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## Dear Readers,

Although the new year is only a few weeks old, we could already have filled not one newsletter, but three.

An important milestone in the **excellence application process** is right around the corner: [the submission of our six proposals for Clusters of Excellence](#). The deadline is 21 February. That will also be the day when the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the submission of our application in the "University of Excellence" funding line must be handed in.

On 24 January 2018, the first of six **Future Labs** took place, during which pivotal initiatives for TU Dresden's overall strategy were discussed.

130 participants exchanged opinions and ideas on the topics of sustainable administrative processes, communication and equal opportunities.



First Future Lab on 24 January 2018  
(Photo: Klaus Gigga)

The [next Future Lab](#) will take place from 9 am to 1 pm on Thursday, 8 March 2018, in the ballroom on Dülferstraße. The topics will be research promotion and transfer. Join the conversation!

## SprInt Dictionary Published

A German-English compendium – the "SprInt Dictionary" – has been available since the end of last year. In a concise overview, it brings together the **English translations** of

terminology from various fields relevant to work at TUD.

The Sprint dictionary collates common terms for structures and job descriptions used at TUD, as well as basic terminology from numerous areas of work such as administration, technology and the lab. In addition, it contains tips for communicating in English in a variety of conversational situations.



The dictionary was created as part of the [Sprint Programme for language and intercultural competence training of non-academic staff at TUD](#). All participants of the current Sprint language courses will receive a bound and printed copy of the dictionary, [which is also available online](#).

### New Trefftz Professor: Dr. Selina Olthof

**Dr. Selina Olthof** has been at TU Dresden as an [Eleonore Trefftz Visiting Professor](#) since 1 January 2018. The physicist is Akademische Rätin auf Zeit (*temporary academic councillor*) and junior research group leader at the University of Cologne.

During her six-month stay, she will be [affiliated to the Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden \(cfaed\)](#), where she will research the electronic structure of novel semi-conductor materials. These are of great importance especially for advancing the **development of solar cells**. In addition, she will also be involved in subject-specific teaching at cfaed.



Dr. Selina Olthof (Photo: Studio Schoen)

Since 1 January 2018, the new contact person for the [Eleonore Trefftz Programme for Visiting Women Professors](#) is [Katrin Saure](#) from the Staff Unit Diversity Management.

### Academic Affairs Office at School of Science Inaugurated

Following the [official inauguration of its new Academic Affairs Office on 15 January 2018](#), the School of Science is now able to provide its students and staff with a modern **contact and service centre**. Located in the A-wing of the Willers Building, the new Academic Affairs Office is on the same floor as the International Office and the School's public relations department.

### Promovendus is Online

*Promovendus*, the new **management system for PhD candidates**, has successfully begun operations at the Faculty of Computer Science, with the [Graduate Academy](#) leading the project. All other faculties will be affiliated gradually. The introduction of the system is expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

The automated processes, with the online system *Promovendus* creating the basis for structured data collection and an established reporting system for junior researchers, will considerably simplify administrating PhD procedures at TU Dresden.

## New TUD Young Investigator



Dr. Lars Borchardt is a new TUD Young Investigator. He heads the junior research group “Mechanocarb” at the Institute of Inorganic Chemistry, which is working on **synthesising nanostructured materials** without relying on solvents. (Photo: private source)

## Dresden Research Alliance Continues to Grow

The **Technische Sammlungen Dresden** (*Technical Collections Dresden*) and the **Hochschule für Bildende Künste Dresden** (*Dresden Academy of Fine Arts – HfBK*) have become associated partners of **DRESDEN-concept (DDc)** as of January 2018. This unique alliance now boasts 26 members. Both the Technische Sammlungen and the HfBK have cultivated research collaborations with DRESDEN-concept partners for some time now.

## DDc Welcomes 400 International Visiting Researchers

For the first time on 11 January 2018, a **reception for international visiting scientists** took place in the Albertinum of the Dresden State Art Collections. The event was held for researchers who have begun their work at one of the DDc partners in the last two years. Scientists from each **Scientific Area Committee** reported on their experiences, providing the participants with advice on the

initial months in Dresden as well as with information about the German world of work.

This reception for visiting researchers was organised by the DRESDEN-concept Welcome Center @ TU Dresden, the International Offices of the DDc partners, and with the support of the state capital Dresden as well as the Dresden State Art Collections. The project was made possible thanks to the generous support of Santander Universities.

## Principal of King’s College London Visits DDc Partners

A number of DDc institutes opened their doors to the Principal & President of **King’s College London (KCL)**, **Prof. Edward Byrne**, in the third week of January. There is already a close collaboration between KCL and TU Dresden in medicine, which is pooled in the “**transCampus**”. Last year, the partnership was extended to the DRESDEN-concept alliance during the **DDc Science Exhibition**.

A new research project of Prof. Frank Fitzek (TUD) and Prof. Mischa Dohler (KCL), together with Prof. Byrne's visit to Dresden, show that these efforts are bearing fruit. In addition to TU Dresden, Prof. Byrne visited the Dresden State Art Collections, Leibniz IPF, the Max Bergmann Center, OncoRay and the SLUB (*Saxon State and University Library Dresden*).

## New Study on the Causes of Power Grid Frequency Fluctuations

A research group involving the participation of the **Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden (cfaed)** has cleared up a widespread misconception regarding renewable energies: it is not only “green electricity” that is responsible for fluctuations in power grids. The grid is affected to the same extent by **internal European electricity trading**.

The research group, which involved **Prof. Marc Timme** from the cfaed and others,

found that there were particularly strong fluctuations in the European grid every 15 minutes – that is, whenever the suppliers on the electricity market in Europe agreed on a new distribution, thus effecting a change in *how much* and *where* electricity was fed into the grid. This effect is similar to the one that renewable energies cause.

The results of the study have now been published as a specialist article in the journal “Nature Energy”.

### cfaed “Advancing Electronics” Symposium

On 19 March 2018, after its first five years in operation, the [Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden \(cfaed\)](#) will host a [symposium](#) on the topic of innovative technologies for the **information processing of the future**.

The event will take place at the International Congress Center Dresden. The [programme](#) is available online. You can still [register](#) up to 2 March 2018.

### Evotec and CRTD Form Research Collaboration

The [Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden \(CRTD\)](#) and the [active compound research and development firm Evotec](#) have entered into a [joint research collaboration](#), aiming at identifying novel low-molecular-weight candidates for **retinal diseases**.

### New Professorship for Marius Ader

Since 1 January 2018, [CRTD research group leader Prof. Marius Ader](#) has been the holder of a permanent **W2 professorship at TU Dresden’s Carl Gustav Carus Faculty of Medicine**.



Professor Marius Ader (Photo: CRTD)

The [research group led by Prof. Ader](#) deals with the replacement of light-sensitive photoreceptors and the supporting retinal pigment epithelium (RPE), whose degeneration leads to diseases such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and retinitis pigmentosa.

As far as teaching is concerned, Prof. Ader is mainly active in the Master’s courses “Regenerative Biology and Medicine” and “Molecular Bioengineering”, as well as at the [Dresden International Graduate School for Biomedicine and Bioengineering \(DIGS-BB\)](#).

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