Review 2015

Reviewing the year 2015, the Centre for Young Scientists (ZfwN) has an overall positive outcome. The ZfwN successfully conducted 17 workshops with the goal to support doctoral candidates, postdocs and junior professors in the process of their doctorate and/or in their scientific carriers. The main focus of the workshops is summarized as follows:

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

Furthermore, workshops on Good Scientific Practice, Networking and Teaching were offered. The workshops on the development of personal skills were highly demanded: Improved Reading, Time-Management as well as Planning the Doctorate only to name few.

The courses were mostly held in German (14 out of 17 workshops), three were carried out in English. In total 180 people participated in the workshops and over 95% of them were satisfied or very satisfied and would recommend the course.

In 2015, the Day for Young Scientists took place for the third time. On the 19th November lectures on good scientific practice by Prof. Dr. Brigitte Jockusch (Ombudswoman for science of Deutsche Forschungsgesellschaft) and on structured doctorate by Prof. Dr. Bernadette Malinowski (dean of the Faculty of Humanities at TU Chemnitz) were held. Between presentations, the young academics had the chance to network with each other as well as with the speakers.

InProTUC (International Promovieren an der TU Chemnitz) is a project located at the ZfwN and funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The project supports doctoral candidates of the TU Chemnitz as well as international PhDs in terms of realizing international research visits, insight visits as well as conferences attendances aboard (so called mobilities) by paying travel and subsistence allowances. In 2015, InProTUC supported 72 of those mobilities, among them 25 research visits (21 aboard and four at the TU Chemnitz). Furthermore, 47 doctoral students attended conferences abroad with the support of the project. In terms of training, InProTUC was able to expand the range of courses available also for international doctoral candidates. Five of the courses were held in English and two in German. There was a high demand for courses in the field of international research cooperation. Topics ranged from scientific publishing and Designing Academic posters to the development of professional networks.
Furthermore, the graduate school "Human Factors: Information, Assistance, Automation" was established on 1st July, 2015 under the umbrella of the ZiwN followed by an internal kick-off event on 3rd July allowing an exchange between professors and doctoral candidates. Doctoral candidates can become members of the graduate school if their research is interdisciplinary and touches the fields media, demography, mobility/autonomic driving and production with production assistance systems. Several conferences were attended by the members of the graduate school where doctoral candidates got to present their own projects and to discuss those with other researchers. Also, external speakers were invited to TU Chemnitz to encourage and supplement the discourse on site.