

Excellence Initiative Newsletter from 20 March 2015

Dear readers, colleagues and students,

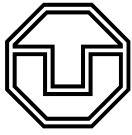
We are very pleased to be able to present to you the diverse activities of the Excellence Initiative at the start of the summer semester. At present, a large number of international guests and a lot of artistic creativity are in evidence on the TUD campus.

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TUD supports Citizens' Conference of "Dresden – Place to be!"

A Citizens' Conference under the heading "Dresdner Bürgerkonferenz – Demokratie im täglichen Miteinander" (*Democracy in everyday interactions*) will take place on Saturday March 28, from 2 pm to 7 pm at the International Congress Center Dresden (ICD). The event has been initiated by "Dresden – Place to be! e.V." and the "Initiative weltoffenes Dresden" (#WOD, *Initiative for an open-minded Dresden*), with the support of TUD and other partners. The joint finale of the many and varied discussions will be a big open air concert on Theaterplatz from 7.30 pm. Here, stars from Germany's music scene will once again give a free performance, in this way showing their commitment to a tolerant and responsible civil society.

http://tu-dresden.de/aktuelles/news/placetobe/newsarticle_view?set_language=en



Sprint Courses: Acquire Intercultural Competence

Non-academic members of staff can still enrol in the SprInt Programme's intercultural courses for the 2015 summer semester. These include both introductory courses on intercultural competence in general, and one-day intercultural seminars on specific countries.

<http://tu-dresden.de/sprint>

Promoting Co-operation with the Schools

Following the setting up and gradual strategic improvement of the Schools during the previous two years, Institutional Strategy resources are now to be used to promote several selected initiatives in order to strengthen the cross-faculty scientific co-operation in the Schools and also to further collaboration with other Schools and/or DRESDEN-concept partners.

To finance the projects, investment and material resources can be applied for as a matter of priority, e.g. acquiring infrastructure in main areas of focus that are specific to the Schools. In justified cases, it is possible to apply for staff resources. These include, for instance, measures for preparing or carrying out larger joint projects, in particular by establishing competence in fields of science that have not yet been filled but are nonetheless relevant.

A maximum of 0.5 million euros per project can be applied for from Institutional Strategy funds; costs over and above this must be met elsewhere (e.g. by Institutes, the School or by external partners.)

http://tu-dresden.de/exzellenz/zukunftskonzept/tud_structures/ber/bereiche_schools

Visiting Women Professors from Italy, the USA and China at TUD

Courtesy of the Eleonore Trefftz Programme, four visiting women professors will once again be working at Technische Universität Dresden in the 2015 summer semester. Prof. Hongwei Ding, Professor of Phonetics and Language Technology at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China, will be staying at the Faculty of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Her research area is multilingual language technology. Associate Professor Esther Hagenlocher from the University of Oregon, USA, researches "the effect of light in space" and will be a guest at the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.



Pressestelle

Prof. Rosaria Rinaldi, Professor of Condensed Matter Physics at the Università del Salento, Lecce, Italy, will spend her research visit at the Faculty of Mechanical Science and Engineering, working in the area of nano- and biomaterials as well as in molecular electronics.

Assistant Professor Dr. Rachel Kraut will be researching at BIOTEC until the 2015/16 winter semester. She hails from the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

<http://tu-dresden.de/trefftz>

International DRESDEN Fellows at all TUD Schools

At the beginning of the summer semester, visiting scientists will be staying at all TUD Schools, as part of the DRESDEN Fellows Programme. For example, the School of Humanities will be host to Prof. David J. Trobisch (Biblical Theology) from Oklahoma (USA), the English Studies specialist Prof. John Kirk from Belfast (Ireland) and the linguist Dr. Sergej Taškenov from Moscow (Russia). Prof. Dr.-Ing. Klaus Schützer (Design Technology) from Brazil will be a guest at the School of Engineering Sciences. Dr. Barbara Hofer from Salzburg (Austria), a Geo-Information Systems expert, is expected at the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. The professor of dentistry Prof. Christian Besimo from Basle (Switzerland) and Dr. Katarzyna Skoškoewicz-Malinowska from Wrocław (Poland) are also among the current DRESDEN Fellows.

<http://tu-dresden.de/ddfellows>

Three Young Investigators at Schools of Medicine and Science

On 24 March, junior researchers Dr. Ingmar Glauche (School of Medicine), Dr. Simon Alberti (School of Science) and Dr. Jörg Mansfeld (School of Science) will be appointed Young Investigators by the Rector. Dr. Ingmar Glauche is head of the independent BMBF-funded junior research group MessAge at TUD's Institute of Medical Informatics und Biometrics. Dr. Simon Alberti is junior group leader at the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics (MPI-CBG), and is being supervised at the Faculty of Science by his mentor, Prof. Christian Dahmann. Dr. Jörg Mansfeld is head of an Emmy Noether junior research group at the Biotechnology Centre (BIOTEC). His mentor is Prof. Gerhard Rödel.

<http://tu-dresden.de/younginvestigators>



Project Scouts “Art and Material” Workshop

The interdisciplinary “Art and Material” workshop took place on 17 March, within the “ideen.stUDIO” series of events organised by the Project Scouts. The target group includes both humanities researchers whose main focus is Art and researchers from the field of Materials Sciences and Technology. The motto of the opening event of the series in January was “Music and Migration”. At the next workshop in spring, the topic will be visions of the “city of the future”. An interdisciplinary city tour through Dresden’s Loschwitz district will also form part of the event.

