Excellence Initiative Newsletter from 2 June, 2015

Dear readers, colleagues and students,

An innovation from Saxony is making the headlines: printed loudspeakers in an illustrated book of World Press Photos tell the impressive stories behind the pictures. At present, there are still only a few copies of the sought-after soundbook, but the innovation is certain to become a significant development in the future. Below, you can read more about this and other interesting news from the Excellence Institutions.

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Printed Loudspeakers for Illustrated Book of World Press Photos

When the results of the 58th World Press Photo Award were presented in Amsterdam this spring, the occasion also marked the première of an innovation from Saxony. Prof. Arved C. Hübler from the Institute for Print and Media Technology at Technische Universität Chemnitz demonstrated an illustrated book of the winning photos equipped with printed electronics. Parts of the new technology were developed together with the Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden (cfaed) Cluster of Excellence, which is based at TU Dresden. The loudspeakers of the 100-page World Press Photo Award book are supplied with the data via an SD card, embedded in the cover. So far, eight copies of the soundbook have been printed, with a total of 50 copies planned. http://www.cfaed.de
Lecture Series of the Open Topic Professors Begins on 4 June

On Thursday 4 June, a series of lectures entitled “Wanzen, Wahn und Wertewandel” (Bugs, madness and changing values) will begin, held by the newly appointed Open Topic Tenure Track Professors. The nine scientists were chosen on account of their innovative subjects and their scientific potential, as part of the Excellence Initiative and independently of existing Chairs.

The media scientist Lars Koch will give the first lecture on 4 June at 5 p.m. His topic is “Nach dem Menschen - Visionen des Posthumanen in aktuellen TV-Serien” (After humankind – visions of the post-human in current TV series).

Daniel Balzani, Professor of Mechanics, will hold the second lecture on 30 June. He will speak on “Computer simulation of atherosclerotic arteries – new opportunities in medical diagnosis and therapeutics?”. The lecture series will run until the beginning of February. All the events will take place at 5 p.m. in the large lecture theatre of the Sächsische Landesbibliothek – Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Dresden (SLUB, Saxon State and University Library).

www.tu-dresden.de/ottp

Sound & Science: “Creativity” on Focus

The second Sound & Science event is on June 4, when the programme will consist of a musical and scientific dialogue between Open Topic Prof. Martin Rohrmeier and the violinist Florian Mayer. The event with focus on “Creativity” will take place on 7 p.m. in the Andreas-Pfitzmann-Bau (Computer Science Building), at Nöthnitzer Str. 46.

Information available at: www.musikfestspiele.com

International Conference on “Imaginings of Disruption”

Around disasters and incidents that disrupt and interrupt daily life – terrorist attacks, killing sprees, accidents or new disease patterns – narratives tend to form. These not only unsettle society, but conversely, can also stabilise it. Such “imaginings of disruption” are the focus of an international conference organised by the TUD media scientist Prof. Lars Koch, together with Prof. Elisabeth Bronfen from Zurich. The conference will take place from 18 to 20 June, 2015 in the “Sächsische Landesbibliothek – Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Dresden” (SLUB, Saxon State and University Library).

Lars Koch is head of the research project “The Principle of Disruption”, which is funded by the European Research Council (ERC). A highlight of the event will be the evening lecture given by the British author, Tom McCarthy, on 19 June at 6 p.m., on how literature from Stéphane Mallarmé to Thomas Pynchon has dealt with “disasters”.

