

## EDITORIAL

'Innovation and Continuity' that is our current motto at the community Bremen e.V. The community is changing – that was our message in the last and first newsletter edition. We invited you to participate, and you answered with diverse feedback to our newsletter. Overall, it seems you were quite content, and that is wonderful to hear (and read)! Another way to participate is to be one of our featured alumni in the newsletter ("6 Questions for..."). In this edition, we feature a young alumna who just graduated and landed her first job in Bremen – with the help of another alumnus. We'd love to hear more of your stories, and so does University Chancellor Dr. Martin

Mehrtens. He wants to establish a mentoring program at the University that is tied to our network. In June, he signed the cooperation agreement between the University and our alumni network with our chairman Dr. Tim Neesemann in order to start this network. Another step forward for innovation and continuity in our community! With this in mind, we send you this newsletter as a hopefully interesting read and wish you all a wonderful summer!

*D. Schönfeld*



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"A great ambassador for the University of Bremen"

## University of Bremen extends its contract with community bremen e.V.

The University of Bremen and community Bremen e.V. have been cooperating since 2006 to expand and develop alumni networking at the University. This collaboration is now renewed: University Chancellor Dr. Martin Mehtens and



University Chancellor Dr. Martin Mehtens and community Bremen chairman Dr. Tim Neesemann after signing the contract

community Bremen chairman Dr. Tim Neesemann have signed a new agreement between the university and our network. Both agree that the latest developments in alumni work at the University are showing

positive signals already and look forward to future teamwork. The contract will strengthen the good partnership between alumni and the University of Bremen in the upcoming years, said Neesemann. For University Chancellor Dr.

Martin Mehtens, the alumni network plays an important role in opening doors to the vocational world for the graduates, for example by engaging the alumni as mentors.

## Community Bremen e.V. Supports Students with National Scholarship Program "Deutschlandstipendium"

Since the start of Germany's national scholarship program "Deutschlandstipendium" in summer 2011, more than 400 motivated students have been supported in Bremen. The next intake starts this summer: Students can apply for the scholarship at the University of Bremen until July 31st. Scholars are selected by a jury of professors

and students at the University. In contrast to many other scholarship programs, the decision is not based on good grades alone: Social and societal engagement and personal circumstances, such as raising a child, are taken into consideration as well as a non-academic family or immigrant background.

The University's alumni network is providing

three of the assigned scholarships which include financial assistance with 300 euros per month, as well as an ideational accompanying program. This includes workshops, insights into working environments and the setup of professional networks to prepare the scholars for life after graduation.

## Humans and Robots Work Hand in Hand

Cooperation between humans and robots in industrial production lines is still a difficult task. To ensure workplace safety, they are placed with great distances or are separated by walls. This leads to a high planning effort for production lines and a lower productivity.

A Bremen cooperation is now about to change this. The Technologie-Zentrum Informatik und Informationstechnik (TZI) and the Bremen Institut für Produktion und Logistik (BIBA) at the University of Bremen, neusta mobile solutions and ThyssenKrupp System Engineering GmbH have launched the project "InSA". "We are searching for solutions which enable humans and robots to work hand in hand,"

says TZI Professor Michael Lawo. With the help of sophisticated sensor technology which is integrated into protective wear the safety of workers shall be guaranteed. "The robot needs to recognize a worker and stop or dodge immediately. To perform this action, the robot only has 20 milliseconds – that is a challenge," says Dr. Eckhard Wellbrock who leads the project at ThyssenKrupp System Engineering GmbH, where the prototypes will be tested.

Project "InSA" is supported with 2.2 million euros for three years by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy, in line with the topic area "AUTONOMIK für Industrie 4.0".

## HansePhotonik Moves to LION

LION, the building for Light and Optic Technologies at the University of Bremen, is getting a new addition: The branch office of Hanse Photonik e.V. will move to Bremen. LION also houses the Bremen Institut für angewandte Strahlentechnik (BIAS), whose Head of Institute Dr.-Ing. Frank Vollertsen was elected chairman of HansePhotonik. "I am very happy about the move, it will facilitate expanding our network," says Vollertsen. New manager is Dr.-Ing. Thomas Seefeld.

HansePhotonik, founded twelve years ago, has made its task to connect people who concern them-

selves with photonic technologies, the basics and applications of optic processes and technologies. "We want to offer a membership for pupils and students to support young talents," says Vollertsen. A new information service will also provide regular updates about news and job offers.



New chairman of HansePhotonik and Director of BIAS, Dr.-Ing. Frank Vollertsen

## 6 QUESTIONS FOR ...

In each newsletter we will ask six questions to one alumnus about their time in Bremen.

In this edition we asked Cornelia Gutsche to answer. Would you like to answer our six questions as well?

