

## EDITORIAL

Dear University of Bremen alumni,



In the first issue of our newsletter in 2015, I am proud to report on the awards our university has received and successes it has generated. In addition, you will find information on the event of our new format „Networking by, for and with alumni“. On January 21, many of you took advantage of the opportunity to take a look at the excellence cluster „MARUM“ at the University of Bremen. We are exceptionally pleased how well the series kicked off and look forward to offering further events in the course of this year.

Perhaps you have already noticed that we have had a new website since December? At [www.uni-bremen.de/alumni](http://www.uni-bremen.de/alumni), you can find even more information from the association and the university.

I hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and hope to personally welcome you to one of our events in 2015.

With kind regards



Derk Schönfeld  
Managing Director Community Bremen e.V.

## Start-up support at the University of Bremen is exemplary

**A** national comparison on university support for start-ups showed that support for start-ups at the University of Bremen is archetypal. The Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft, a business community initiative which advocates long-term improvements in the German educational and research landscape, confirmed Bremen's role model in its most recent Gründungsradar, an annual analysis on how well German universities support students and professor develop new products and launch their own start-ups. A prime example of such success is that all three of this year's applicants for EXIST research transfer funding received the fun-

ding they require - totaling approx. € 1.6 million.

The start-up teams received support from the Bremen University Initiative BRIDGE, in drafting their applications. The start-up network managed the applications in cooperation with UniTransfer, the transfer office at the University of Bremen and the Bremen patent utilization agency InnoWi GmbH. „We are thrilled to have been a part of this impressive success. All of the teams took an important step towards starting innovative technology companies. And we will, of course, continue to support them on this pathway,“ says Dr. Martin Heinlein from UniTransfer and Directing Manager of BRIDGE.

## Facebook News

**F**or English-speaking students, employees and alumni, the University of Bremen Facebook page is now available in English: [www.facebook.com/unibremen](http://www.facebook.com/unibremen)

The alumni network community Bremen e.V. Facebook page also offers regular news for alumni at [www.facebook.com/unibrema-alumni](http://www.facebook.com/unibrema-alumni).

## New online radio

**C**urrent news – direct from the campus: KROSSE.fm the university's new Internet radio station provides you with the latest campus news as it happens.

The pilot broadcast is now available on the KROSSE.fm website and in a few weeks, the station will be on air regularly, run by students:

<http://krosse.info/krosse-fm/>

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## „Networking by, for and with alumni“ had a successful start



The participants of the MARUM visit.

**T**he new series, „Networking by, for and with alumni 2015“ from community bremen e.V. had a successful start with a tour of the Zentrum für Marine Umweltwissenschaften (Center for Marine Environmental Sciences), for short,

MARUM. Albert Gerdes, press spokesmen for the MARUM, showed the alumni the exciting world of deep-sea research. Following the tour, the alumni talked about the MARUM and the university at a get-together. You can find a photographic review of the event at [www.uni-bremen.de/alumni](http://www.uni-bremen.de/alumni). You can find the next alumni events [HERE](#).

# 6 QUESTIONS FOR...

In every newsletter, we ask a member six questions about his or her time in Bremen. For this issue, we interviewed Michael Kölling. If you would also like to appear in this section, please contact Jacqueline Sprindt at the office at [alumni@uni-bremen.de](mailto:alumni@uni-bremen.de)

**M**ichael Kölling studied computer sciences at the University of Bremen and earned his doctorate at Sydney University. He works in Australia, Denmark and England. He is currently a Professor of Computer Science at the School of Computing, University of Kent.

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

I studied Computer Sciences in Bremen from 1986 to 1992. I was already living in Bremen before I started studying, so the fact that it was in my home city was a factor. In addition, the sociological orientation of the course of studies was also important to me: We spent more time discussing the socio-political and social aspects of computer sciences than was common at other universities.

„The University of Bremen is the place where I found my „calling“.“

## 2. What was your most important experience at the University of Bremen?

The individual professors were the most important thing. Frider Nake and Wolfgang Coy for instance. I always enjoyed attending their lec-

tures because they went beyond the pure content-related subject matter. From political remarks and connections to other fields of knowledge, they showed was a real academic should be: not just a specialist in their discipline, but a person who thinks in general, who is curious and enjoys knowledge and education.

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

The project-based course of studies and my work as a student assistant brought me into contact with Professor Leslie Keedy who encouraged me to go to Australia after my undergraduate degree. That turned into ten years in Sydney and Melbourne, with a PhD and the entry into my own academic career.

