmu/introducing-lmu/video-portrait/index.html.
**Venue**

Our Venue for this Congress would be the LMU Munich main building. This building has enough capacity for up to 700 participants. The biggest and most impressive lecture hall, called AudiMax, could fit up to 815 people—for example, at the welcoming lecture or common presentations for all participants. Around the AudiMax are more than eight other lecture halls that could be used for parallel sessions, presentations and/or workshops. If it is necessary to have more space for lectures, it is possible to rent more rooms at the venue. An overview about the costs for rent is below.

| AudiMax | Lecture rooms first floor |

**Impressions of the LMU main building**
Social Events

The Conference Dinner will take place either in the "Löwenbräukeller" (left) or in the Paulaner Brewery "Nockherberg" (presumably the latter one will be chosen). Both of them are traditional restaurants in central Munich and offer special bavarian flair and each can host more than 1500 people (the "Nockherberg" brewery even up to 2500 people).

The Welcome Reception will take place either in the “Altes Rathaus” (left) or in the very famous "Deutsches Museum" (right). Both of them are very special in their own way and very exclusive.

Hotel Accommodations

Hotels in Munich cover the entire range from economic to luxury with prices from 35 Euro to 200 Euro (of course higher priced hotels are also available).

- **5 star hotels:** 10 / 2.839 rooms. Average rate, single room: **260 - 450 Euro**
- **4 star hotels:** 79 / 9.695 rooms. Average rate, single room: **150 - 290 Euro**
- **3 star hotels:** 229 / 17.206 rooms. Average rate, single room: **90 - 195 Euro**
- **2 star hotels:** 109 / 7.737 rooms. Average rate, single room: **60 - 130 Euro**
- (Hotel prices NOT all incl. breakfast. VAT is included: logis 7%, breakfast 19%)
- **In total: 427 hotels 37,477 rooms**
Nearby Conveniences

Restaurants
- Hofbräuhaus München (Marienplatz)
- Viktualienmarkt (Marienplatz)
- Georgenhof (Universität)
- HANS IM GLÜCK (Universität)
- Augustiner-Keller (Hackerbrücke)

Scenic Attractions (train station)
- Deutsches Museum (Isartor)
- Englischer Garten (Universität)
- Olympiapark (Olympiapark)
- Frauenkirche (Marienplatz)
- Deutsches Jagd-und-Fischereimuseum (Marienplatz)
- BMW Museum (Olympiapark)
- St. Michael Kirche (Karlsplatz/Stachus)
- Bayrisches Nationaltheater (Odeonsplatz)
- Haus der Kunst (Odeonsplatz)
- Glyptothek (Königsplatz)
- Feldherrnhalle (Odeonsplatz)
- Residenz München (Odeonsplatz)

The U-Bahn train system is a very user-friendly railway with easy-to-read maps and access to many parts of the city. The city also offers tram and bus services to avoid the consistent search for a railway station. While U-Bahn stations are situated around the city, there are also many bus stops that operate within the areas of the U-Bahn.