



HUMAN & BIOTECHNOLOGY

Fields of Expertise TU Graz

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Source: Lunghammer – TU Graz

Human and biotechnologies are a key driver of innovation, cutting-edge technology and research as well as of future prosperity and attractive jobs in Austria.

In the Industrial Strategy 2035, the government is focusing on the expansion of key technologies. This strategy includes R&D investments, specific funding programmes and a focus on sustainability.

Biotechnology is one of these key technologies. Not only is it one of the fastest developing, future-oriented, internationally competitive industries in Austria, it is also internationally visible in research. The activities of TU Graz are combined in our FoE. TU Graz launched the new lead project DigiBioTech just a few months ago. This multidisciplinary initiative brings together experts from the fields of biosciences, process engineering and computer science with a common goal: to accelerate the development of novel enzymes and optimise biotechnological processes. Through the use of digital innovations and interdisciplinary collaboration, the project aims to tackle one of the most pressing challenges of our time, namely the decomposition of so-called “forever chemicals”. A new joint project has now been approved in the Austrian Science Fund’s “doc.funds” programme. It is aimed at new research

on enzyme engineering and protein design at the interface of biotechnology and artificial intelligence and is called BiotechPredict – Digitalisation of protein engineering and biocatalysis. This means that this successful development at TU Graz can be continued.

Successful research also requires motivated research figures with lots of ideas. We are delighted that one of them, Anita Emmerstorfer-Augustin, was awarded the Josef Krainer Science Prize of the State of Styria in March 2026 and would like to congratulate her here.

We hope you enjoy reading the new issue of our research magazine.

 **Human &
Biotechnology**