University of Würzburg Represented at the Citizens' Party of the German Federal President

Upon invitation of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Joachim Gauck, the excellence scholarship program BEBUC, as an initiative of the University of Würzburg, was present at the Citizens' Party in his official residence Schloss Bellevue (Bellevue Palace) last Saturday.

At this big garden party, Professor Gerhard Bringmann, holder of the Chair of Organic Chemistry I of the University of Würzburg, represented the scholarship system BEBUC, which he has established with Professor Virima Mudogo (University of Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo), together with their colleagues and friends. BEBUC supports outstanding Congolese students at primary and secondary schools and at universities (bachelor, master, and PhD studies) and then assists the young scientists with their difficult return to the Congo reaching a professorship.

At present, already about 70 scholars are supported at twelve Congolese partner institutions of the University of Würzburg. By 2018, this program, which is financed by private sponsors and by the German foundation Else-Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung, shall be extended to the entire Congo.

The traditional previous Sommerfest (Summer Party) of the President in the park of Schloss Bellevue in Berlin on the riverside of the Spree was organized this year for the first time under the name Bürgerfest (Citizens' Party) in early autumn. Again numerous personalities were invited, as an acknowledgement of their long voluntary commitment. In his inaugural address opening the garden party the President praised his guests' activities, which could move mountains and bring glory to mankind.

Bringmann had the opportunity for short talks with the Federal President and other politicians. He also exchanged experiences with the initiators of other non-profit organizations.

Just a few weeks ago, Bringmann and Mudogo, as the first African-European team of scientists, were awarded the Civic Medal of Merit First Class in Gold by the Congolese State President, for their commitment in the Congo.

Contact
Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Gerhard Bringmann, Institute of Organic Chemistry of the University Würzburg, Tel +49-931-31-85323, bringman@chemie.uni-wuerzburg.de www.foerderverein-uni-kinshasa.de