

## Review 2016

Looking back at 2016, the Centre for Young Scientist (ZfWN) can draw an overall positive balance. A total of 27 workshops took place. All of them addressing PhD students, PostDocs and junior professors with the goal of supporting, advising and encouraging them in the pursuit of their doctoral thesis, scientific work or career planning. In addition to the German workshop programme, 13 of these workshops were held in English. Main topics for this year's workshop were:

- Academic writing
- Presenting scientific content
- Scientific publishing
- Research projects & acquisition of external funds
- Performance, expression and effect
- Personal skills
- Intercultural competences
- Career after the doctorate

Eight of the workshops were organized within the project InProTUC. [InProTUC \(International Promovieren an der TU Chemnitz\)](#) is located at the ZfWN and funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The project supports doctoral candidates of Chemnitz University of Technology as well as international PhDs in terms of realising international research visits, insight visits as well as conferences attendances aboard (so called mobilities) by paying travel and subsistence allowances. In addition to the mentioned workshop programme, two information events were hosted in 2016 during which InProTUC and its funding opportunities were presented under the title „Boost your Career with International Experience“.

Over the entire year, a total of 20 research visits abroad, six research visits by international students at Chemnitz University of Technology as well as 25 participations of doctoral candidates at international conferences were funded under InProTUC. Additionally, one insight visit at Chemnitz University of Technology was realised. Furthermore, preparatory meetings with lecturers of potential partner institutions took place. Six lectures from Italy, Thailand, India, Chile, Norway and the US came together with their German colleagues in Chemnitz in order to plan and organise joint research, further cooperation and international exchange.

In addition to the mobilities and the workshop programme, the ZfWN hosts a yearly conference on the topic of the doctorate. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2016, the [Day for Young Scientists](#) was held for the fourth time. Among the 120 guest were doctoral students, PostDocs, professors and junior professors as well as students interested in pursuing a doctorate. They attended a number of informative and professional presentations from lecturers, experts in fields of economy and research and doctoral students themselves. One of the speakers was Prof. Dr. Robert Schlögl from Fritz-Haber-Institute of the Max-Planck-Society. Besides the presentations, the event left room for networking and sharing experiences and ended with a Science Slam during which four contestants competed again each other with 7 minute long presentations trying to excite the audience for their own research topics.

In 2016, the [Yearbook of the Graduates](#) was published. It names all the PhD graduates from 2014 and 2015 and presents a few selected dissertations from the eight faculties of Chemnitz University of Technology.

Furthermore, the ZfwN organised the kick-off session of the Graduate School [Human Factors: Information, Assistance, Automation](#) on 26<sup>th</sup> Mai 2016. The focus of the Graduate School lays on different cooperation designs about the use of advances technical systems. More than 30 guests attended the presentations by professors from Chemnitz University of Technology, doctoral students from the Graduate School and Prof. Dr. Karel A. Brookhuis from University of Groningen (Netherlands).

In order to ensure the quality of the services provided by the ZfwN, the evaluation of workshops and mobilities by the participants are standard. Additionally, a survey for doctoral students, PostDocs and students of the Chemnitz University of Technology was done in October. Subject of the inquiry were participants experiences with the ZfwN, their questions about PhD programme, career planning and their feedback for the ZfwN. Thanks to a large turnout, the results will be used by the ZfwN to improve and adjust their offerings.

At the end of 2016, a personal change took place at the ZfwN. Prof. Dr. Heinrich Lang was superseded as the director of the Centre for Young Scientists by Prof. Dr. Jörn Ihlemann.