

VIRTUAL CAREER DAY ACADEMIA

German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)

October 1st-2nd, 2020

A warm Welcome to the Virtual Career Day Academia 2020

Dear Participants,

Welcome to Career Day Academia 2020!

Since 2014 the Career Service of the DKFZ, Heidelberg has organized several Career Days, each focussing on a particular field of career options in Life Sciences, with resounding success; now is the turn of Academic careers. The aim of this event is to expose early stage researchers to different facets of Academia, how to transition to a group leader, and how to be successful.

Most of us are in an academic environment. Nevertheless, each of us have unanswered questions about how to prepare ourselves to succeed as we move up. In Academia competition is very high as you climb up the ladder and the ascent is very steep. Therefore, to equip ourselves early on will help us to make better informed decisions, be it if this is a career path you want to take, what your destinations can or should be, or how to reach that destination. The program that has been designed here is keeping this in mind.

Spread over two days the program includes sessions with talks, workshops, round tables and a chance to have a one-on-one meeting with the speakers. For the talks we have invited both young and experienced group leaders to share their perspective on their academic journey. Simultaneously we have strived to have speakers from different backgrounds including heads of core facilities, those with groups in clinics, universities and institutes. We hope with such a diverse roster of speakers we can give you a broad insight into the academic field. The session on grants, funding and publishing has experts from funding agencies and publishing houses giving an inside take to make it more impactful. The workshops and round table discussions will focus on lateral aspects pertaining to an academic career.

An important aspect of these Career Days is the chance to network which is one of the biggest challenges in a virtual event. To make this possible we have incorporated additional features such as the opportunity to interact with speakers and fellow participants over a dedicated Slack workspace. We encourage you to take full advantage of this.

The commencement of any journey can be overwhelming and daunting. The goal here is to demystify the steps you need to take for a career in Academia. We sincerely hope you find it informative and encouraging.

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Coordinator of Career Day Academia 2020



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Day 1 - October 1st

09:00 – 12:00 Workshop “Creativity in Science” with **Dr. Daniel Mertens**

09:00 – 12:30 Workshop “Well-being in Academia” with **Dr. Desiree Dickerson**

13:00 – 13:10 Welcome to the Virtual Career Day “Academia”

13:10 – 14:30 **Session 1: How to Start Your Own Research Unit –Junior Group Leaders**

13:10 – 13:30 **Jun.-Prof. Dr. Tony Gutschner**, University Hospital Halle (Saale)

13:30 – 13:50 **Dr. Julia Gross**, University of Göttingen

13:50 – 14:10 **Dr. Dominik Niopek**, University of Heidelberg

14:10 – 14:30 **Dr. Priya Chudasama**, DKFZ and NCT

14:30 – 14:40 Virtual Coffee Break

14:40 – 15:20 Round tables

Round table 1: “**Women in Science**” hosted by **Dr. Julia Gross**, University of Göttingen

Round table 2: “**Insights into Mentoring**” hosted by **Dr. Celina Cziepluch**, DKFZ

Round table 3: “**Mental Health and Stress Management in Academia**” hosted by **Dr. Lorenza A. D'Alessandro** and **Gabriele Schulze-König**, DKFZ

15:20 – 15:30 Virtual Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:30 **Session 2: Maintaining a Thriving Research Unit –Senior Group Leaders**

15:30 – 15:50 **Dr. Wolfgang Huber**, EMBL Heidelberg

15:50 – 16:10 **Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein**, University of Bremen

16:10 – 16:30 **Dr. Florian Markowetz**, Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute

17:00 - 18:00 Keynote Lecture

Dr. Duncan Odom, “How my failures shaped my success”

Day 2 - October 2nd

09:00 – 12:00 Individual One-on-One meetings with speakers

12:30 – 13:50 Session 3: Research in Clinics and Core Facilities

12:30 – 12:50 **Jun.-Prof. Dr. Dr. Monika Hämmerle**, University Hospital Halle (Saale)

12:50 – 13:10 **Dr. Malte Paulsen**, EMBL FACS Core Facility

13:10 – 13:30 **apl. Prof. Dr. Gabriele Ende**, University Hospital Mannheim, Core Facility ZIPP

13:30 – 13:50 **Prof. Dr. Cläre von Neubeck**, University Hospital Essen and West-German Proton Therapy Center Essen (WPE)

