



## Workshop I **Research in Germany – Land of Ideas New Initiatives – More Opportunities**

**Place:** Hyatt Regency Cambridge

**Time:** Sunday, January 31, 2010, 9:00 AM-12:30 PM

**(Breakfast buffet opens at 8:00 AM)**

**Contact:** Dr. Katja Simons ([simons@daad.org](mailto:simons@daad.org)), Phone: 212.758.3223 ext 217  
[www.research-in-germany.de](http://www.research-in-germany.de)

**Register:** Please register at <http://www.research-in-germany.de/ecf2010>

### **Welcome and Overview**

*(Charles View Ballroom, 16<sup>th</sup> floor, all participants)*

#### **Claudia Schütt**

Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany

#### **Beatrix Wegner**

Assistant Head of Division 218: Cooperation with North and South America  
Federal Ministry of Education and Research

#### **Sehnaz Özden**

Head of Corporate Employer Branding & Recruiting, Continental AG

### **Workshop I: How to Find a Postdoc, Young Investigator and Faculty Position in Germany**

*(Charles View Ballroom, 16<sup>th</sup> floor)*

This workshop is targeted to doctoral and postdoctoral students as well as assistant professors and provides information on opportunities on how to get a postdoc position and how to develop independent careers and set up a research team as junior faculty. The workshop will explore different paths to an academic career at universities and at non-university institutions. All disciplines are welcome. Possible funding opportunities will be explored.

**Moderators:** Dr. Marion Müller, Director North America Office, German Research Foundation, DFG

Dr. Katja Simons, GAIN Program Director and “Research in Germany”  
Coordinator



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Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

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**Research in  
Germany**



**Land of Ideas**



## **Introduction:**

### **Weighing the Transatlantic Career Options: Trends in U.S. Research Support and Career Opportunities**

**Dr. Cathleen S. Fisher**

Executive Director

American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

The session will provide a brief snapshot of trends in U.S. research support and opportunities; the aim is to help participants make better informed choices about the relative risks and benefits associated with transatlantic career options. What are the trends in U.S. federal, private, and university funding for academic and other research? What are the chances of obtaining a tenure-track position? What short- and long-term impact will the financial and budgetary crisis have on the research and academic job market? What longer-term trends in U.S. academe should you consider when charting your future career path?

## **1.)**

### **How to Obtain a Postdoc Position in Germany (at universities)**

**Dr. Thomas Koch**

Head of Office for Research and Young Researchers

Ruhr University Bochum

The presentation looks into postdoctoral research opportunities for international young scientists at a German university. Ruhr University Bochum, a large research university hosting all major scientific disciplines from the life sciences, physical sciences and engineering to the social sciences and humanities on a single campus, will serve as an example. The focus will be on opportunities for researchers who have already obtained or are in the process of obtaining a doctoral degree. Various pathways and funding issues will be addressed.

### **Postdoc Positions at non-university institutions**

**Dr. Michaela Zimmermann**

Division for International Relations

Max-Planck-Society

### **Testimonial by Postdoc (experience in Germany)**

**Dr. Francesco Ciucci**

Interdisciplinary Center for Scientific Computing,

Heidelberg Graduate School of Mathematical and Computational Methods for the Sciences

University of Heidelberg

1. Quality of research at the German graduate schools with focus on funding, on opportunities for independent research and on keeping ties with US collaborators;
2. Career opportunities in Germany after the postdoc;



3. Practical arrangements (moving from the US to Germany, language requirements, transportation etc.);
4. Two Open positions for young scientists in my research project on multiscale modeling of electrochemical devices.

## **Q & A**

### **2.)**

#### **How to obtain a Junior Faculty and Young Investigator Position at Universities**

##### **Prof. Dr. Hubert Schorle**

Dept. of Developmental Pathology  
Institute of Pathology  
Bonn Medical School

Information on career structure at German universities

#### **Opportunities for Young Investigators at Non-University Institutions**

##### **Natalie Percsy**

Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Headquarters, International Business Development

1. Fraunhofer's place in Germany's landscape of non-university institutions: Between academia and industry
2. How and why to apply to Fraunhofer: 60 years of dedication to the future
3. Special programs: Fraunhofer Attract and Fraunhofer Bessel Research Award

##### **Dr. Bärbel Köster**

Forschungszentrum Jülich - Helmholtz Association

### **2a)**

#### **Testimonial by Young Investigator**

##### **Dr. Georg Stoecklin**

Group Leader in the DKFZ-ZMBH Alliance  
German Cancer Research Center  
Helmholtz Association

Information on application, time management, requirements, networks, selection of institute and personnel, (Lab/Group)Management, funding the group

### **2b)**

#### **Testimonial by Young Investigator (Emmy Noether)**

##### **Dr. Constantin Czekelius**



Institute of Chemistry and Biochemistry - Organic Chemistry  
Freie Universität Berlin

The presentation focuses on the application to the Emmy-Noether program, the selection process, and the set up of a research group. In addition to the formal guidelines also some hints and personal comments will be provided.

## 2c) Applying in Germany

**Ruth Girmes, MA**  
Career Service/Campus Essen  
Universität Duisburg-Essen

The presentation focuses on the application process and interview standards and the support of Career Service by introducing samples and best practice. Also some practical hints and personal comments will be provided in addition to the formal standards.

## Q & A

## 3.) Opportunities at Universities of Applied Sciences

**Prof. Dr. Maercker**  
Vice-Mannheim University of Applied Sciences  
**Prof. Dr. Andreas Zaby**  
Dean of Studies, Institute of Management Berlin

1. What's unique about Universities of Applied Science?
2. What kind of employment opportunities do they offer?
3. Career perspectives in research and practice
4. Application process and terms of employment
5. Current examples of open positions in science, engineering and business administration

## 4.) *Discussion* *Core messages gained at workshop*

