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**RETROSPECT**
**Inauguration of the new rooms of the Academic Affairs Office**

On 15 January 2018, the School of Science officially inaugurated the new rooms of the Academic Affairs Office. By this, the school now features a modern centralised service for students and employees.

The examination offices of the Faculties of Biology, Chemistry and Food Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics and Psychology have been culminated and moved to the Willers-Bau's A wing, together with the International Affairs Office

and the school's Public Relations. The academic affairs management tasks, formerly decentralised, can now be condensed, which includes, besides examination management, the management of lectures and study programmes. Establishing these processes centrally at the school, relieves the faculties, especially the teaching employees, and guarantees quality and professionalism at a uniform level. From the initial idea through equipping the rooms up to the move, the project, in a shared and dedicated dialogue, grew up to be an enormous gain for the School of Science and its members. In this, the school has continued to close ranks – not only in space and structure, but also on a personal level. We want to warmly thank everyone for their dedication and support to realise the project.



*Peer Kittel; head of the Academic Affairs Office, recognised his team for their support and cooperation in the past three years. © Ellen Fürst*

**First ERASMUS info event at the School of Science**


*Almost 100 students benefited from helpful information as well as motivating field reports on the Erasmus+ programme. © Jan Weigand*

On 17 January 2018, the School of Science in corporation with the International Office TUD offered a multi-faceted info event on the ERASMUS programme for all students of our school.

Up to 100 interested students followed our invitation and received lots of helpful information, entertaining and motivating field reports by Erasmus alumni as well as much space for individual questions. The highlight of the evening was the academic fair in the second part of the event, where every faculty of the School of Science and the International Office was represented by an information stall. The Faculty students councils worked hand in hand with the Erasmus-coordinators and offered competent advice on all matters. The Faculty of Chemistry and Food Chemistry surprised all participants with their home-brewed beer and sausages. In this easy and relaxed atmosphere, many of the students' constraints on a stay abroad could be overcome by mutual exchange and support

## CLINICAL TRIAL

### **EVERYBODY:**

#### **Online-Programme promotes well-being for women**

The clinical trial "everyBody: Body Acceptance for Every Woman" analysed strategies for a healthy and positive body image in the past year. The free clinical trial will start its second phase for which the TU Dresden still offers places. The aim is to help "everyBody" to a more positive body image as well as a balanced diet and exercise.

"EveryBody is a tailor-made online programme which helps women to feel comfortable in their bodies," summarizes Barbara Nacke of the Dresden Chair of Clinical Psychology and E-Mental-Health.

Another emphasis will be on dealing with criticism of one's body and beauty ideals. "We will teach useful and proven strategies. The team will assist the participants to implement these successfully and integrate them into daily life." explains Barbara Nacke. The training can be carried out time and location-independent via the everyBody-online-platform <https://icare-online.eu/de/everybody.html>.

## AWARDS

### **EncaBcillus - Interdisciplinary iGEM-Team of TU Dresden went for gold**

For the first time in 2017, an interdisciplinary student team of TU Dresden participated in the renowned international competition *iGEM* („international Genetically Engineered Machines“ competition) in the field of synthetic biology – with an extraordinary successful outcome. In November, the team of fourteen students from biology, chemistry and physics returned from the „*Giant Jamboree*“, the final congress in Boston, with a gold medal in their hands. They prevailed over more than 300 teams from leading universities worldwide and achieved several top rankings for their project "EncaBcillus: It's a Trap!"

Under the supervision of Prof. Thorsten Mascher (Chair of General Microbiology), Prof. Hans-Georg Braun (Leibniz Institute for Polymer Research) and the two TUD-staff members and iGEM-Alumni Franziska Dürr and Philipp Popp, the iGEM team 2017 developed a new fundamental approach for generating and applying encapsulated bacteria. These spheres possess advantageous properties like stability in different media and a mesh-like structure that allows for the selective exchange of compounds via diffusion and offers a whole universe of new applications.

