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Dear Readers,

An incredibly exciting year for TU Dresden is coming to an end. The year 2020 promises to be no less exciting. The implementation of the measures from our [Excellence Application](#) will pick up speed, the [DRESDEN-concept Research Alliance](#) will be 10 years old and acknowledge its anniversary with a big celebration, and TU Dresden will receive a new leadership team, beginning with a new Rector.

The coming holidays, however, will offer the opportunity to take a deep breath, to evaluate and to once again enjoy the successes of this year and to recharge your batteries for everything to come.

We wish you a recuperative turn of the year and a healthy start in the new year! The next newsletter will be out in February 2020.

Results of Employee Survey Published



From 20 May to 23 June 2019, TU Dresden conducted its first university-wide survey of employees. Around 2,700 people from science, administration and technology – about one third of all employees – took part.

On 29 November 2019, the results of the survey were presented at an information session at the university. The **presentation** from the event is [available online](#) for TUD members within the university network, as is a comprehensive **report of the results** (in German only).

A **summary of the results** can also be found in the issue of the *University Journal* of 10 December 2019 (in German only).

Promovendus Introduced at all Faculties

It's finally done: *Promovendus* – the new **software for the registration of doctoral students** – has been successfully introduced at the 18 faculties of TU Dresden since the beginning of November 2019.

The administration of all formal doctoral procedures of the currently 6,000 doctoral students at TUD will thus be simplified in the future. Standardised data collection will not only enable a more **precise evaluation** and thus a further improvement in the conditions for doctoral studies. The **statistics on doctoral students and examinations** required by law can now also be generated via *Promovendus*.

The *Graduate Academy* would like to thank all those involved for their tireless efforts, without which the successful completion of this important project would not have been possible.

Apply Now for GA's "Future Career Program: Business"

The "Future Career Program: Business" of the *Graduate Academy (GA)* is already in its seventh round. The modular **certificate programme** has been specially designed for doctoral and post-doctoral students who are looking for a **professional future outside of science or the university**.

The curriculum includes the development of management competencies, knowledge of leadership and team development, basic knowledge of business administration and support in individual **career planning**.

Applications can still be submitted **until 10 January 2020**. The **programme starts on 27 March 2020**.

Welcome Reception for International Researchers on 20 January

Every year, numerous researchers from all over the world come to Dresden to live and work. The international new Dresdeners are officially welcomed at an annual welcome reception.

The reception has been organised by the *DRESDEN-concept Welcome Center at TU Dresden* since 2017 and will take place on **20 January 2020, 7 pm, at the Dresden City Hall**. All international researchers who have been in Dresden since 2019 are invited. They will be welcomed by Mayor Dirk Hilbert and the Managing Director of *DRESDEN-concept*, Prof. Eckhard Beyer.

Tickets are available **at no charge after registration** with your name and institute at:

<https://welcomereception2020.eventbrite.de>

New DRESDEN-concept Board Member Elected



The *DRESDEN concept partners* elected Professor Brigitte Voit, Director of the *Leibniz Institute for Polymer Research e.V.*, as the **extra-mural representative** on the board of the research alliance at the general meeting on 2 December 2019.

Prof. Voit succeeds Prof. Wieland Huttner, who has held this office since the foundation of the association in 2010. The elected extramural representative of the board is elected for a term of two years. Since Prof. Huttner has resigned from his position prematurely, Prof. Voit has been elected for one year for the time being.

Dr. Elisabeth Fischer-Friedrich Is New Research Group Leader at PoL



Since November 2019, Dr. Elisabeth Fischer-Friedrich has headed the **first core research group** "Mechanics of Active Biomaterials" in the Cluster of Excellence "Physics of Life" (PoL).

Her research group, located at TUD's **Bio-technology Centre (BIOTEC)**, combines biological experiments at the cellular and tissue level with theoretical physics to uncover principles by which active molecular units lead to **dynamic intracellular force generation** and **cellular shape changes**. With this approach, her research fits perfectly with PoL Research Avenue 3 of Active Molecular Systems.

Novel Memory Device Made of OLED and Insulator Developed at cfaed

Researchers from the Dresden Integrated Center for Applied Physics and Photonic Materials (IAPP) and the Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden (cfaed) have developed a novel storage technology based on the

combination of an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) and an insulator.

With this component, it is possible to **read stored information both optically and electrically**. In addition, information can be added step by step. Thus, **several storage states can be mapped in one component**.

The **Chair for Organic Devices** (Prof. Stefan Mannsfeld, Yichu Zheng) and the **Chair of Organic Semiconductors** (Dr. Axel Fischer) were significantly involved in the development.

The results were published in the journal "Advanced Functional Materials".

New cfaed Board Confirmed

At the end of the DFG funding period on 31 October 2019, the previous Executive Board of the **Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden (cfaed)** – Prof. Gerhard Fettweis, Prof. Brigitte Voit and Prof. Karl Leo – ended its activities.

The **new Board** was elected by the cfaed General Assembly on 28 October 2019 and confirmed by the University Executive Board on 19 November 2019: **Prof. Marc Timme, Prof. Thomas Mikolajick and Prof. Stefan Mannsfeld** will represent the cfaed with immediate effect.

Humboldt Club Visits CRTD

The **Center for Regenerative Therapies Dresden (CRTD)** is currently home to the only **Humboldt Professor** in Dresden, Prof. Michael Sieweke.

On 6 November 2019, he invited the local **Humboldt Club**, where **current and former award winners and fellows** of the **Alexander von Humboldt Foundation** and their supervisors meet. More than 30 Humboldtians from the Dresden/Freiberg/Chemnitz Regional Group

accepted the invitation and experienced an evening full of Humboldt inspired science.

Alexander von Humboldt is attributed the following quote: "The most dangerous of all worldviews is that of the people who have never seen the world." Humboldt's work would be inconceivable without **cosmopolitanism and tolerance** – as Prof. Gerhard Rödel, Vice-Rector for Research at TU Dresden, emphasised in his welcoming address: "In the spirit of Humboldt, we as a university, as a city of Dresden and as a society should take every opportunity to work for cosmopolitanism and tolerance, humanity and respect – this is the basis for excellence in research and teaching!"

The immunologist and stem cell biologist Sieweke also gave the guests an insight into his field of research – the **regeneration potential of macrophages**. These special cells of the immune system act as "cell gardeners": they not only destroy germs and foreign bodies, but also repair them and trigger the growth of new cells. Their potential is to be harnessed in order to develop **new therapies against currently incurable diseases**.

Graduate Celebration of the CMCB Master Students



After two years of interdisciplinary study and research, **72 students** from the **three international Master's programmes** at the Center for Molecular and Cellular Bioengineering (CMCB) successfully completed their

studies in September 2019. The graduation ceremony took place on 30 October.

In the **"Molecular Bioengineering"** programme, 32 students and 20 students each graduated in **"Nanobiophysics"** and **"Regenerative Biology and Medicine"**.

The three international Master programmes at BIOTEC, CRTD and B CUBE comprise four semesters and are conducted in English. [The application for the winter semester 2020/21 starts on 1 April 2020 and is possible until 31 May 2020.](#)

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