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Friday, August 28, 2020

10:45 am – 11:45 am EDT

The Vision of a European University – International Research Careers in Europe

In September 2017, Emmanuel Macron presents the vision of European universities, “networks of universities from several European countries [...] that create a course of study in which every student studies abroad [...]. European universities which are also places of pedagogical innovation and excellent research.” By the summer, there will be 41 networks that are shaping this vision within the framework of a pilot project of the EU Commission. The European universities are open to a new generation of excellent and mobile researchers and they are building on their innovative strength. In a virtual fishbowl discussion, we will focus on the opportunities that arise for individual research careers. Participants will have the chance to get first-hand information on the networks and ask questions about career paths.

Prof. Dr. Florian J. Schweigert, Vice President for International Affairs, Alumni and Fundraising, Universität Potsdam, EDUC – European Digital UniverCity

Prof. Dr. Eva-Maria Feichtner, Vice President International and Diversity, Universität Bremen, YUFE – Young Universities for the Future of Europe

Dr. Johannes Dingler, Director International Office, Universität Konstanz, ERUA – European Reform University Alliance

Dr. Frank Petrikowski, Policy Officer, Federal Ministry of Education and Research, European Higher Education Area, Internationalization

Moderator: Marijke Wahlers, Hochschulrektorenkonferenz

Startups and Academia – Career Paths, Funding Programs and Support at German Universities

Both early- and mid-career researchers, particularly those working in STEM fields, often hit a crossroad when they have to ask themselves whether they should pursue an academic career or work for a startup company. While choosing one career path over the other comes with certain expectations as far as job security, research opportunities, and workload are concerned, the decision to start your own company or work for a startup does not necessarily have to exclude other career opportunities. Moreover, and in part due to the current pandemic, job markets might look different in the foreseeable future, placing a premium on developing flexible and adaptable career goals. Our panel of experts who work in academia and in knowledge and technology transfer as well as in the startup sector on both sides of the Atlantic will introduce different career options and, based on their own experiences, address some of the following questions:

What are the pros and cons of working in academia or in the startup sector? How will you be able to sail smoothly from academia to startups? How can you combine career paths?

When pursuing a career outside of academia, how do you connect with current or future university colleagues? How do you start out in startups and keep up a strong publication record?

How do you turn your research or your idea into a startup? What are the skills that make you a successful entrepreneur?

Dr. Tim Brühn, Project Head, Corporate Entrepreneurship, TecUp, Paderborn University

Lisa Getzler, Director, Baker Institute for Entrepreneurship, Lehigh University

Dr. Ronald Kriedel, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Transfer, CET, TU Dortmund

Dr. Thomas Sattelberger, MP, Spokesperson for FDP Parliamentary Group on Innovation, Education and Research

Moderators: Peter Rosenbaum, University Alliance Ruhr, New York, and **Dr. Katja Simons**, Campus OWL New York

Friday, August 28, 2020

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm EDT

Virtual GAIN20 SCIENCE SLAM

Welcome on stage: the GAIN Science Slam is all about science communication. Seven international researchers from various fields will present their findings in a five-minute pitch in front of the virtual GAIN20 audience. The objective is to impart current research results to a diverse audience in an understandable and entertaining way.

Science Slams started in German university towns in the mid-2000s: Darmstadt, Braunschweig, Hamburg. Today, Science Slams are held all over Germany on a weekly basis.

The virtual GAIN audience is the Science Slam Jury. The best slammer will receive a **cash prize!** Proudly presented by the German Center for Research and Innovation (DWIH)

Moderators: Dr. Martin R. Lichtenthaler and Dr. Aline Gottlieb, GAIN Advisory Board

Saturday, August 29, 2020

9:30 am – 10:30 pm EDT

How to Become and Be a Successful Research Group Leader

Newly selected and already experienced leaders of junior research groups will pass on their personal experiences to the participants and will be available for questions.

