

Report Career Day „Entrepreneurship & (Bio) TECH, 7th Dec 2018

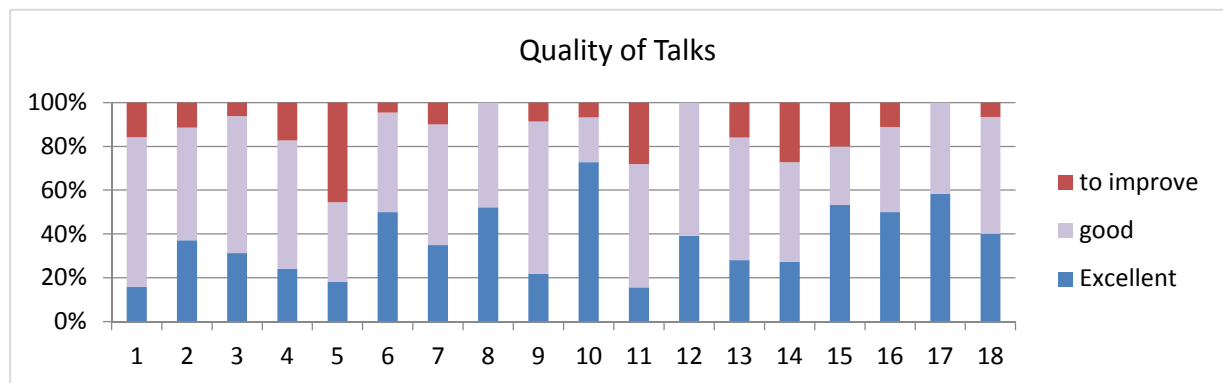
Together with the DKFZ Career Service, the University of Heidelberg and Heidelberg Startup Partners a team of DKFZ young researchers organized the first DKFZ Career Day on Entrepreneurship & (Bio)Tech. The day offered start up presentations, face-to-face discussions, an informative supporter’s lounge, a unique Startup Fair with 21 startups and an Innovator’s Pitch. From 37 submissions 5 were selected for presentation, and both the Jury and the audience voted for Silke Uhrig-Schmidt.



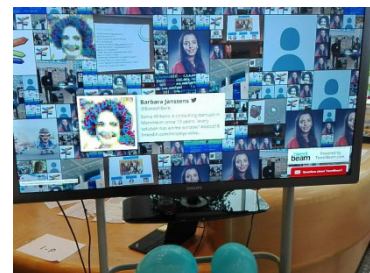
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Participants: Over 330 people registered for the event: About 1/3 PhD Students, 1/4 PostDocs, 54% from DKFZ, 21% from Heidelberg University and 20% external. Of 235 on-site most attended parts and about 100 were present throughout the day: of those about 63 gave feedback (the participants who said they hopped in and out tended not to fill out the survey). According to the survey, expectations were met fully (56%) or in part (44%). More than 50% of the participants said they were informed about the event via email, about 22% by friends and posters each. Below you find an overview of the talks and how participants perceived them.



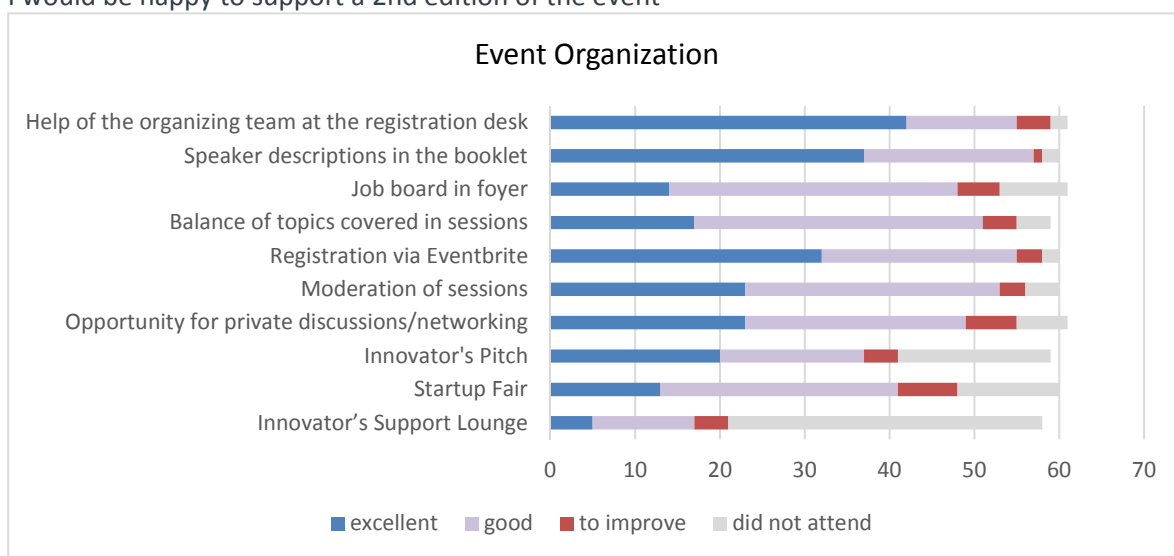
Social Media: On Facebook the event reached 660 people. The [video interview with Barbara Diehl](#), Director of Transfer and Innovation at Helmholtz Association, was clicked 750 times on Facebook, 99 times on YouTube and reached about 9500 followers on LinkedIn. Over 80 tweets are summarized in our **Twitter Story** <https://tinyurl.com/ycamtxqu>.





Comments:

- I enjoyed it a lot and this was actually one of the best Career Day events I have joined, even though I could only attend until 1pm due to my work schedule. Regarding possible improvements, I would have liked to have someone explaining in more details the legislation for creating a startup. Of course, Thomas Prexl and Raoul Haschke could also have provided support in this direction, but maybe someone like a lawyer would have been more adequate.
- I did like it a lot. My only future hope is that you keep doing it!
- Thank you! A follow-up seminar series on tech transfer and/or start-ups might be a good idea.
- The fair was really nice, It is good to meet some startups and do some networking
- I missed workshops and more interactive sessions.
- I would be happy to support a 2nd edition of the event



Take home messages:

- Very interested in the biotech startup accelerator
- Overall, I understood that if I want to create a startup in the Rhein-Neckar area, I have all the necessary support! Last summer, with some colleagues we wanted to begin a small company and I was amazed by the free support we received from Heidelberg Startup Partners.
- As scientists, we tend to appeal to the rational/reason brain when we speak to people, we are craving for facts and numbers. As a pitcher, speak to the emotions to get your point across.
- Things never work out as planned - not even for a career day.
- If I switch to industry, it made me consider going to a startup rather than a big Pharma.
- It is an amazing opportunity to talk to entrepreneurs.
- It's doable.
- You need the entrepreneurial spirit to be successful! Don't be shy and talk about your idea - there's lots of support available to turn this into a real business!
- Networking is essential. I also learned how to present an innovative idea to catch an audience.