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## DEAR READERS,

It's "ExStra Time": At TU Dresden, intense work is currently being done on the next round of the application for Excellence funding. By April 3, draft proposals for the research clusters must be submitted to the [German Research Foundation \(DFG\)](#). Until then, these proposals are to be agreed by the Senate, the University's Rectorial Board and the Saxon Ministry of Science and Art. Seven letters of intent to submit draft proposals for future research associations in the fields of biology, physics, materials engineering, materials sciences, medicine, telecommunications and microelectronics were already submitted at the end of last year. Additionally, another (the eighth) draft proposal is in progress.

## FIRST RESEARCH EVALUATION OF ECONOMICS FACULTIES

On 24 and 25 January, external auditors carried out a comprehensive evaluation of the research activities of the Faculty of Business and Economics, the Institute of Transport and Economics (IWW) at the Faculty of Transportation and Traffic Sciences and of the International Institute Zittau (IHI). For the inspection carried out by experts, it was possible to recruit, among others, the chair of the expert council for assessing the overall economic development, the Head of the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research (ISI) as well as a researcher from the University of St. Gallen. The [research evaluation](#) is a pilot project developed by quality managers of the Institutional Strategy (ZUK). In order to further develop structural units, TU Dresden has, together with representatives of all scientific disciplines, developed regulations and subject-specific, flexible criteria for the quality management of research, knowledge transfer and the promotion of junior researchers.

## INTERNATIONAL "SPRING SCHOOL ON HUMAN TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION"

From 5 to 11 March 2017, the School of Engineering Sciences will hold an international "Spring School on Human Technology Cooperation". At this [International School](#), which is funded by the Institutional Strategy, junior researchers will exchange ideas about the de-

velopment of systems that regard humans and technology as collaboration partners. Participants are the Interactive Media Lab Dresden (Prof. Raimund Dachsel) and the Chairs of Process Control Systems Engineering (Prof. Leon Urbas), Media Design (Prof. Rainer Groh), Industrial Design (Jens Krzywinski), Labour Sciences (Prof. Martin Schmauder) and Communication Acoustics (Prof. Ercan Altinsoy).

### **FINAL ROUND OF FUNDING FOR INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS**

The funding programme for implementing the Internationalisation Strategy "TU Dresden – Connected to the World" is entering its final round: once again, applications for financial support for internationalisation measures which are in line with the fields of action and objectives of the Internationalisation Strategy can be submitted - until 28 February 2017. The funding programme is aimed at all employees in the central and decentralized organisational units of TUD and is financed by the Institutional Strategy. Please contact Andrea Büschel, project advisor for academic affairs and internationalisation at the Institutional Strategy at [internationalisierung.zuk@tu-dresden.de](mailto:internationalisierung.zuk@tu-dresden.de) or via extension number -35747.

### **500<sup>TH</sup> PARTICIPANT REGISTERS FOR SPRINT PROGRAMME**

The **SprInt** programme has cause to celebrate: its 500<sup>th</sup> participant, Stephan Schöps, environmental co-ordinator at the Directorate for Property Management, Technology and Security registered on 13 January for the TUD's in-house training programme for non-academic staff to improve language and intercultural competences. Since 2014, the SprInt programme has been offering two versions of a structured continuing education certificate and can already boast more than 60 graduates who have completed the programme successfully.

### **ZILL SEEKS STUDENT ASSISTANTS**

The **Centre for Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching (ZiLL)** is looking for four student assistants (ten hours per week) for the period until 30 September 2017 (with the option of extension until April 30, 2018). As part of the ESF project "Orientation Platform for Research &

Practice", the students will support the work of the co-ordinators in the fields of chemistry and food chemistry and mathematics, as well as at the Faculties of Computer Science, Electrical Engineering and Information Technology.

### **AMERICAN EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGIST VISITS OPEN TOPIC PROFESSOR**

In January, Dr. Biz Turnell, who recently completed his PhD at Cornell University in the state of New York, USA, began a two-year research stay with Prof. Klaus Reinhardt at the Research Group for **Applied Zoology**. His position at the open topic chair is funded by a postdoctoral programme for biologists from the particularly prestigious U.S. National Science Foundation. Dr. Turnell's main research interests are the sexual behaviour and metabolism of drosophila. As part of his scholarship activities, he will hold seminars on minority groups that are under-represented in science, especially members of the LGBT community.



Dr. Biz Turnell. Photo: TUD

### **GRADUATE ACADEMY: PROFESSIONALISING SUPERVISION OF PHD CANDIDATES**

The Graduate Academy (GA), in co-operation with the Centre for Continuing Education, will be offering the intensive workshop "Professionalising PhD supervision" for the second time on 20 and 21 March 2017. The objective of the workshop, which is aimed at university lecturers acting as supervisors, is to familiarise participants with the advances that have been made in the international development of professional supervision for doctoral candidates.

### CAREFUL PLANNING FOR A CAREER OUTSIDE UNIVERSITY

The “GA Future Career Program: Business - Fit for non-university career paths” is already in its third round. This programme was designed specifically for PhD candidates in the final stage of their doctorates and for post-docs who are about to pursue a career outside science and the university. The curriculum for a small interdisciplinary group includes, among other things, developing management skills, knowledge in the area of leadership and team development, basic business knowledge, as well as completing a personal assessment and developing an individual profile. Applications can be submitted to the Graduate Academy as of now.