13:50 – 14:20 “Meet the Sponsors” and Virtual Coffee Break

DAAD: “Funding and career opportunities for researchers in Germany” hosted by Cèline Jeblawei, DAAD

VectorBuilder: “Working at VectorBuilder: the world's leader in custom cloning and virus packaging solutions” hosted by Dr. Justin Mirus, VectorBuilder

14:20 – 15:00 Round Tables

Round table 1: **“Family and Academia”** hosted by Dr. Lorenza A. D'Alessandro, DKFZ and Dr. Carol Bacchus-Wermke, DKFZ

Round table 2: **“Minorities in the Academic World”** hosted by Dr. Alia Abukiwan, University Hospital Heidelberg

Round table 3: **“Ethics in Academia”** hosted by Dr. Jörg Hoheisel

15:00 – 15:10 Virtual Coffee Break

15:10 – 16:50 Session 4: Insight into Grants & Publishing – How to be Successful

15:10 – 15:30 **Dr. Nina Cabezas Wallscheid**, MPI of Immunobiology and Epigenetics, Freiburg

15:30 – 15:50 **Dr. Barbara Pauly**, HFSP, Director of Fellowships

15:50 – 16:10 **Vitaliy Bondarenko**, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, DLR

16:10 – 16:30 **Dr. Deniz Senyilmaz Tiebe**, Scientific Editor, EMBO

16:30 – 16:50 **Dr. Sigrid Ziegler**, DFG Program Officer Life Science 3: Medicine, Bonn

16:50 - 17:00 Farewell and Feedback

Virtual Room Details

The event will take place on the [Zoom platform](#). It can be used via a browser or installed on your computer. For full functionality we recommend downloading the latest version 5.3 [here](#) and installing it on your computer/ phone/ iPad/ Tablet.

Please sign in using the email you used for registering for the event. For joining a session you can either click on the links or enter meeting ID & password when prompted. Refer to the complete Zoom invite for passcode if joining via phone/ SIP/ H.323. This information can be found in the “Virtual spaces.pdf”.

This event is sponsored by



www.research-in-germany.org

“Creativity in Science” with Dr. Daniel Mertens

1st of October, 9:00 – 12:00

Our thinking, left to itself, is in danger to be biased, distorted, partial, uninformed, or downright prejudiced. Yet, the quality of scientific evidence and that of what we produce, make, or build depends precisely on the quality of critical thinking. Critical thinking encompasses six vital skills: problem solving, analysis, creative thinking, interpretation, evaluation, and reasoning.

OBJECTIVES – To provide scientists with an opportunity to build their understanding, skills and confidence in critical thinking. Take home messages are given as “Four Laws of ...”

Creativity

- Beware of assumptions
- Exploit the driving force of boredom
- Side projects and hobbies help to de- and refocus
- Creativity arises from limitation and Subtraction

Self-awareness

- Know what you are feeling
- Anticipate how feelings will affect your behaviour
- Decide on appropriate responses
- Act with attention to individuals

About the workshop leader

Dr. Daniel Mertens is currently a group leader at the DKFZ in Heidelberg and at the University of Ulm. His research work focuses on the microenvironment of leukaemia and its epigenetic regulatory mechanisms. After doing his Diploma in Biochemistry at the University of Tübingen he started his dissertation at the DKFZ in the lab of Prof. Peter Lichter. He graduated in 2002 and went on to do a PostDoc at the Charité and Humboldt University in Berlin. In 2006 he came back to Heidelberg and started his independent research group at the DKFZ, while he also started his own group at the University Hospital in Ulm.



In 2011 Daniel, together with Dr. Alexander Schiller started the project “Schiller & Mertens” with the motto “Scientists need more”. They started to train other scientist in skills they have experienced to be essential in the academic field. Their courses include topics such as project, time- and conflict management, communication, leadership, creativity, group dynamics, interdisciplinary collaboration and presentation techniques in scientific and science communication as well as “How to start your own lab”.

Click [here](#) for further information.

“Well-being in Academia” with Dr. Desiree Dickerson

1st of October, 9:00 – 12:30

Academia is an ultramarathon that we try to run as a sprint. This approach tends to leave us with little time or energy for life outside of work, but a healthier approach to research is possible and is essential to build a sustainable career in academia.