The following aspects in particular will be examined:

Planning and going through the application

Setting up the team and infrastructure

Integrating at the institute

Being an employer and boss

Managing finances, staff, material and time

Prof. Dr. Eva Kiermaier, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Nachwuchsgruppenleiterin im NRW-Rückholprogramm

Dr. Philip Willke, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie, Emmy Noether-Nachwuchsgruppenleiter

Moderator: Dr. Monika Lieb, Head of Division, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Career Paths within the Large Research Organizations

The four German nonuniversity research organizations offer a wide range of career opportunities. Especially the close networking with universities and with business, civil society and others result in numerous, thematically broad and often permeable career paths. From the classic career with the aim of a scientific leadership position to career paths at research infrastructures, in industry or in knowledge transfer with business, administration and politics, the possibilities are manifold. This diversity goes hand in hand with job profiles that are open to different CVs and skills and in some cases increasingly demand such diverse experiences. The aim of this panel is to present such career paths and to discuss them in light of the experiences and suggestions of the participants. The panel is also intended to provide an invitation for individual consultation at the "online booths" of the organizations represented at the Talent Fair.

Dr. Miguel Haubrich Seco, International Affairs, Leibniz Association

Alexandra Rosenbach, International Relations Manager, Helmholtz Association

Nicole Cumia, Deputy Head of HR Marketing, Fraunhofer Society

Kerstin Dübner-Gee, Head of Department Human Resources Development & Opportunities, Max Planck Society

Moderator: Dr. Martin R. Lichtenthaler, GAIN Advisory Board

Saturday, August 29, 2020

9:30 am – 10:30 pm EDT

Turn! Me! On! Support and Services for Early Career Researchers at German Universities

In this interactive and user-oriented session, it is time to turn the (virtual) tables! We want to promote the exchange of ideas between postdocs and institutions as representatives from German universities are eager to discuss how to increase the attractiveness of research careers in Germany. Welcome Center, Kindergarten, Dual Career, Forschungsförderung: tell us what service offers you expect from German universities to become your future employer! What is missing? What are positive examples from the US and around the world that should be adopted in Germany? What would be pull factors no one seems to have thought about?

With your help, we want to check and revise established ways of research marketing and information distribution because many offers might already be available but are poorly communicated or just not visible.

The workshop results will be documented and made available for other universities to foster new approaches when addressing international postdocs.

Dr. Wolfgang Holtkamp, Senior Advisor International Affairs, Universität Stuttgart

Dr. Jörn Benzinger, International Affairs, RUB Research School, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

Moderator: Dr. Sarah Gemicioglu, RUB Research School, Ruhr-Universität Bochum

European Research Funding – European Research Council (ERC) and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) (Webcast)

The European Union's framework program for research and innovation, Horizon 2020, like the forthcoming re-

search framework program, Horizon Europe, offers a variety of funding opportunities for researchers returning to Europe from the United States and Canada. Attractive funding schemes, such as the grants from the European Research Council (ERC) and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), are aimed at postdocs of any discipline.

The workshop provides information on the respective application modalities and offers practical tips on how to apply. In the interactive lecture, a successful applicant and experts from the science scene will report on their experiences, present services, and contact points for internationally mobile researchers. The workshop is aimed at researchers who are interested in funding opportunities in Germany and Europe and would like to find out more about career paths in science. Research managers are also cordially invited to attend the workshop to find out about EU research funding and services.

Dr. Ellen Weißmantel, Prorektorat Forschung, TU Bergakademie Freiberg

Moderator: Dunja Hofmann, Advisor ERC, MSCA – KoWi

10:45 am – 11:45 am EDT

Diversity and Equal Opportunities in Science and the Humanities: Strategies and Actions of Funding and Research Performing Institutions

The promotion of gender equality, diversity and inclusion within science and the humanities is the goal of all funding and research institutions in Germany. In order to bring the potential of all scientists and academics into the research system, and to realize (gender) justice incrementally, the funding and research institutions have and are developing diversity strategies, set up gender-equality programs and have analyzed their portfolio with regard to possible structural obstacles to reduce barriers and increase diversity. The German Research Foundation, the Leibniz Association, the Helmholtz Association, the Fraunhofer Society and the Max Planck Society will present their initiatives and activities related to equal oppor-

tunities, diversity and family-friendly framing conditions in research. We are looking forward to a lively exchange with all participants.

