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International Graduate School for Science and Engineering
Technische Universität München



June 2023

IGSSE Newsmail

Dear IGSSE members,

After two years of online events, we were finally able to hold our annual [IGSSE Forum](#) from 22nd – 24th of May in person at the TUM Science and Study Center Raitenhaslach. A huge thank you to all of you who were able to attend and contribute to making this year's IGSSE Forum a great success! We hope that you had three great days full of networking, learning, reflection, insights and fun in the historic monastery of Raitenhaslach. For all others: the date for next year's forum is already fixed!

For those of you who cannot wait to meet your fellow doctoral candidates and researchers- the second half of 2023 still offers plenty of opportunities as the dates for this year's [Martini Colloquium](#), a networking event for our PIs and Postdocs, and the [I³ Workshops](#) are already set.

Are you interested in representing your fellow doctoral candidates together with [Vivian Papadopoulou](#) at the TUM Graduate Council? We are still looking for a second and a third [IGSSE doctoral speaker for the term 2023-2024!](#) We are also very happy to share that on 15th June, 2023 the new [IGSSE call](#) for applications for the International Project Teams program was published. Please share the call with your colleagues and all who might be interested in applying.

And last but not least, we want to bring you closer to the research projects of our doctoral candidates. For this, we wish to share [the stay abroad report](#) from Fabian Jodeit who completed a five-month research stay at KNUST in Ghana last year.

Your IGSSE-Team

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From IGSSE

A recap of the IGSSE Forum 2023



Panel guests and moderators from left to right: Stephanie Tumampos, Dr. Michael Klimke, Dr. Jeanne Rubner, Prof. Stefan Wallentowitz, Dr. Carlos Härtel and Vicente Pons Marti; copyright @IGSSE.

With over 100 doctoral and postdoctoral participants, our very first in person IGSSE Forum since the start of the pandemic was a huge success! Besides various workshops and talks on start-ups and career planning, this year's IGSSE Forum had a strong focus on different ways of science communication. Day 1 of the Forum started with a panel discussion on the topic "Beyond the Doctorate – what comes next?" where our four panelists shared their individual experiences and thoughts on different career paths and the right moment for career decisions.

Another highlight was our poster competition, which followed an entire different concept this year. The first phase began in the weeks leading to the IGSSE Forum. All participants had to prepare and submit a short video, presenting and explaining their research.

These videos were evaluated in a peer-review process by the doctoral researchers themselves. Each doctoral researcher evaluated 20 videos on the basis of a predefined catalog. The best 21 videos advanced to the second phase, which took place during the second day of the IGSSE Forum in form of a classic poster session. These presentations were again judged by the doctoral researchers.

In the second stage, [Francesco Bianchin](#), [Huang Wei-Chieh](#) and [Andrew Fairbairn](#) were rewarded for their engaging presentations of their research and were voted as the three finalists to compete in the 2023 IGSSE poster competition finals on day 3. During the final competition, they had 1:30 minutes each to present their research in front of the plenary. All three finalists made a great and engaging final pitch and shared their research and enthusiasm for their work with the audience. After a final vote, Andrew Fairbairn was awarded with his research on "[Urban Green Spaces as Hotspots for Biodiversity](#)" for the best poster. Congrats to him and the Runner-ups!



from left to right: Francesco Bianchin, Andrew Fairbairn and Huang Wei-Chieh; copyright @IGSSE



The IGSSSE Forum participants 2023; copyright @IGSSSE.

In addition to the educational and training opportunities, we also had several networking events, such as a musical team-building, a BBQ, a gala dinner with the certificate ceremony for last year's IGSSSE-alumni as well as a great party with DJ Micha!

As a closing event, Ulrike Jehle (doctoral researcher at the Chair of Urban Structure and Transport Planning, ED) and Dr. Elias Pajares (TUM ED alumnus) presented the path to start-up creation based on their own story and the creation of their start-up "Plan4better".

We hope that all of the participants had fun and were able to gain valuable inputs and motivation from these very intense but enjoyable three days. For those who could not attend, you will have a new opportunity next year: **The IGSSSE Forum 2024 will take place from 6th – 8th of May, also in Raitenhaslach, so save the date!** More information will follow at the beginning of next year.



From left to right: Managing Director Dr. Katrin Offe, IGSSSE-Director Professor Barbara Wohlmuth, Dr. Usman Sanusi and Dr. Pirmin Schlicke (both IGSSSE-Alumni); copyright @IGSSSE.



