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Dear Readers,

The last big hurdle in the application process for the Excellence Strategy of the Federal and State Governments has been taken: On **20 and 21 February 2019**, the **on-site evaluation** by the German Council of Science and Humanities, the German Research Foundation and an international team of experts took place at TU Dresden. In terms of content and organisation, TUD did its best to convey that it is indeed one of the top universities in Germany. At the end of the two-day-evaluation, all those involved enjoyed a piece of "cloverleaf cake" as a thank-you, but also as a small token of necessary luck.



Whether the efforts of the last months and years will culminate in success, we will find out in less than five months. The decision on the new "Universities of Excellence" will be announced on **19 July 2019**.

The waiting period will be continuously accompanied by the **OUR UNI campaign**. We have summarised what has happened so far in a picture gallery on the TUD website.

New FLiK Module "Human-Machine-Interaction" Starts

What knowledge is necessary to uncover and eliminate **disturbances in complex production processes**? Starting in summer semester 2019, the two-semester FLiK module "Human-Machine-Interaction in Production Plants" will address this challenge.

The FLiK module ("*Forschen und Lehren im interdisziplinären Kontext*"), which is coordinated by the [Centre for Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching](#), is aimed in particular at **students of mechanical engineering in the fields of processing and textile machinery, vocational education, automation technology as well as students in the degree programme "Human Performance in Socio-Technical Systems"**. Interested students from other fields who would like to get to know new perspectives are also welcome.

Responsible for the module is Dr. Romy Müller ([Chair of Engineering Psychology and Applied Cognitive Research](#)). The **lecture incl. exercises starts on 5 April 2019** and takes place every Friday at 2.50 p.m. in the Hörsaalzentrum (Room 0101/U).

In the winter semester 2019/20 the project seminar will follow, in which methods of the individual disciplines will be tested in concrete research projects.

Registration is still open!

Dr. Michael Hiller Appointed TUD Young Investigator



Dr. Michael Hiller (Photo: MPI-CBG)

On 5 February 2019, the University Executive Board appointed the 35th [TUD Young Investigator](#), [Dr. Michael Hiller](#). The Leipzig-born **bioinformatician** has been an independent junior research group leader at the [Max Planck Institute for Molecular Cell Biology](#)

and [Genetics](#) since January 2018. He is connected to the [Faculty of Biology](#).

Registration Open for New SprInt Intercultural Courses

The new intercultural seminars in the framework of the [SprInt Programme](#) are now available for [online registration](#). You can choose from a wide range of **four cross-cultural and twelve culture-specific** seminars. Registrations can be made at any time.

Graduate Academy Organises "PhD Day"

On **12 April 2019**, the Graduate Academy (GA) invites interested students from all faculties and doctoral candidates who are at the beginning of their doctoral career to the "PhD Day" at Mommsenstraße 7 from **9.30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

All **important aspects of the doctoral phase** will be discussed in short workshops. Subsequently, individual questions can be asked in the *Doc Café* of the [GA PhD Council \(DDocs\)](#).

Registration is not necessary, enrolment in the workshops starts at 9 a.m. on site.

Girls' Day at cfaed

At the **nationwide Girls' Day on 28 March 2019**, schoolgirls can get to know scientific and technical courses of study and professions. The [Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden \(cfaed\)](#) and **many other TUD facilities** will be part of it.

In **workshops** with female scientists from cfaed research groups and on the basis of **do-it-yourself-experiments in the laboratory**, the participants will gain an insight into the variety of topics the cluster is researching. They can learn how to race cars with molecules, how neural networks master object recognition or how a compiler plays Tetris.

Details and registration:

www.tu-dresden.de/girlsday

TUD Hosts EuroSys Conference

This year's edition of the **conference series for computer systems research "EuroSys"** will take place in March at TU Dresden. After London, Bordeaux, Belgrade and Porto, the series organised by the **Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)** will now stop in Dresden **from 25 to 28 March 2019**, chaired by Prof. Christof Fetzer (**Chair of Systems Engineering**), who is also Principal Investigator at the **Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden (cfaed)**. The cfaed and the chair are the local co-organisers of the event.

The EuroSys conference series brings together professionals from academia and industry. It has a strong focus on research and development of operating systems, database systems, real-time systems, network middleware, distributed, parallel, or embedded computing systems.

ERC Consolidator Grant for cfaed-Prof. Xinliang Feng

In February 2019 the agreement for a "Consolidator Grant" of the European Research Council ERC for Prof. Xinliang Feng was signed. The project title is "T2DCP - Development of Thiophene Based Conjugated Polymers in Two Dimensions". The grant runs for **five years** and has a volume of **two million euros**.

Prof. Feng heads the Strategic Professorship for Molecular Functional Materials at the Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden (cfaed) and deals mainly with 2D materials consisting of only one atomic layer.

Germany-wide Awareness Campaign On Type 1 Diabetes

A campaign that causes a stir: "**Sche1sstyp**" has been prominently displayed in large letters on over 1,000 posters throughout Ger-

many. The campaign is intended to draw attention on type 1 diabetes.

Behind this is "**A World Without 1**", a large-scale programme dedicated to the early detection and prevention of type 1 diabetes. This form of diabetes is one of the most common metabolic diseases in childhood and adolescence and has not yet been curable. Current studies should help to **detect the disease early and prevent an outbreak**.



Campaign Launch in January 2019
(Photo: Helmholtz-Zentrum München/ Dirk Deckbar)

With this nationwide awareness campaign launched at the beginning of this year, the topic can draw the attention of the general public. With the **Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden (CRTD)** and the **University Hospital, Dresden** is an important partner for the campaign.

Prof. Michael Brand Is New CRTD Director



Prof. Michael Brand (right) succeeds Prof. Ezio Bonifacio (left) as director of the Center

for Regenerative Therapies Dresden (CRTD).
(Photo: CRTD)

Prof. Brand was founding director and spokesperson of the CRTD from 2005 to 2014 and director of the [Biotechnology Center of TU Dresden](#) from 2005 to 2012. He has been professor of Molecular Developmental Genetics at TU Dresden since 2002.

In 2016, he was awarded the Order of Merit 1st Class of the Federal Republic of Germany for his **outstanding scientific achievements in the fields of stem cell research and developmental biology**.

Top Diabetes Researcher Becomes Honorary Professor at CRTD



Matthias Hebrok has been appointed Honorary Professor in "Cell Biology of the Pancreas" at the [Center for Molecular and Cellular Bionengineering \(CMCB\)](#). (Photo: CRTD)

Prof. Hebrok is Hurlbut-Johnson Distinguished Professor in Diabetes Research and Associate Professor of Medicine at the Diabetes Center of the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). In the upcoming semesters, he will also be working in Dresden sharing the expertise of his lab focused on **cell, molecular and developmental biology tools** to decode the mechanisms underlying **pancreatic diseases**.

Together with the Dresden network of experts, he aims to develop new methods for the **generation of functional insulin-producing beta cells** from human stem cell

populations and expand the clinical **translation programme**.

PUBLISHING DETAILS:

Responsible for Publishing:

Marlene Odenbach, Kim-Astrid Magister

Editing: Marlene Laube

Postal Address:

TUD Press Office / 01062 Dresden, Germany

Address for Visitors:

Nöthnitzer Straße 43 / 01187 Dresden

Phone +49 351 463-32398 / Fax +49 351 463-37165

<http://tu-dresden.de> / pressestelle@tu-dresden.de

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