Dr. Sonja Ochsenfeld-Repp, Head of Division, Equal Opportunities, Research Integrity, Cross-Program Development, DFG

Dr. Alexandra Schweiger, Leibniz Mentoring | Equal Opportunities & Diversity, Leibniz Association

Dr. Ines Thronicker, Head of Team Diversity & Inclusion and elected Equal Opportunities Officer, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Helmholtz Association

Nicole Cumia, Deputy Head of HR Marketing, Fraunhofer Society

Frauke Logermann, Lead Manager Talent, Gender & Diversity Affairs, Max Planck Society

Moderator: Veronika Zablotsky, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Sawyer Seminar Sanctuary Spaces: Reworlding Humanism, UCLA Luskin Institute on Inequality and Democracy, University of California, Los Angeles

My Transatlantic Career – Dealing with Pitfalls, Learning from Others

International mobility is an essential component for successful academic careers, but it also places considerable demands on individuals and their private lives.

In this workshop, you will meet three young researchers from the Rhine-Main area who have embarked on a transatlantic career path and who have successfully mastered the transition between North America and Germany. They will tell you about their recipes for success, which could be important for your own career, as well as possible hurdles that you may not have thought of yet. Furthermore, you will find out more about the processes involved and learn about the range of support opportunities offered by the three universities in the Rhine-Main Universities Alliance, all from the individual points of view of the three young scientists.

After the interviews, you will have the opportunity to ask questions to the panelists as well as to the university representatives. Particular issues with regards to the coronavirus crisis will also be discussed.

The aim is to provide postdocs with insights into the experiences of successful young academics in order to encourage them to take this career step and to show them opportunities of support.

We will deal with the following questions, among others:

Which pitfalls can arise during this stage and how can I avoid them?

What support can I expect from the university?

When do I have to take action?

Who are important contacts?

How can I succeed in practically applying my international competences and my extended knowledge after my return to Germany?

How can I make the best use of my networks, maintain them across borders and expand them at my new location?

Our panelists are Emmy Noether fellows, ERC Starting Grant holders, junior professors or young professors at one of the universities of the strategic alliance Rhine-Main Universities (RMU). They themselves have spent a part of their careers in North America and have successfully returned to Germany.

Prof. Dr. Sascha Preu, Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology, TU Darmstadt

Prof. Dr. Lisa Hartung, Institute of Mathematics, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

Dr. Jasmin Hefendehl, BMLS, Goethe University Frankfurt

Moderators: Dr. Frauke Choi, Consultant for Human Resources Development, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, **Katharina Dolata**, Consultant for Early Career Researchers, Goethe University Frankfurt, and **Dr. Bettina Wagner**, Managing Director Ingenium, TU Darmstadt

Saturday, August 29, 2020**10:45 am – 11:45 am EDT****Research in Germany: Opportunities for Post-docs, Young Investigators, and Junior Faculty Members in Germany (Webcast)**

At the heart of Europe, Germany is one of the best destinations for cutting-edge scientific research. Why not consider a research stay or career in Germany starting your independent research group at one of Germany's leading universities or research institutions, or engage in research cooperation with Germany? We invite international doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers as well as junior faculty members to join this event to learn about funding opportunities and special programs to foster independent research careers in Germany. All disciplines are welcome! The workshop is conducted in English and hosted by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH), the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and the German Research Foundation (DFG). German researchers are encouraged to attend a concurrent session.

Benedikt Brisch, Director, DAAD Office North America

Dr. Georg Bechtold, Program Director International Affairs, DFG

Dr. Cathleen S. Fisher, President, American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