Participants during one of our many workshops; copyright IGSSSE



Musical team building event; copyright @IGSSSE



Participants enjoying the sun in the monastery garden; copyright @IGSSSE

IGSSE Martini Colloquium – Save the Date!

During this year's IGSSE Forum, we also held the [IGSSE Colloquium](#). Four professors presented their projects and research at IGSSE and discussed them with their colleagues across the disciplines. In addition, [Dr. Olga Popovych](#), Coordinating Postdoc of the IPT [NDTofCh](#) project at IGSSE, delivered a keynote speech on her team's discovery of a previously unknown chamber in the [Cheops pyramid](#) (see our last [newsmail](#)) at the beginning of 2023 in cooperation with international scientists, using non-destructive testing techniques for archaeology.

The next ([Martini](#)) [Colloquium](#) will take place on **10th November 2023** at the IGSSE Office on TUM's campus Garching Research Centre. Further information on the presenting projects and starting time will be communicated soon.

IGSSE Doctoral Representatives

Are you interested in representing your fellow IGSSE members in the TUM Graduate Council, getting valuable experience in academic self-administration and shaping the doctorate at IGSSE and TUM for future generations of doctoral candidates? Then join [Vivian Papadopoulou](#) as the second and the third IGSSE doctoral speaker! Please contact [Vivian](#) or the [IGSSE Office](#) if you are interested in applying.

Research at IGSSE

International Research and Cooperation at IGSSE – Stay Abroad in Ghana

In today's newsmail, we would like to share the [stay abroad report](#) from Fabian Jodeit in order to give you an insight into the research and different international experiences of your fellow IGSSE members. Fabian is a doctoral researcher in the IGSSE IPT project 14.01 at the Chair of Medical Materials and Implants on the topics "Medical device development for low-income countries mainly in the field of gynaecology and rehabilitation" and "Increase of sustainability in health care via circular economy approaches for medical plastic products". From September 2022 to January 2023, he did a research stay at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Ghana.

As one of the main goals of the IGSSE is to enable and promote international research cooperation and networking, the stay abroad is an important element of the IGSSE qualification program. Although, the specific requirements for the stay abroad varies between the IGSSE programs- nonetheless, every doctoral researcher at the IGSSE is required to undertake a research stay in order to gain new perspectives, build international networks and gain access to specific expertise and resources. At the end of the stay, each doctoral candidate will submit a short stay abroad report.

Check out the report of Fabian Jodeit's interesting research stay in Ghana! If you want to be featured in an upcoming newsmail, please contact us at igsse@tum.de.



CIMPLE conference at KNUST in September 2022; copyright Fabian Jodeit

Stay Abroad Report

Announcements and Opportunities

International Project Teams Call 2023 open!

The IPTs are one of the four programs of the IGSSE in which international and interdisciplinary research is funded. This year's call is now open to project proposals in cooperation with partner universities of the EuroTech Universities Alliance, Ukrainian universities and one of TUM's flagship partners, the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.

Applications are open to TUM PIs from all departments and schools in cooperation with a PI from one of the aforementioned universities until **10th September, 2023**.

For more information on the requirements and modalities, see the guidelines on our [website](#) or contact the IPT Project Manager [Katharina Geiselmann](#).

I³ Workshops – Program 2023 and save the date!

One of the components of the IGSSE qualification program are the I³ workshops. They deal with topics with an international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral character and encourage personal and professional development. Furthermore, the courses offer a great opportunity to get to know your fellow doctoral colleagues from different disciplines.

This year's I³ workshop program consists of five workshops addressing different kinds of science communication. They are scheduled to take place in October and November 2023:

Networking & LinkedIn

- Trainer: [Dr. Iris Köhler](#) – Date: 06.11.2023 – Garching + 1 Day online

Scientific Writing: Turning the blank page into a manuscript

- Trainer: [Carsten Rohr](#) – Date: 13.-14.11.2023 – Garching

Meeting the editor and communicating your ideas

- Trainer: [Frank Witlox](#) – Date: 21.-22.11.2023 – Garching

The Science of Storytelling

- Trainer: [Bradley van Paridon](#) – 23.-24.11.2023 – Garching

Navigating the Doctoral Journey: Perspectives, Resources, and Empowerment

- Trainer: [Quirin Schnack](#) – 23.-24.10.2023 – Online

The registration opens in the beginning of September and will be communicated in advance. If you are interested in one of the courses, keep the dates free.

If you have any questions about the content of the IGSSE newsmail, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Best regards from the IGSSE Office,

[Vicente Pons Marti, M.A.](#)

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