## 4. What would you like to pass on to students at the University of Bremen?

I can only recommend that current students talk to their professors and seek work in their departments. Spend your time doing what really interests you (and that is hopefully the subject



Professor Matthias Kölling

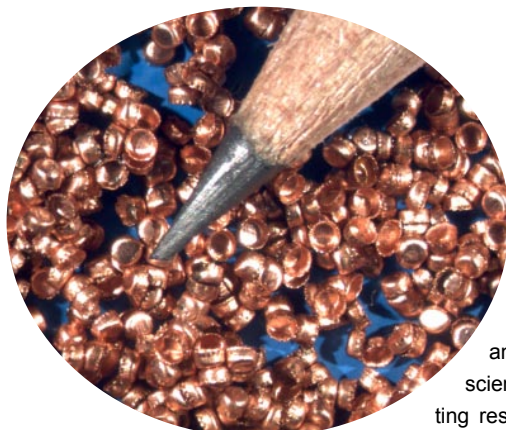
you are studying!) I would also recommend that everyone go abroad. And not just for a vacation! At least for a few months to study or work. Your view of the world, cultures and people around you change when you have spent some living as an immigrant in another culture.

## 5. What do you think about the University of Bremen? Complete this sentence: „The University of Bremen is...“

... the place where I found my „calling“. I know „calling“ sounds grandiose and pretentious, but I can't think of a better word. What I mean is, that during my time at the University of Bremen, I realized what I want to do with the career part of my life. I found something that is fun for me and that is worth investing my energy in.“

## 6. What does community bremen e.V. mean to you? Complete this sentence: „For me, community bremen e.V. is...“

... a chance to stay in contact with the University of Bremen.“



©BIAS  
Size comparison: A pencil lead surrounded by micro components

## Third funding phase for the special research field 747 approved

**S**ince 2007, approximately 50 scientists from the fields of production technology, physics/electro-technology and mathematics/computer sciences have been conducting research at the University of Bremen in the special engineering research field, 747 „micro cold forming“. Now the Deutsche For-

schungsgemeinschaft approved the last, four-year funding phase. „The approval of the third and final funding phase is an honor for our university,“ university rector, Professor Bernd Scholz-Reiter says enthusiastically. In the context of this special research field, with a total of 11.2 million euros in funding, small components, their production processes and corre-

sponding tools are analyzed and methods sought to optimize components, e. g. for use in mobile telephones and navigation devices and hearing aids.

In the third funding period, 18 sub-projects work on developing the knowledge gained to date regarding the entire process chain in so-called micro-forming technology so it is ready for the industry.

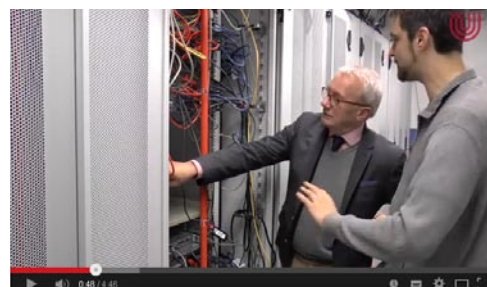
## The university opens the new green IT housing center

The construction took two years and now it is finished: the Green IT Housing Center at the University of Bremen. The facility was built on 570 square meters and is currently unique in the German university landscape. The computer infrastructure of the University of Bremen and the non-university research institutes is no longer distributed across the university campus and perimeter, but is now consolidated in one building with state-of-the-art equipment. Around 5 million euros were invested in the structure. However, the energy savings will amortize the investment within four years due to. Per year, the Green IT Housing Center will save approximately 3.6 million kilowatt hours of electricity, thus reducing (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions by around 2,000 tons. A special cooling technology makes a significant contribution to the energy savings:

The cold air from outside is drawn in for around nine months during the year and is used for cooling. During the rest of the year, waste heat is drawn from the Bremen waste incineration system. The heat is then converted to cold in an absorption cooling system.

Different work groups and facilities can house their own computers in the new building. „At the hosting center, the computer owners use the resources we provide which, in this form, they would have been only capable of implementing at a very high financial expense. We offer an extremely high level of security with regard to the power supply and cooling, as well as a very high level of fire safety,“ says Markus Germeier. He manages the university's „Zentrum für Netze“ (networking center) which operates the green IT housing

center. Dr. Martin Mehrtens, Chancellor of the University of Bremen knows the center is not only interesting for the university work groups: „The housing center is a cooperative platform for all of the science facilities in the state of Bremen that want to use the excellent opportunities offered by the green IT housing center.“



An online tour of the new Green IT Housing Center can be found on <http://youtu.be/L-FLnFn8R0>.

## New trans-regional research group approved

The DFG (German Research Association) approved a new trans-regional research group in December 2014. Chemists, physicists and engineers at the Universities of Bremen and Oldenburg, the Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg and the Free University of Berlin will conduct research over the next three years under the supervision of the University of Bremen. The project „Nanoporous Gold – A Prototype for a Rational Design of Catalysts“ will focus on the use of nanoporous gold as a new catalyst material and will receive over two million euros in funding from the DFG.