<http://tu-dresden.de/projectscouts>

Another Innovation Shed now Occupied

The student initiative Elbflorace has been housed in one of the new Innovation Sheds on the TUD campus since February. The initiative, which was founded in 2006, takes part in the international Formula Student Design Competition every year and has already finished seven motorsport racing cars. About 70 students from the fields of Mechanical Engineering, Business and Economics, Computer Science and the Humanities are involved in the team. The container is intended to serve as central port of call for the student motorsport association.

Another “Innovation Shed” has been occupied since the beginning of March.

The research project “Altersgerechte Systemmöbel zur Hotelzimmer-Innenausstattung” (*age-appropriate modular furniture for hotel room interiors*) will use one of the containers on the campus from 1 March to 30 June.

Participants are the Chair of Wood and Fibre Material Technology and the Junior Professorship of Technical Design.

<http://tu-dresden.de/innovationsheds>

Spokesperson for Convention of Doctoral Candidates on GA Board

The newly elected spokesperson for the convention of doctoral candidates, Moritz Greifzu (PhD candidate at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering) and his deputy, Mario Alejandro Garcia Tzintzun (PhD candidate at the Faculty of Civil Engineering), have also been appointed members of the Graduate Academy (GA) Board by the Rector.

<http://tu->

[dresden.de/die_tu_dresden/zentrale_einrichtungen/graduiertenakademie](http://tu-dresden.de/die_tu_dresden/zentrale_einrichtungen/graduiertenakademie)



cfaed: New Group Leader and USA Scholarship Holders

Martin Elstner has been working at the Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden (cfaed) since the beginning of January in his role as new group leader of the research module "Chemical Information Processing". He received his doctorate from the Institute for Inorganic and Analytical Chemistry at the Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena. His main area of research is the development of complex circuits through the combination of molecular logic elements. The new research group is integrated into the E-Chemical Information Processing research path of the Cluster of Excellence and in future, will aim to develop new materials for chemical information processing.

Two PhD students of the cfaed will begin their research stays abroad in the coming weeks as part of the INSPIRE Grant Programme. Jana Kalbacova (Semiconductor Physics Research Group, TU Chemnitz) has received funding for a two-month stay at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Semiconductor and Dimensional Metrology Division in Maryland, USA. Tim Erdmann (Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden) will spend three months at the Polyera Cooperation and the Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, USA. His research stay will be supervised by Professor Antonio Facchetti, the founder of the Polyera Cooperation.

Further information:

<https://www.cfaed.tu-dresden.de/index.php/inspire-seed-grants.html>

Prof. Grätzel (EPF Lausanne) Holds Lecture on Solar Cells

The Distinguished Lecture Series of cfaed will feature a talk by Prof. Michael Grätzel (EPF Lausanne, Schweiz) on the future of energy conversion via photovoltaics. The lecture will take place on 26 March 2015 at 6 pm in the Festsaal on Dülferstraße, and is entitled "Nanocrystalline junctions and mesoscopic solar cells". Specifically, Prof. Grätzel will address the potential of mesoscopic solar cells, which are regarded as a more cost-effective alternative to traditional silicon solar cells. Michael Grätzel, Professor of Physical Chemistry and Head of the Laboratory for Photonics and Interfaces at the École Polytechnique Fédérale at Lausanne (EPFL), is one of the world's top researchers in chemistry. He made a name for himself in particular with the development of a new type of solar cell ("Grätzel Cells").

On 25 March, the cfaed will celebrate its annual Spring Research Festival. Here, all nine research paths of the Cluster of Excellence will present the most important results of the past year and the projects planned for the coming months. More information at:

<https://cfaed.tu-dresden.de>



“Sounds & Science” with Open-Topic Professor

With the “Sound & Science” series, the Dresden Music Festival and TU Dresden have created an exciting link between music and science, initiating a multifaceted dialogue with a wide range of events. The 2015 Music Festival will be visiting the campus twice, looking forward to placing unusual formats in a stimulating, ideally suited context. On 18 May at 7 pm, young artists will present their talents under the motto “Bohème 2020” in the new building of the Department of Biology. On 4 June at 7 pm, a dialogue between music and science will take place with Prof. Martin Rohrmeier and the violinist Florian Mayer. Prof. Rohrmeier is one of the new Open Topic Professors at TUD.

<http://www.musikfestspiele.com>

New Trailer for TUD Promotional Video on Youtube

In addition to TUD’s promotional video “Hochspannend – Technische Universität Dresden”, which presents the University’s capabilities in research and teaching, there is now also a 40-second trailer. It can be viewed on TUD’s YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6WVGpnmMn0fs>

Newsletter now also Available in English

The TUD Excellence newsletter has also been published in English since the beginning of 2015. The first edition of the year is available on the TUD’s English website: http://tu-dresden.de/exzellenz/newsletter_downloads/index.html

From now on, anyone wanting to subscribe by mail to the English edition, please go to this address:

<https://mailman.zih.tu-dresden.de/groups/listinfo/um-exzellenz-en>

Please feel free to forward this information to your international colleagues, too.

Wishing you an enjoyable read, and with kind regards,

Kim-Astrid Magister and Marlene Odenbach