



Dear ISOS Alumni,

over 200 people have successfully finished the programme - wow!

We thought that this was a good occasion to visualize our network and we were impressed how truly interdisciplinary the it is.

During the past years we observed that this not only a network on paper, but a living only. Many of you got in touch - some advertised open positions, some got their jobs through the network and others came back for a visit.

We are impressed of what you make out of the connections and thank you for your continuous feedbacks and contributions.

Best regards, Nina, Wiebke and Avan

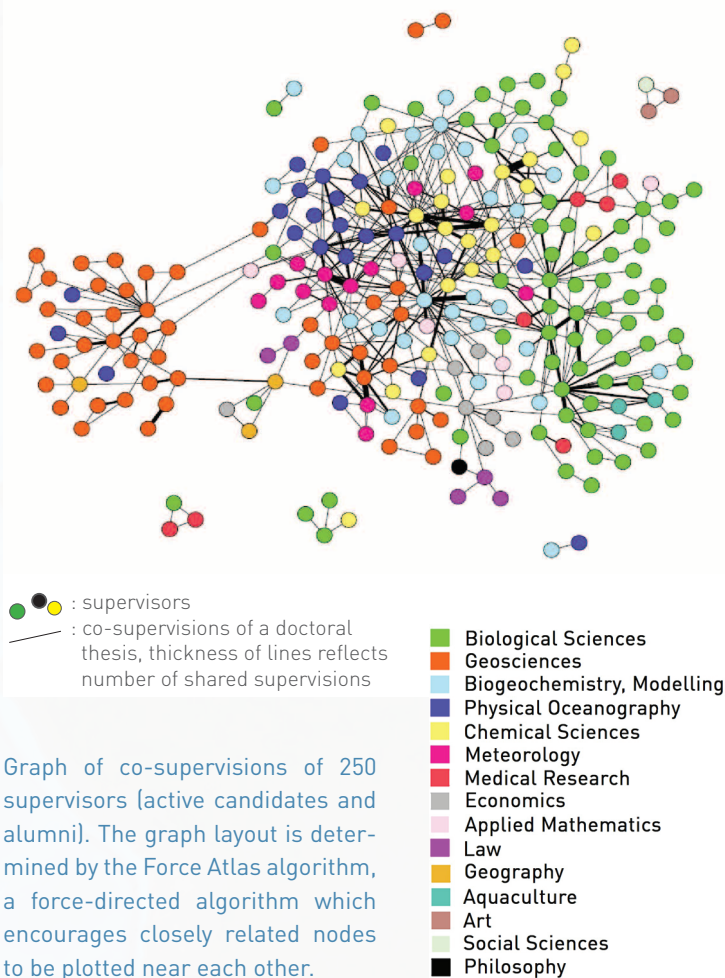
Did you know that:

- The ISOS is now 10 years old?
- We now have more than 200 Alumni?

Marine Interdisciplinary Network

The marine research environment in Kiel is characterised by a high level of interdisciplinary cooperation.

Can you identify your lines and dots in the Network Graph?



Graph of co-supervisions of 250 supervisors (active candidates and alumni). The graph layout is determined by the Force Atlas algorithm, a force-directed algorithm which encourages closely related nodes to be plotted near each other.

MOOC One Planet - One Ocean

Our Massive Open Online Course on the Ocean attracted over 4000 participants in 2016! Students, educators, professionals and citizens... on demand we are re-broadcasting in a new, exciting format. The Kiel Marine Science Community is joining the global initiative to #SaveOurOcean! Sign up now, and distribute this announcement as widely as possible!



Eva Jakob - "I don't like to sit still!"

Change seems to be a constant in Eva's life.

Even before finishing her doctorate, Eva ventured to her first postdoc in Canada, researching salmon pathogens. In Canada she stayed for 4 years in total, then moved to Chile.

She appreciates challenges:

"I like to test my limits – this applies to me as a person, but also defines me as a scientist. I think this is at the core of the scientific process: facing problems and solving them."

This attitude was a major motivation for her to move to Chile:

„In Chile you can find highly problematic salmon pathogens that simply do not exist on the other side of the world - a great challenge for my work in aquaculture and I was keen to face it."

She accepted the challenge and started applied aquaculture research at Fraunhofer Chile – it seemed a great job at first, but she realized that she could not envision her future there. "My ideas were just very different from the views of my employer – this happens and as it was handled professionally from all sides, it was not a big deal." She decided to quit her permanent job –not an easy move– and invested her time in learning Spanish to be even more competitive on the Chilean job market.

Her next step took her out of academia – at Novartis she contributed to bringing an antiparasite product for aquaculture to market-maturity. Although being more restricted in her scientific freedom, she particularly appreciated gaining a new perspective on data management: "Drug approval processes have very strict data management protocols – I think academic research can benefit a lot from adopting such a level of strictness and transparency".

When she realized that her dream job was on the market, she was ready for yet another change. She applied and endured a competitive and long selection procedure. "....at the end I got the position. It feels like this job was made for me - I feel privileged to have found such a great job!" As scientific leader at Cargill Innovation Center Chile she now continues to optimize food products for fish, and is in charge of the experimental fish trials-. For the moment, she is certain that "this is it!" - but with Eva you never know what comes next.



Florian Scholz - Back in Kiel

Florian holds an Emmy-Noether grant and leads the junior research group "ICONOX - Iron cycling in marine sediments and the oxygen and nutrient balance of the ocean" at GEOMAR in the biogeochemistry department since 2016.

Florian finished his doctorate in 2010 and stayed at GEOMAR for 2 further years before securing a Marie-Curie fellowship that took him to Oregon State University in the USA. During his stay in the USA, he particularly appreciated the structural possibilities. "Tenure track positions and hiring plans make it easy to follow your own independent research – particularly for early career scientists - although the funding (and political) situation in the US is not the best for science at present." He particularly thinks that smaller working groups help to maintain scientific independence: „One professor, one postdoc, one doctoral candidate – in my eyes, this leads to better supervision and more scientific independence. This is why I think we need tenure track options in Germany – tenure track to scientifically independent professorships."

He perceived the Marie Curie return grant as a chance: "coming back and having bridge money is an asset!" But then, things did not happen as straightforward as hoped: Before winning the prestigious Emmy Noether grant, there were periods of uncertainty and perceived failure as other applications were not granted on first try. Loving his job took him through these rough times: He enjoys science and the combination of independence and cooperation. But also the rough times taught him to have an eye on other possibilities, even if at present this is "a very small eye". Being asked what supported him, he says: "Knowing what you want is important – particularly in the German system. You have to create many things on your own. To save energy and time, it is important to know exactly what you need." Also, he appreciates the assistance of his mentors - "They have directed me into the right direction – and this is important!"

For his future, he plans to "always remember why I became a scientist in the first place – curiosity and excitement - and to hold to the ideal of a "Scientist" I had at the beginning of my career – in both professional and human terms."

