



future ocean
KIEL MARINE SCIENCES

INTEGRATED SCHOOL OF OCEAN SCIENCES

2013

ISOS Alumni-Newsletter

Dear Alumna, dear Alumnus,

In writing this newsletter, we notice that we are into the second generation of PhD candidates who have chosen the ISOS programme. Over 90 of you have graduated, and are well scattered around the globe. In a few years we expect to see some of you back as advisors with your own PhD students! Many of you are flourishing outside of science (read the interview below). Several Alumni will be with us in June and we are looking forward to hearing their news.

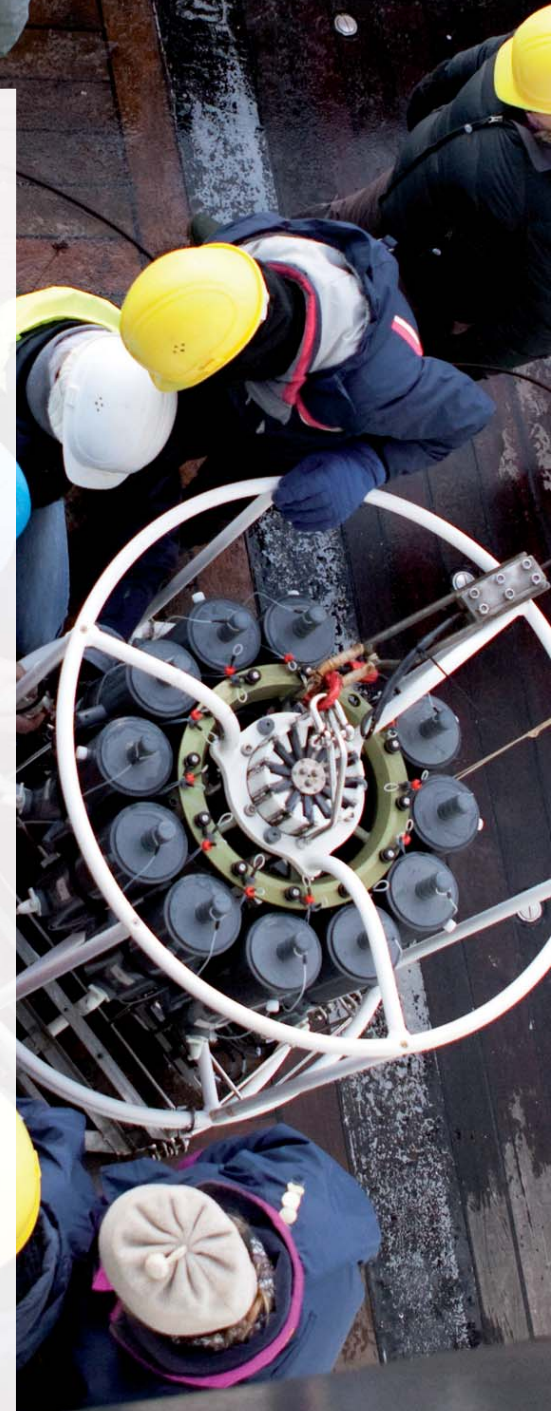
Through following the track of PhD students and Alumni, we are at last able to compile the data required to best support the doctoral phase. Some excerpts: we know now that the median duration of the PhD is 3.9 years, interfaculty co-supervision is common (26 % of all PhDs) and third-party funding the rule (100%). Of the 90 alumni, 56 went into a first Post-Doc, 17 into positions outside research and another 17 are unknown to us. This will change with time, and we rely on you to keep us updated on what you're doing, so we can use the information to improve the programme.

Enjoy reading this newsletter!
With best wishes,
Avan Antia, Nina Bergmann, Angelika Hoffmann

The ISOS Alumni: Around the Globe!



ISOS Alumni are spread around the globe. If your current whereabouts are missing, let us know - we'd like to keep in touch.



Join us!

at the 'Meet the Alumni' Event

At the first Meet the Alumni Event ISOS-Alumni from in and outside of academia will talk about their experiences of "life after the PhD". During the subsequent BBQ – a joint event with the PhD representatives - there is time to catch up and network with current ISOS PhD students and Alumni.

June 18th | 14:30h | GEOMAR East Shore Cafeteria
http://www.futureocean.org/en/isos/events/meet_the_alumni.php

From Research to Science Management - Interview with ISOS Alumna Agnes Heinemann



Agnes Heinemann finished her PhD in marine biogeochemistry in April 2011. She then worked in a project with school kids, marketing the so-called "MINT" subjects (mathematics, informatics and natural sciences). In May last year she became scientific coordinator of the International Max Planck Research School for Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics (IMPRS-ACP) in Mainz (Germany).

ISOS Retreat: Post-Normal Science

This year's PhD retreat dealt with "Science, when facts are uncertain yet decisions urgent". It addressed the estimation and communication of uncertainty, and the realisation that science is used for policy, lobbying etc. while the science is inherently uncertain. We had input from science, philosophy and sustainability research. Several of you must be dealing with this in your post-PhD careers.

after a while the monotony of repeating the same talks in different schools, the long hours of travelling that ate into my private life and the lack of direct access to science were the reasons I quit.

What is the advantage of your present job?

I'm closer to science in my current job. I assist PhD students in getting comprehensive and interdisciplinary supervision and I'm there when problems occur. I organize courses and summer schools and learn a lot about science management. And I'm involved in public outreach activities, which I enjoy. As a supplement, I will be assisting at the University's school-lab on a voluntary basis, so I can introduce school kids to scientific working. This is great, since I am still in touch with youngsters, and I have the best of both worlds.

Agnes, why did you choose your first job?

For several reasons. I wanted to get science across to young people. During my PhD I had published in the popular magazine "mare" with colleagues from chemistry and law, an idea that arose at an ISOS retreat where we met the publisher Niko Gelpke. To me that was great fun and I also learnt how difficult it is to write comprehensively. I was always impressed by people like Mojib Latif who manage to communicate science to the public and especially to young people. I wanted to do something similar and therefore education marketing really appealed.

I really enjoyed working with school kids. Children are a blunt audience; if you don't manage to attract their attention you may even get pelted with paper balls! I did a lot of learning-by-doing about making lectures entertaining and this helps for scientific talks as well. However,

Do you consider going back to research?

No. Quite early in my PhD it became clear to me that research wouldn't be my future career path. I think I lack the whiff of craziness you need to be successful in research. My strengths are organisation and planning. I really enjoyed my PhD time, it's something I wouldn't want to miss. But in the long run it isn't my cup of tea.

Looking back, is there anything you would have done differently in your PhD?

No. If I had known then where I would end up I might have attended lectures in marketing and looked a bit more beyond my own nose. But in the beginning of my PhD I didn't even know that there is such thing like education marketing. This was a random discovery yet a perfect match. In fact there isn't anything I would have done differently.

PhD Representatives

We now have three PhD representatives who contribute significantly to "ground-truthing" their programme; Christina, Jonathan and Eric (and Emma, who's "retired"); thanks! They teamed up with other PhD representatives to organise a first "Personalize your PhD" and other social events, and helped in the scientific planning of our retreat.

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