The goal of the trans-regional group, consisting of a total of nine work groups, is to further develop research on both a national and an international level and to expand the current leading position.

## Bringing history to the stage

A dramatic reading from the „Aus den Akten auf die Bühne“ (From Files to Stage) will be held on February 18, 2015 at 7:30 pm at the Forum Kirche on Hollerallee. In this series, students from the Institute for Historical Science at the University of Bremen develop and perform dramatic readings from original historical documents in cooperation the Bremen Shakespeare Company.

Entry: 6.00/reduced 4.00 euros

Tickets can be purchased at the box office.

Additional information:

[www.sprechende-akten.de](http://www.sprechende-akten.de)

## Alumni events

The next event in the Alumni event series will be on February 26, 2015: „**Excellence in 60 minutes**“. This new format brings together four scientists who are funded with resources from the excellence initiative. It gives them the opportunity to introduce themselves and their work.

In the context of a mix of topics from natural and technological sciences and questions from the social sciences and humanities, they report on their research at the University of Bremen. After initial presentations the venue concludes with a get-together. We have organized specially marked tables for alumni where they can sit and catch up.

**Date:** Thursday, 2/26/2015

**Time:** 6:00 PM

**Location:** Bremen Chamber of Commerce

**ATTENTION:** The number of participants is not limited. We still request you register via email ([alumni@uni-bremen.de](mailto:alumni@uni-bremen.de)) or telephone (0421/218-69777).

On March 4, 2015, the alumni association has been invited to the Bremischen Bürgerschaft (**Bremen State Parliament**). Alumnus and member of the Bremen Bürgerschaft (State Parliament) Andreas Kottisch will show the participants the „high house“ of Bremen. After the tour, a discussion with representatives from all of the factions in the Bremen State Parliament on the topic of „The regional economic significance of universities, in particular, the University of Bremen“ with Andreas Kottisch (SPD), Jörg Kastendiek (CDU), Ral-

ph Saxe (Grüne) and Klaus Rupp (Linke) is planned.

The subsequent get-together in a nearby restaurant gives the alumni the opportunity to have interesting conversations with other participants and network.

**Date:** Wednesday, 3/4/2015

**Time:** 5:30 pm (get-together from 7:00 pm)

**Location:** Bremische Bürgerschaft

**ATTENTION:** The number of participants is limited to 50 persons. Please register via email ([alumni@uni-bremen.de](mailto:alumni@uni-bremen.de)) or telephone (0421/218-69777). Please also RSVP as to whether you will attend the get-together.

On May 9, we have a new event: **Career counseling** for professional experienced alumni. In an interactive workshop (pulse lectures, practical exercises and discussions) with an experienced coach and a Placer (formerly Headhunter) of „c-level42“ three central questions will be answered: „What suits me professionally?“, „How to build a private label?“ and „How do I find a new job?“ In addition to these issues, which are animated in the forum and working groups, there will be room for individual questions and networking.

**Date:** Saturday, May 9, 2015, 10-15 Clock

**Location:** University of Bremen

**NOTE:** The number of participants is limited to 30 people. Please register via email ([alumni@uni-bremen.de](mailto:alumni@uni-bremen.de)) or telephone (0421 / 218-69777). There will be a fee of 10 €. If available, bring your laptop / tablet.

## Bremen computer scientist internationally honored

Prof. Rolf Drechsler, university instructor for computer architecture in the computer sciences department at the University of Bremen was awarded the „IEEE Fellow“ award. The IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) is the largest global professional association of electro-technology and computer engineers and is honoring Prof. Drechsler „for his contributions to testing and verification of electronic circuits“.

The „IEEE Fellow“ honorary membership is awarded by the IEEE to persons who perform exceptionally in their field of expertise and is the highest degree a member of the association can achieve. Only so many people can be selected per year so the total number does not exceed 0.1% of the members with voting rights.

Rolf Drechsler came to Bremen in 2001 and, in addition to working as a university instructor at the University of Bremen from 2008 to 2013,

he also worked as Vice President of Research and Young Scientists. He was instrumental in the success of the excellence initiative at the University of Bremen. Drechsler is also a speaker in the post-graduate program „System Design“ (SyDe) which he co-founded in the framework of the excellence initiative at the University of Bremen. In addition, since 2011, he has managed the cyber-physical systems research department at the Deutsche Forschungszentrum für Künstliche Intelligenz (German Research Center

for Artificial Intelligence) and has been a joint editor of the IEEE magazine, „Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems“ since the beginning of 2014.