Contact our office at [alumni@uni-bremen.de](mailto:alumni@uni-bremen.de)



Cornelia Gutsche graduated in 2013 from the Master program "Medienkultur" (Media Culture) at the University of Bremen. Since then she is responsible for communication and marketing strategies at EuropaChor-Akademie Projekt GmbH. She takes a look back at her past at the University of Bremen for us.

### 1. When did you study at the University of Bremen, and why did you choose Bremen?

In 2010, I started my studies at the Institute for Historic Journalism, Communication and Media Studies at the University of Bremen. Especially the mentoring program as well as the familial

atmosphere appealed to me. The program also offered a good combination of practice and theory – this was important to me.

### 2. What is your most important memory of the University of Bremen?

With the University, I mostly associate the people I met here. My fellow students and lecturers came from various professional and geographical backgrounds. That made seminar discussions very interesting. Another defining aspect for me was my thesis, for which I had to work my way into a new topic. I received really great supervision from my professors so I could take my time for new topics while also working efficiently.

### 3. Who or what influenced your career the most?

Again, it was the people I met – I got new ideas and perspectives, especially through two lecturers who also were my bosses at that time. I learned a lot, particularly in the practical field, and made contacts which helped me start my professional career after graduation.

### 4. What is your advice for students at the University of Bremen?

You should try to find your own way despite formal curricula! There are so many exciting seminars in all programs at the University and I regret to this day I did not attend them. You should also check out cooperation partners of the University – especially the creative branch in Bremen offers lots of really interesting people and projects.

### 5. What do you connect with the University of Bremen? Please complete the sentence: "The University of Bremen is..."

...diverse, cozy, chaotic, high quality, international, demanding and exciting.

„With the University, I mostly associate the people I met here“

### 6. What does community bremen e.V. mean to you? Please complete the sentence: „Community bremen e.V. is to me...“

...a chance to exchange experiences, to maintain relationships to fellow students and lecturers and to expand my professional and personal network.

## Save the Date: community bremen e.V. Member's Meeting

The 9th member meeting of community bremen e.V. takes place on October 23rd 2014. Check your emails to get all the details a few weeks in advance.

## Uni-Rector at Universia International Meeting in Rio

**1.100 universities from 46 countries: It is going to be the largest education congress of all times. The III. Universia International Meeting of University rectors takes place on July 28th and 29th 2014 in Rio de Janeiro. The University of Bremen is represented by Rector Professor Bernd Scholz-Reiter.**

Universia is a worldwide university network initiated by Banco Santander, who also supports projects at the University of Bremen. The meeting aims to connect Iberian universities to worldwide top universities. Rector Professor Bernd Scholz-Reiter says: "This is an excellent opportunity to make the University of Bremen even more visible in Latin America. We can make new contacts and prepare new cooperations."

The motto of the meeting is "The University of the 21st Century: An Observation from the Latin American Perspective." There will also be speeches by representatives of five international top universities, among them Yale and Oxford University (USA) as well as the German University of Heidelberg.

## University Hosts Two Summer Universities for Women

The University of Bremen provides two summer universities for women in informatics or engineering, both students and professionals: The "Ingenieurinnen-Sommeruni", the International Engineering Summer University, takes place on August 11-22nd 2014, followed by the 17th Informatica Feminale on August 18-29th 2014.

The summer universities offer more than 60 courses from engineering and informatics as well as workshops on profession and career. Excursions to institutes of the University of

Bremen and to regional companies are also available.

The program is directed towards both (prospective) students and professionals who are looking for further education and networking. Free childcare is provided for the whole duration of the summer universities.

Registration is open until July 25th 2014.

For more information, please visit [www.ingenieurinnen-sommeruni.de](http://www.ingenieurinnen-sommeruni.de) and [www.informatica-feminale.de](http://www.informatica-feminale.de).

## community bremen e.V. on Facebook and YouTube

A new editorial team is providing the latest news and videos from community Bremen e.V.: Christoph Sodemann, board member of the community, the University's social media manager Jacqueline Sprindt and student assistant Yvonne Asendorf are keeping the

community's Facebook page and YouTube channel up to date.