### DRESDEN-CONCEPT ON TOUR ABROAD

The science exhibition presented by **DRESDEN-concept** on Dresden’s Neumarkt last year can be viewed this year outside Germany. Locations planned so far include King’s College London in May, and a central square in downtown Wrocław in September.

### 11 FACILITIES FROM 3 INSTITUTES ON 1 DAY - CMCB FACILITY DAY

On 3 February, eleven facilities of the CRTD, BIOTEC and B CUBE will be showcased at the **CMCB Facility Day**. The CMCB (Center for Molecular and Cellular Bioengineering) brings together under one roof the CRTD, BIOTEC and B CUBE research institutes. This information day in Dresden’s Johannstadt district will give visitors the opportunity to view various installations and equipment, to talk to experts and to attend “lighthouse talks”, explaining the use of the individual **facilities**.

### MORE THAN 600 DRESDEN BABIES TAKE PART IN NEW DIABETES SCREENING

615 newborn babies have already taken part in the **Freder1k study** since September 2016. Prof. Pauline Wimberger, Director of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University Hospital Dresden (UKD), is delighted at the great interest parents have shown in the study on diabetes screening, which is headed by CRTD Director Prof. Ezio Bonifacio. The Freder1k study

started in Saxony (Leipzig and Dresden) and, as a pilot scheme, is intended to form the basis for European investment in diabetes screening and prevention in children. A total of 5,000 newborns will be examined for whether they are at risk of developing type 1 diabetes. This examination is integrated into the regular screening of newly-born babies.



Prof. Pauline Wimberger (right) and Dr. Katharina Nitzsche (both at UKD). Photo: Stephan Wiegand

### SPINAL CORD RESEARCH AWARDED FUNDING WORTH 1.3 MILLION EURO

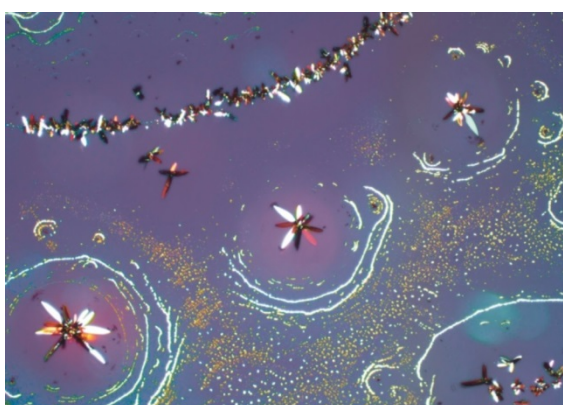
Dr. Michell Reimer and his research team at the DFG Research Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden (CRTD) – Cluster of Excellence at the TU Dresden, together with five other research groups (from Germany, France, Great Britain, Poland and Belgium) have been awarded an **ERA NET NEURON** grant worth 1.34 million euro for their research on injuries to the spinal cord.

The research funding will enable the six European partner organisations to use the zebrafish to identify new approaches and mechanisms for improving regeneration after spinal cord injury. Zebrafish possess an astonishing ability: functional recovery after a spinal cord injury.

### CFAED LAUNCHES SCIENTIFIC IMAGE CONTEST

In the autumn of 2016, the cfaed held its first **Scientific Image Contest**. The intention was to give a visual presence to the diverse scientific work carried out at the Cluster. About 60 pictures were submitted by 22 different researchers or teams. At the General Assembly

in December 2016, cfaed co-ordinator Prof. Fettweis revealed the winning motifs and presented the prizes. Masters student Shrujan Kalkura (cfaed Chair of Organic Devices), whose image stems from a project on single-crystal organic transistors, took first place. The prize-winning photos are now being presented on the cfaed website. There will be a new round of the Image Contest in 2017.



The winning image: organic single-crystal transistors. Photo: Shrujan Kalkura

### SCIENCE MATCH - FUTURE TECHNOLOGIES IN DRESDEN FOR THE FIRST TIME

For the first time, the Tagesspiegel newspaper – in collaboration with the Free State of Saxony – held its first-class event “**Science Match**” in Dresden. The concept is simple: one hundred top-class scientists from the region introduce their research areas in three-minute presentations in front of an audience of approximately 1500 people from science, business, politics, the media and society.

At the event on January 26 in the Erlwein Capitol, the cfaed was prominently represented in two ways: as many as eight of the one hundred speakers were members of the Cluster of Excellence and furthermore, junior researchers were able to find information on the cfaed’s career programme at an exhibition booth.

### “SENORICS” START-UP AWARDED FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The “**senorics**” team from the Dresden Integrated Center for Applied Physics and Photonics Materials (IAPP) at TU Dresden can claim a major success: the future start-up, which was co-founded by cfaed scientist Dr. Robert Brückner, prevailed in the final selection round in the federal funding programme, EXIST Transfer of Research. With the support of dresden|exists, this team and two others from TU Dresden succeeded in scoring a considerable hit: more than 2.5 million euro are now available for the teams to implement their business ideas. With the help of “senorics”, the aim is to shrink the measuring equipment of near-infrared spectroscopy by means of organic semiconductors – at only one-tenth of the current costs. This means the equipment will no longer be reserved for specialised users, but can be employed in many areas such as agriculture, medicine or food control.

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