For more information, see [http://2017.igem.org/Team:TU\\_Dresden](http://2017.igem.org/Team:TU_Dresden)

### **Diotima Honorary Award for Prof. Gerhard Bühringer**

In November 2017, Prof. Gerhard Bühringer, head of the work group *Addictive Behaviors, Risk Analysis and Risk Management* at the Faculty of Psychology, was awarded with the Diotima Honorary Award 2017 of the German Psychotherapists. The *Bundespsychotherapeutenkammer (BPtK)* honoured four colleagues for their commitment in the care of people with addictive disorders. After having worked at the Institute for Therapy Research in Munich for a long time, Professor Bühringer was appointed to the first German Chair of Addiction Research at TUD in 2005, which he headed for ten years. He dedicated his entire professional life to the empirical and experimental addiction research and the development of treatment methods for addictive disorders. He namely established psychotherapy for addictive disorders in science. Moreover, Prof. Bühringer was strongly committed in the scientific transfer, evaluation and improvement of health care.

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### **New ERASMUS programme partner: University of South Florida**

The University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa is TU Dresden's new ERASMUS partner: Students of both TUD and USF get the chance to explore new geographic and scientific horizons with each two scholarships for three-months overseas stays. The first exchange is planned for summer 2018. USF belongs to the US's biggest universities. Connecting with them means raising both institutions' international positioning; with TUD's appearance in the US as well as Tampa's image as a scientific location.

The partnership was negotiated with Prof. George S. Nolas (Physics) who had already been visiting the School of Science in summer of 2017 as a DRESDEN Senior Fellow; both students and scientists enjoyed an exciting exchange in the course of his lecture series on "Materials of the 21<sup>st</sup> century" as well as in personal talks.

Beyond ERASMUS, Prof. Nolas has been connecting with several research institutions within the DRESDEN-concept network. The USF's Department of Physics is one of the world's leading research institutes in the field of thermoelectric materials – which is one of many opportunities for international interfaces in terms of research cooperations and top-level research results given by the ERASMUS partnership.

## COMMITMENT

### **Physicist Prof. Kobel at the civil dialogue on the tram: Exchanging impetuses on rails**

“How do we want to live together?” – this question was discussed by scientists of the TU Dresden together with civil passengers on the tram. The pilot project on 15 January marked, at the same time, the ending point of the TU’s project “Courage – knowing, seeing, doing!” conducted by the Center for Integration Research. For this civil dialogue, the organisers chose a space of “maximum publicity”, explains Karoline Oehme-Jüngling, coordinator. “In every talk of the civil dialogue, discussions on values and culture were raised,” says dialogue partner Prof. Michael Kobel, Institute for Nuclear and Particle Physics: “Why shouldn’t it be possible to live cultural diversity and, at the same time, keep a common set of values, based on the constitution, human dignity and rights?” 15 participants had signed in for the civil dialogue: They acted as “everyday life experts” in this exchange of new perspectives between science and society, giving impetuses for new scientific food for thought and studies, meanwhile being able to learn alike about new perspectives.

### **Science March 2018 on 14<sup>th</sup> April: Call for Science**

At the March for Science 2017, hundreds of thousands of people in over 500 locations worldwide demonstrated for the value and appreciation of research and science and against “alternative facts”. On 14<sup>th</sup> April 2018, the second March for Science will show, all over the world, the importance of the role of science in our everyday life: Events for everyone are to visualise the value of scientific methods for structuring information and validating facts.

All research institutes and universities of DRESDEN-concept as well as all educational institutions in Dresden and its surrounding area are crucial locations for this issue to be translated into action. Students of universities and schools, scientists and science communicators as well as teachers are warmly invited to join these efforts – members in the organisational committee, operators of institutional information stands (e.g. for interactive science communication) and support in outreach and marketing (materials) is urgently needed. Interested parties are welcome to mail to: [sciencemarchdresden@gmail.com](mailto:sciencemarchdresden@gmail.com)

## PROMOTION OF PUPILS

### **Science Camp MINT in February 2018**

From 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018, the Science Camp under the title “Exploring raw materials ...” will take place. In this joint initiative, the TU Dresden and the Landesverband Sächsischer Jugendbildungswerke e.V. (LJBW) take youths on a journey through science and technology. In the excursions, participants will experience highlights of Dresden’s research landscape and get insights into laboratories and research working places in an own research project that is divided into four research stations: 1) old iron in new light – how raw material analyses can help to refurbish historical buildings. 2) fibre composites – raw material bases, production and construction. 3) bacteria and their coat proteins – applications in bionanotechnology. 4) calculating particle size distribution of spray aerosols.

Minimum age for partaking: 15 years; participation fee: 75€.



Science Camp MINT 2017. © LJBW

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