



# Newsletter for PhDs in Marine Sciences

No. 5 // August 2016

## Dear all,

It's all about communication! Many events have been conducted within this topic - find out more in this issue. In the middle of October ISOS organises a Retreat on communication: Get to know your peers - and the science behind them. Find out more in this newsletter!

Best wishes,  
Wiebke Basse (ISOS), the ISOS Reps and the DokTeam



### mailing list "phd-news":

information of general interest for the PhD community (e.g. job advertisements, summer schools and conferences) are shared.

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## // Have you met:



### Felix Geißler

Felix started his PhD project in the group of Professor Eric Achterberg on chemical sensor applications. He is keen about to be part of an interdisciplinary research team, to improve his research skills, broaden his horizon and meet other researchers for scientific

exchanges. In his freetime Felix likes gardening, cycling and badminton.

[fgeissler@geomar.de](mailto:fgeissler@geomar.de)



### Hana Jurikova

Hana is very much excited about the opportunity to carry out her PhD at GEOMAR in the working group of Professor Anton Eisenhauer and within the EU ITN BASELINE-Earth Network. She looks forward to find interesting results and obtain many new skills. In her free time she enjoys

backpacking as well as playing and listening to music.

[hjurikova@geomar.de](mailto:hjurikova@geomar.de)



### Falko Vehling

Falko does his PhD within the HOSST-cohort (The transatlantic Helmholtz Research School for Ocean System Science and Technology). He works in the lab of Professor Lars Rüpke on modelling of hydrothermal systems at Reykjanes Ridge. Besides research, he enjoys rowing and athletics and is interested in politics.

[fvehling@geomar.de](mailto:fvehling@geomar.de)

## New Alumni: Congratulations!

Meike Becker (GEOMAR – Chemistry)  
Judith Meyer (GEOMAR – Biological Oceanography)  
Balsam Al-Janabi (GEOMAR – Marine Ecology)  
Corinna Breusing (GEOMAR – Marine Ecology)  
Sonakshi Mishra (GEOMAR – Biogeochemistry)  
Nadine Mengis (GEOMAR – Marine Geochemical Modelling)  
Zeynep Erdem (GEOMAR – Geosciences)  
Inga Piller (CAU – Chemistry)  
Kristin Doering (CAU – Geosciences)

Claudia Volosciuk (GEOMAR – Meteorology)  
Mahmoud Alkhatib (GEOMAR – Geosciences)  
Stephanie Koch (GEOMAR – Geosciences)  
Judith Elger (GEOMAR – Geosciences)

// PhD activities

Course offers at J-School Kiel

In April, David Poggemann attended a course at the J-School Kiel about "Basics of Mediawork".  
Read here more about David's experiences:

Grundlagen der Medienarbeit – Media-course at J-School Kiel

contact: David Poggemann, PhD candidate  
(dpoggemann@geomar.de)

How can you present scientific results to a broader audience in an understandable way? And how can you explain the relevance of basic research to people outside of academia and natural sciences? These and other questions bothered me when I wanted to explain the importance of our work to other people. Besides the classical media, a lot of new media is available and easily accessible. But for all those possible ways, there are some do's and don'ts one should know and keep in mind.

From 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016, I attended a course for basics of media and press related work at the J-School Kiel, which is affiliated with the FH Kiel. During these two days Professor Jörn Radtke and Christian Möller, both experts for journalistic and



(c) Fridtjof Stechmann

media work, introduced this interesting topic in a very familiar atmosphere to our group of six people from very diverse working fields (e.g. automobile journalists, PR-Management, students).

During the weekend we learned general background information about composing a press release, creating good and meaningful photos which can be added to press releases and which type of text/ image is useful for print media, a blog or other web-content. In several practice units we implemented the new knowledge and information. We discussed how we

could use the new skills in our individual working fields. Hence, all of us received a widespread impression of media work and therefore new motivation to test new ways of communication with the public audience.

For my personal experience, I learned how to consider and to deal with all the stumbling blocks that appear when you are all into your scientific work and then have to explain it to someone outside of science. This still challenging task will be a lot easier in future.

Do you know: ISOS has a cooperation with the J-School: ISOS candidates who are interested in the courses offered by the J-School Kiel can contact Wiebke (wbasse@uv.uni-kiel.de).

**RESEARCH TOPICS GUARANTEED TO BE PICKED UP BY THE NEWS MEDIA**

**Chocolate!** Anything that validates the public's wishful thinking that chocolate is secretly good for you is news gold.



A chocolate lover reacts to news that her chocolate addiction is making her smarter and saving the environment.

