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## Dear colleagues, research partners and those interested in research at TU Graz.



**Horst Bischof** Vice Rector for Research

Lunghammer - TU Graz

It seems just like yesterday that I wrote my first foreword for TU Graz research, but this present one is the 24th! And unfortunately it will be my last. For 12 years now, it has been an honour to support TU Graz in research and help prepare the ground for research of excellence. Thanks to all the staff at TU Graz, the developments have been outstanding and

it has been a great pleasure to accompany them. Here are just a few facts: The total volume of third-party funding at TU Graz increased from 54 million euros in 2011 to 79 million in 2022. But perhaps more importantly, we did not have any ERC prizewinners in 2011. In the meantime, 11 ERC grants have been acquired at TU Graz (hopefully more soon, as there are still some colleagues who are well positioned this year). At the beginning of my term, there was a time when we just had one active CD lab. Today there are 16 (if you count the module). Numerous prizes have been won and the number of best paper awards is huge. We have introduced many new formats of support for TU Graz science (see also the report in this issue) which have been very well received and have strengthened research. But the most important thing in this process are the outstanding scientists at TU Graz. Without them, all their support measures would not have borne fruit. I am proud of the research that has been and is being done. For me, it is now time to say thank you and to thank everyone for the support and outstanding work. You are all living true to the motto of TU Graz: science - passion - technology. One thing I can promise you is that in my new role as Rector of TU Graz I will continue to do everything I can to support research. With the new Vice Rector for Research, Andrea Höglinger, to whom I wish all the best and a good beginning in her office, I am very confident that research at TU Graz will continue to develop just as dynamically.

I hope you will also find some time to read the interesting articles in this issue of TU Graz research. I wish you and your families a relaxing summer.

Horst Bischof

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