Visit us on:

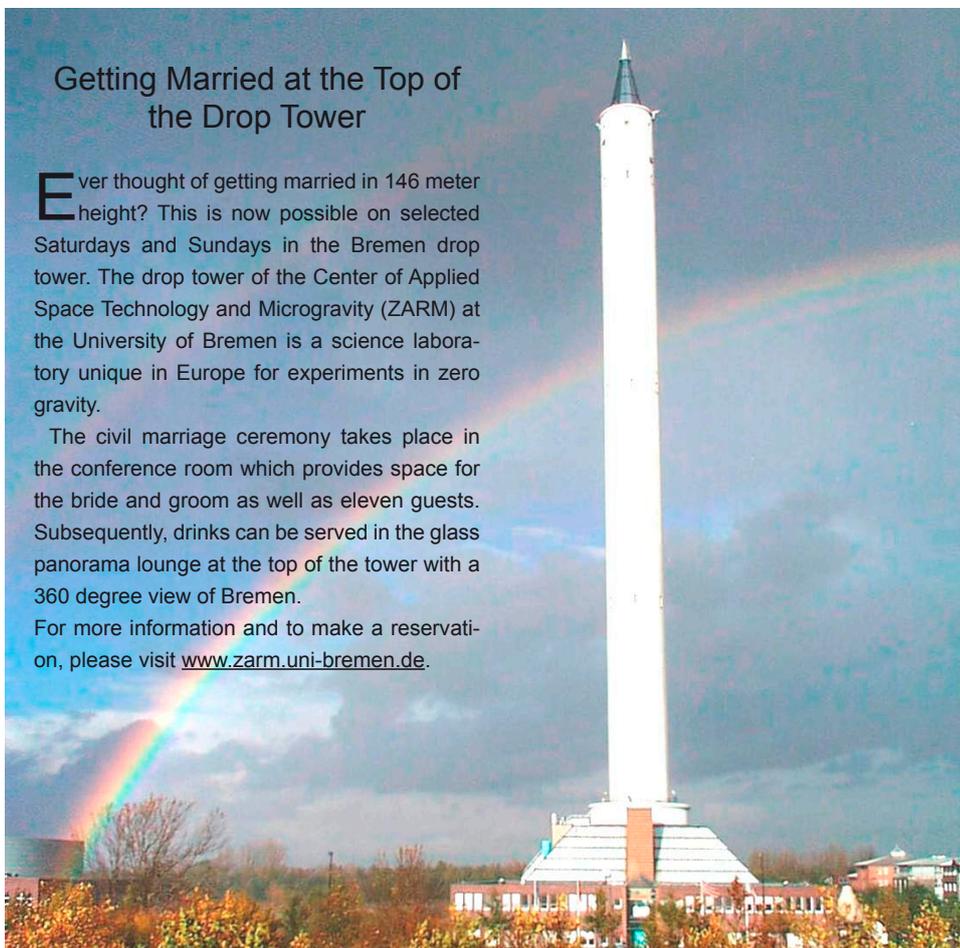
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[www.youtube.com/unibremenalumni](http://www.youtube.com/unibremenalumni)

## Getting Married at the Top of the Drop Tower

Ever thought of getting married in 146 meter height? This is now possible on selected Saturdays and Sundays in the Bremen drop tower. The drop tower of the Center of Applied Space Technology and Microgravity (ZARM) at the University of Bremen is a science laboratory unique in Europe for experiments in zero gravity.

The civil marriage ceremony takes place in the conference room which provides space for the bride and groom as well as eleven guests. Subsequently, drinks can be served in the glass panorama lounge at the top of the tower with a 360 degree view of Bremen.

For more information and to make a reservation, please visit [www.zarm.uni-bremen.de](http://www.zarm.uni-bremen.de).



### Richard Owen Award

Dr. Jens Lehmann received the Richard Owen Award for his research on cretaceous fossils and their comparison with continental Europe. The Bremen paleontologist is the first scientist outside of Great Britain to receive the award. It is given by the Palaeontographical Society for research specifically on the fossil fauna and flora on the British Isles.



Since 2000, Lehmann has been Head of the Geoscientific Collection of the Department of Geosciences at the University of Bremen.

### Friedrich Hirzebruch Award

Dr. Manuel Kleiner, researcher at the Bremen Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology (MPI), received the Friedrich Hirzebruch Award from the German National Academic Foundation. It is endowed with 5.000 euros. The biologist received the award for his dissertation "Metabolism and evolutionary ecology of chemosynthetic symbionts from marine invertebrates" which he completed with "summa cum laude" at the University of Bremen.

### DDG Advancement Award

Dr. Amin Ardestani, scientist at the Centre for Biomolecular Interactions Bremen (CBIB) in the Department of Biology/Chemistry at the University of Bremen, received the Advancement Award of the Deutsche Diabetes Gesellschaft (DDG), the German diabetes society. The prize is endowed with 10.000 euros. Ardestani was honored for his studies on insulin-producing beta cells of the pancreas.



### Computing Leaderbord 2013

Dmitry Feichtner-Kozlov, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Bremen, was placed third on the Association for Computing Machinery's list for the best publications on computing in the world. His book is titled "Distributed Computing through Combinatorial Topology." Feichtner-Kozlov has been teaching algebra and geometry since 2007 in the department of Mathematics and Informatics at the University of Bremen.