**ROBOTS!!** Everyone loves robots. In fact, news outlets are required by law to feature a robot story every 7 days.



Robotist demonstrates nose-picking robot, says will soon replace humans.

**Unrealistic Sci-Fi Gadgets**  
Everyone is still waiting for their jet-packs, flying cars, and teleporters. Get on it, Science!



Engineers test latest invisibility cloak prototype.

JORGE CHAM © 2009

**Experiments That Might Blow Up The World**  
Nothing gets the crazies riled up like recreating conditions of the Big Bang in the only planet you have. Hope your math is right!



"Oops," say scientists

WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham www.phdcomics.com

## // DokTeam GEOMAR

Dear PhD colleagues,

We are the DokTeam and represent around 200 other PhD candidates at GEOMAR.

We're your contact to the GEOMAR directorate and administration but we also have contacts to the other 18 Helmholtz associated centres across Germany. We organise social events so you can meet other PhD candidates and enjoy your time in Kiel. Our work is for you to profit from a PhD community as much as possible. We're here for you and we're fighting your corner!

[www.geomar.de/studieren/phd/dokteam/](http://www.geomar.de/studieren/phd/dokteam/)



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## PhD 'Stammtisch'/BBQ

The last 'Stammtisch' social get together event organised by the DokTeam was a BBQ on Kiellinie, just outside of the GEOMAR-Westshore building. The event was a great success and a lot of fun with many people from the West and East shore! Thank you all for joining!

For the first time, the DokTeam is organising next 'Stammtisch' as a joint event with Docs-Get-Together from Kiel University. It will take place in Galileo (new name: Brooklyn) restaurant on 24<sup>th</sup> of August at 18:30-onwards. This will bring the opportunity for PhDs from GEOMAR and the University to meet and socialise together!



## NextGen@Helmholtz conference

The first NextGen@Helmholtz conference organised by Helmholtz Juniors will take place at the HZI (Helmholtz Center for Infection Research) in Braunschweig from the **28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September 2016**. The programme will encompass miscellaneous formats for scientific discussions, expert panels, networking with fellow PhD candidates and most importantly, fun filled sessions like science slams, pub quizzes and many more. This is an opportunity to meet people from diverse institutes of the Helmholtz Association and get a chance to present your own scientific work to pave the way for multidisciplinary collaborations.

For more information about the conference please visit:

<https://indico.scc.kit.edu/indico/event/229/>

For more information on Helmholtz Juniors visit:

[https://www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs\\_talent/funding\\_programs/doctoral\\_students/helmholtz\\_juniors](https://www.helmholtz.de/en/jobs_talent/funding_programs/doctoral_students/helmholtz_juniors)

// ISOS

From PhD to... .. Science Journalist”

“and yes, sometimes, the title helps...”

Dr. Jennifer Rieger, “From PhD to ... Science Journalist”

For Dr. Jennifer Rieger having a PhD comes in handy when preparing a “piece” for the radio. Even though the “Dr” sometimes makes it easier to get scientists to agree to an interview, it is primarily the scientific training during her doctoral thesis that allows her to ask the right questions and evaluate scientific background material. “During my PhD thesis I got used to critically evaluating scientific publications with respect to experimental set-up and conclusions drawn from results” she says. For Jennifer this comes as a major advantage when fulfilling the changing role of science journalism – moving away from the implicit hailing of scientific progress towards becoming more of a watchdog that does not hesitate to challenge rash conclusions.

While questioning results and conclusions might be a central aspect of the work of a science journalist, there are others that Jennifer enjoys even more. “What topics to cover is almost entirely my decision”

Jennifer highlights and continues “I get to talk to so many interesting people from all over the world and various scientific disciplines and I really like being able to work from anywhere... all I need is a laptop”. Jennifer has just finished her training at Deutschlandradio and will now continue to work as a freelancer. “I do not really worry about job security right now” Jennifer says and adds “There are still so many innovative formats that could change the way the German media is covering science. For example, I am pretty sure the podcast boom from the US will eventually reach Europe, opening a number of opportunities”. Looking ahead, Jennifer says that most reporters were trained in journalism rather than in science “and yes, sometimes, the title helps...”.

If you would like to hear some of Jennifer’s recent “pieces” you can listen to them following the qr-codes (in German):

“Der jährliche Streit um die Fangquoten” with (among others) Dr. Rainer Froese from GEOMAR



“Das Geheimnis des ewigen Lebens”



ISOS PhD representatives

(contact: [phd\\_reps@isos.uni-kiel.de](mailto:phd_reps@isos.uni-kiel.de))

By receiving input, feedback and ideas from the PhD community, we (together with you) have the direct opportunity to shape ISOS and their offers.