Further information at https://tu-dresden.de/die_tu_dresden/fakultaeten/fakultaet_sprach_literatur_und_kulturwissenschaften/germanistik/mwndl/termine/imaginationen_stoerung
First International Staff Training Week at TU Dresden

Thirty non-academic staff from 18 predominantly European universities participated in the International Staff Training Week of Technische Universität Dresden from 4 to 8 May. The guests, who came from Spain, Hungary, Estonia, Greece, and even from India were given an overview of work processes in the Staff Unit Communication and Corporate Identity, the International Office as well as in the European Project Center, the Transfer Office and the Project Scouts. They were also introduced to Excellence Initiative projects. The International Staff Training Week serves both to create new networks with international university partners and to strengthen existing partnerships. It is part of the Institutional Strategy’s Internationalisation Programme, and is tied into the activities related to the Sprint Programme.

http://tu-dresden.de/sprint/staff_week

Innovation Shed: Trial-Living in a Hotel Room

An innovative project of TU Dresden's wood technology scientists and designers is seeking to furnish hotel rooms in a way that is age-appropriate. Since May, the project team has been fitting out one of the two Innovation Sheds in front of the “Hörsaalzentrum” (lecture hall complex) as a test room for this purpose.

In collaboration with a furniture company from Seiffen, and funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, the scientists have developed swivelling bedside tables, ergonomic wardrobes and an electric suitcase lift. They are now looking for volunteers aged 50 and over to help them test the practicality of the model fittings.

The functions of the furniture and how it is accepted will be investigated by observing and questioning the test persons. The furniture prototypes will then be optimised accordingly before actual production begins.

http://tu-dresden.de/innovationsheds

Colour Symposium with Trefftz Professor from Oregon, USA

TUD visiting professor, Esther Hagenlocher, who is currently at the “Institut für Gebäudelehre und Entwerfen” (Theory and Design in Architecture), Faculty of Architecture (Prof. Ralf Weber), on the Eleonore Trefftz Programme for Visiting Women Professors, will be involved in the preparation of this year’s Dresden Colour Forum. The event, which will take place on 2 and 3 July, is entitled “Von der Farbenlehre zum Farbe Lehren” (From colour theory to teaching colour), and will focus on the didactics of colour in architecture and design. In the spring of 2016, the symposium is also expected to take place in Oregon, USA, at the home university of Prof. Hagenlocher, who is of German descent.

Further information: www.tu-dresden.de/trefftz
HAEC: Second Funding Period for Collaborative Research Center
On 21 May 2015, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) granted a second four-year funding period of the Collaborative Research Center 912 "Highly Adaptive Energy-Efficient Computing" (HAEC). HAEC is embedded into the research structure of the Cluster of Excellence “Center for Advancing Electronics Dresden – cfaed” as one of its research paths. In February, the CRC passed a thorough evaluation of research results from the first funding period.
To address the demanding scientific challenges, HAEC’s number of subprojects has increased from 15 during Phase I to 21 in Phase II. 19 Professors of the faculties of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science, and Mathematics participate in HAEC. The second funding period will last from July 2015 until June 2019. Further information can be found here: www.tu-dresden.de/sfb912.

Future cfaed Professor for Processor Design Begins Research Stay
On 8 June 2015, the native of India scientist Akash Kumar will arrive for a two-month research stay at TU Dresden. Kumar is an expert in the field of microelectronic processors and processor systems design and is appointed to hold the cfaed Chair for Processor Design starting in October this year. The summery guest stay will allow Kumar to get familiar with his future workplace and to build up first scientific contacts and networks. Currently, Kumar is affiliated with National University of Singapore (NUS, http://www.nus.edu.sg/), where he works as an assistant professor in the computer science and electrical engineering department. Website: http://www.akashkumar.net

Dresden Microelectronics Academy in September
GLOBALFOUNDRIES, X-FAB and cfaed are jointly organizing the 14th Dresden Microelectronics Academy from 14 to 18 September. This summer school will familiarize its participants with the fascinating world of semiconductors. In the discussions, ideas will be exchanged with high-level representatives from industry and the university. The closing date for applications is 30 June 2015. Application form is activated: http://www.dresden-microelectronics-academy.de/?node=74

Wishing you a pleasant read, and with kind regards,

Kim-Astrid Magister, Marlene Odenbach and Birgit Holthaus