## Bremen Scientist Honored for his Work in Social Sciences

Professor Stephan Leibfried received the Schader Preis 2014, endowed with 15.000 euros, for his research on the welfare state. The senate of the Schader foundation awards social scientists who have contributed to the solution of societal problems with their work and public function. "Especially remarkable are Leibfried's diverse efforts to connect theory and practice", says senate member Professor Jutta Allmendinger.

Leibfried is professor for social politics and social administration in social pedagogy at the University of Bremen since 1974. In 1988, he was one of the founders of the Centre for Social Politics. In 2001, he founded the Graduate School of Social Sciences as a basis for Interdisciplinary Social-Scientific Postgraduate Education. The Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS) was an important factor in the successful application of the University of Bremen as a "University of Excellence."

Since 2001, Leibfried teaches political sciences with a focus on analysis of policies and social policy in the Department of Social Sciences. In 2012 he was also given a bridge professorship at the Jacobs University Bremen.

"This award for our colleague Stephan Leibfried documents once more the variety of exceptional personalities across the disciplines in this university," says Rector Professor Bernd Scholz-Reiter.



Prof. Dr. Joachim-Felix Leonhard, foundation board leader, Prof. Dr. Leibfried, Stifter Alois M. Schader and Laudatorin Prof. Dr. Anne Peters.

Photo: Christoph Rau/Schader-Stiftung

## Bremen Production Engineer Awarded „Lifetime Achievement Award“

The European Society for Precision Engineering and Nanotechnology (euspen) honored Bremen Professor Ekkard Brinksmeier with the "Lifetime Achievement Award." It is given to scientists who have rendered outstanding services to the goals of the organization. "Brinksmeier has supported our causes as the organizer of the euspen International Conference in Bremen in 1999 and 2007 as a board member, as the initiator of the junior competition "euspen Challenge" and as the president of our Society", says current euspen president Dr. Wolfgang Knapp. "His research has also significantly

and sustainably helped the field of precision and nanotechnology."

Ekkard Brinksmeier is founding member and first Fellow of euspen, which today has more than 500 members. At the University of Bremen, Brinksmeier chairs the field of manufacturing processes in the Department of Production Engineering as well as the Laboratory for Precision Machining. He is also director at the main department of manufacturing techniques at the foundation "Stiftung Institut für Werkstofftechnik" and has received several awards such as the Leibniz Award of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft.

## Jump Start for International Alumni Work

Raising friends from “Welcome Day” to “Farewell Day” to gain new ambassadors on different career levels: That is the University’s winning concept in the competition “Forscher-Alumni-Strategien” – scientist alumni strategies.

The competition was created by the foundation Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung. 600.000 euros were awarded to 16 universities all over Germany in three categories: Univer-

sities and research institutions who are about to start alumni work (30.000 euros each), those who have already started activities in the field (60.000 euros each) and those who present excellent strategies in their ongoing alumni work (30.000 euros each). The University of Bremen presented its concept in the first category and received 30.000 euros each for the university and its Zentrum für Marine Tropenökologie (ZMT).

## Farewell BBQ for International Students



Together with the Erasmus Initiative the International Office invited international students to a farewell barbecue. About 150 guest students came together for a relaxed celebration of the end of semester. On this occasion, Dr. Annette Lang, Head of International Office, honored Erasmus student Oliver Gunsch from Bozen, Italy, for his exceptional engagement during his Erasmus year.

## “A great ambassador for the University of Bremen”

**Master Student Receives DAAD-Award 2014 for International Students**

Simón Algorta is among the top 10 percent of students at the University of Bremen and has distinguished himself with two publications presented at International Conferences on Medical Informatics. Now he received the DAAD Award 2014 for international students from the Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst (DAAD), the German Academic Exchange Service. Algorta developed a multi touch table which enables patients with



limited speech abilities to communicate with physicians. He collected donations to build a prototype which got tested in a hospital in his hometown Bogotá, Colombia. The award is endowed with 1.000 euros and honors exceptional academic, societal and intercultural achievements of international students. Professor Andreas Breiter, supervisor for Algorta’s master project, says: “He is a great ambassador for the University of Bremen and its headline goals in societal responsibility and dedication to the civil society.

## International Strategy: Focus China

The expansion of the strategic region China is successful: The University of Bremen is already cooperating with the Dalian University of Technology (Dalian, China) in the fields of Logistics, Philosophy and Electro Mobility. To support student exchange, a group of Chinese students will be visiting Bremen in December. The relations with Tongji University in Shanghai will be strengthened as well: A Bremen Alumnus, today professor in Shanghai, is initiating a cooperation between Bremen and Tongji University.

### About:

All of the used pictures in the Newsletter are taken from the University of Bremen’s press office, if not marked different.

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