- Besides that, the rep-team takes part in
- ISOS steering committee meetings, where we discuss the direction ISOS is heading for
  - Future Ocean executive board meetings, where we even have a vote!
  - and we work close with the GEOMAR DokTeam.



Kerstin  
KIEL UNIVERSITY  
Geosciences



Meike  
GEOMAR  
Geoscience



Fabian  
GEOMAR  
Biogeochemistry

Upcoming ISOS Courses

05 - 06 September 2016

Fortran Intro

Dr. Markus Scheinert, GEOMAR; Dr. Klaus Getzlaff, GEOMAR

12 - 13 September 2016

Data Visualisation

Dr. Rick Scavetta, Science Craft

14 - 16 September 2016

Physical Oceanography

Dr. Sunke Schmidtke, GEOMAR



more courses and online registration at [www.futureocean.org/isos](http://www.futureocean.org/isos)

*Do you know how the fish you eat is farmed?*  
*On site seminar on sustainable aquaculture in Büsum*

17 participants – master students, doctoral candidates, technicians and senior scientists – took the opportunity to find out about innovative approaches to sustainability challenges of aquaculture that are being developed in Büsum in an on-site seminar July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dr. Biniam Samuel-Fitwi (Gesellschaft für Marine Aquakultur, GMA) gave a general overview on the highly productive aquaculture industry that has been perceived ambiguously in the last decade. While, on the one hand seen to provide sustenance and sustain economic growth, inputs, energy demands and high levels of effluents on the other make it environmentally not sustainable. In Büsum, several projects tackle these challenges with innovative approaches:

Dr. Florian Nagel showed energy and cost optimized approaches to aquafeed manufacturing developed at Aller Aqua Research. PhD candidate Johann Torno introduced an effective and low cost self-cleaning inert gas denitrification reactor developed at GMA.

Aline Hock (CEO of the start-up company Sustainable Food) and Stefan Schüning (manager of the mariCUBE maritime technology transfer center) shed light on the business side. “It was highly interesting to see that it is possible to sell knowledge about sustainability – also in the light of career options after my PhD”, concludes one participant.

The lively discussions continued during the hands-on tour to the aquaculture facilities of GMA and Aller Aqua Research.

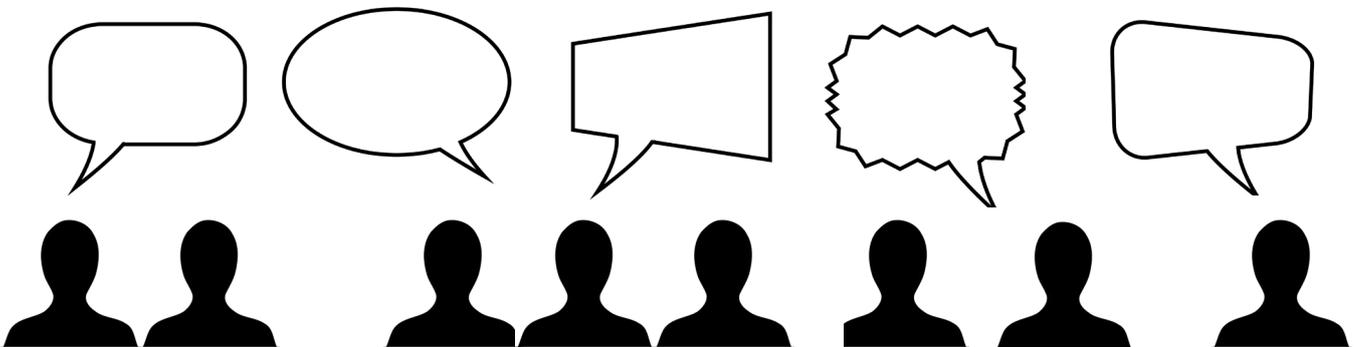
The highlights: Definitely the presentations, the lively discussions and the impressive facilities, but also a nice walk to Büsum harbor and the joint lunch sampling of local fish delicacies.



13 and 14 October 2016

# PhD RETREAT 2016 MARINE SCIENCES

Get to know your peers -  
and the science behind them!



Find out about the science your peers are dedicated to in flash presentations, challenge yourself to flash present AND get to know the people behind the science in a relaxed atmosphere.

**Venue:** Niederkleevez, Dieksee

*The retreat is your annual event to come together in the PhD community, meet each other, and spend an exciting, relaxed two days together.*

**[Register now - places are limited!](#)**

[www.futureocean.org/isos](http://www.futureocean.org/isos)