## Award for exemplary environmental protection

In 2014, the University of Bremen successfully took the final hurdle in obtaining EMAS validation for the tenth time in a row. EMAS („Eco Management and Audit Scheme“) is the most sophisticated system in the world for sustainable environmental management and includes all activities and products that impact the environment. In December 2014, the university was honored from the highest offices for its exemplary commitment to environmental protection: Federal Minister of the Environment, Dr. Barbara Hendriks honored the University of Bremen

at the Federal Department of the Environment in Berlin as one of 20 organizations. The finalists were selected by a panel including the German Chambers of Industry and Commerce, the Federal Environmental Agency, the Environmental Advisory Committee and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

For the environmental protection manager of the University of Bremen, Dr. Doris Sövegjarto-Wigbers, EMAS a voluntary, but very important measure: „The university feels obligated to act

in an environmentally-friendly manner; it is one of our key objectives. But we don't just rest on the laurels of our success; actually quite the opposite. We are currently working on a climate protection concept with the objective of reducing CO2 emissions.“

In Germany, there are approximately 1,800 companies with an environmental management system certified in accordance with EMAS; only 18 of them are universities.

## Certificate of achievement for Professor Yasemin Karakaşoğlu

As part of her everyday work, the Vice President for Interculturality and Internationality at the University of Bremen, Yasemin Karakaşoğlu, addresses integration through education in Bremen and the opportunities, which migration-related diversity of languages, religions and cultures offer for the future of our society. She has now been awarded with a certificate of achievement from the Zentrum für Migranten und interkulturelle Studien e.V. (Center for Migrants and Intercultural Studies) for her many years of advocating integration of people with migration backgrounds into German society.

Dr. Yasemin Karakaşoğlu teaches „Intercultural Education“ in the Education and Pedagogic Sciences Department at the University of Bremen. In 2013, she joined the competence team for the SPD chancellor candidate, Peer Steinbrück during the parliamentary elections. In the past year, she received the German Dialog Prize and was also honored as a Bremen diversity personality.



Dr. Döris Sövegjarto (left) receives the Award from Federal Environment Minister Dr. Barbara Hendriks in Berlin.

## Chilean ambassador visits University of Bremen

The new ambassador from Chile, H.E. Mariano Fernández Amunátegui, was greeted at the Bremen City Hall at the end of January for his official inaugural visit. He was already the country's foreign minister during the first term of President Michelle Bachelet and has now taken the opportunity to visit the University of Bremen. The Vice President for Interculturality and Internationality, Prof. Dr. Yasemin Karakaşoğlu invited him, as the University of Bremen is closely tied to the most recent history of Chile. After the military putsch in 1973

active support for victims of persecution, including support from official committees in the university administration. In the framework of special edicts, scientists and students that had to leave Chile were employed by the University of Bremen or enrolled at the university using a simplified process. Thus, many refugees were able to build a new life in Bremen and find a new home.

On campus, the ambassador visited the bust of Pablo Neruda and then the mural on the GW1 building at the University of Bremen

- a wall painting created by a group of artists as part of a project from the Art Studies Department as an expression of solidarity with the resistance in Chile.

He also took advantage of the opportunity to take a tour of the exhibition of the creation of the mural in GW1 at the University of Bremen, led by the director of the archive, Ms. Dauks.



The Ambassador also visited the Mural at GW1

and during the military dictatorship, the University of Bremen expressed solidarity and provided

## The University of Bremen is now member of the Young European Research Universities Network



The representatives of nearly 20 outstanding European research universities met in Brussels in January.

At the beginning of January, nearly 20 universities from all over Europe met in Brussels. All universities had one thing in common: All of them were founded less than 50 years ago and have meanwhile developed into exceptional universities which is evidenced by their corresponding placements in the relevant university ranking lists.

The University of Bremen, along with the Universities of

Antwerp and Maastricht, the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, the Brunel University London and other partners, are founding members of the network.

The objective is not only to intensify the exchange between students and scientists and initiate joint research projects, but also to discuss the current issues in university management and learn from each other.

## „Campus International“ 2014 award goes to Moussa Dieng and the Erasmus initiative at the University of Bremen

Last December, the Vice President for Interculturality and Internationality, Professor Dr. Yasemin Karakaşoğlu was awarded the „Campus International“ prize for the second time. This award honors the University for its volunteering activities aimed at internationalizing the university. In 2014, the „Campus International“ prize, endowed with 1,000 euros, was awarded to two prize winners: Moussa Dieng, director of a re-

fugee house was awarded the prize for his initiative enabling refugees the opportunity to attend classes at the University of Bremen. The Erasmus-Initiative der Universität Bremen e.V. (Erasmus Initiative at the University of Bremen) received the prize for its commitment to supporting visiting students.



Professor Yasemin Karakaşoğlu (fourth from left) passed the award „International Campus“ in December 2014.

### About:

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

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