Despite our increasing diversity, academics tend to harbour a chorus of voices in our heads demanding perfection, telling us we aren't good enough and we don't belong here; voices that drive us to excel, but charge a rather high tax on our emotional, mental and physical health. Yes, the academic culture is a contributor to the unhealthy, counterproductive lifestyle many of us live. However, we as individuals can address the way we approach academia to buffer us against stress and burnout, worry and fear, and the toxic competition we are often surrounded by. This workshop is designed to help your community increase their resilience to stress, anxiety and burnout, and to enhance their overall well-being and productivity.

What can you expect from the workshop:

- Explore how your mindset shapes your thoughts, mood, choices, and productivity;
- Address the inner critic that drives perfectionism, imposter syndrome, and self-doubt that sabotages your motivation and enjoyment for your work;
- Learn to quiet the noise and create more mental space and energy to think, create, be present, and thrive.
- Learn to adopt healthy and effective work habits to enhance well-being AND productivity.

About the workshop leader

Dr. Desiree Dickerson did a Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology both in the University of Otago, New Zealand. After some years working as a research assistance and teaching assistance in the Department of Psychology in the University of Otago, she obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Psychology and a PhD in Psychology in the same university. Desiree was a postdoctoral researcher in the Institute of Science and Technology in Austria before becoming an Academic Mental Health & Well-being Consultant.



What do you miss the most about doing research in Academia?

The people. I miss having insightful, driven, brilliant people around me all day everyday

What is the major change in your life after stepping down research in Academia?

More freedom and a fairer playing field. Working for myself no one is telling me, or modelling for me, how this is supposed to take shape. I am free to try (and fail) without fearing judgment.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Oliver Sacks. Neurologist who made neuroscience and psychology accessible to the masses. His clinical anecdotes told through his books are what drove my passion for clinical and translational research. He always sought to serve people first.

Click [here](#) for further information.

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Tony Gutschner, University Hospital Halle (Saale)

1st of October 2020; 13:10-13:30

Talk: How to attract and recruit the right people

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Prof. Dr. Tony Gutschner did his PhD from 2008 to 2012 in the group of Prof. Diederichs at the DKFZ. He continued his work in this group as a postdoctoral fellow for a year before joining the lab of Drs. Chin and Draetta at the UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas (USA) for a PostDoc until 2016. Since 2017, he has been Junior-Professor at the Martin-Luther-University of Halle-Wittenberg, where his research focuses on RNA biology and pathogenesis.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

There is no job routine - science is never boring.

What is your best academic career decision?

To do my PhD in a junior research group.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

There are many scientists that I admire - some for their continuous creativity, others for their persistence and commitment for one specific field of research for which they have become leading experts.

Our speakers on Twitter

Follow the Odom lab [here](#).
Follow Wolfgang Huber [here](#).
Follow Priya Chudasama [here](#).
Follow the Kirstein lab [here](#).
Follow the Markowitz lab [here](#).
Follow Alia Abukiwan [here](#).
Follow Nina Cabezas-Wallscheid [here](#).
Follow Deniz Senyilmaz Tiebe [here](#).
Follow Sigrid Ziegler [here](#).



Dr. Julia Gross, University of Göttingen

1st of October 2020; 13:30-13:50

Talk: Transition from PostDoc to PI and getting a mentor

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Dr. Julia Gross has been a Junior Group leader at the University of Göttingen since 2015. She did her PhD in the Molecular Cell biology and Human Genetics group at the Goethe University in Frankfurt, before joining the DKFZ in 2010 to do her PostDoc in the group of Michael Boutros. She is now focusing her research on the extracellular signalling, studying the extracellular vesicles in the context of cell migration, both *in vitro* in tumour cells and *in vivo* in *Drosophila melanogaster*.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

The scientific trinity of curiosity, freedom and masochism ;)

What is your best academic career decision?

To continue in academia after PhD and to do a PostDoc at the DKFZ instead of Rockefeller University

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Whenever it is too much to take, I read about female scientists of the past and the determination, they had to manifest, the struggles and hardship, they endured to do science. That normally helps me to feel better, to see the bright side of my problems and to carry on.



Dr. Dominik Niopek, University of Heidelberg

1st of October 2020; 13:50-14:10

Talk: How diverse should be the research focus

Contact via [LinkedIn](#)



Dr. Dominik Niopek studied molecular biotechnology at the University of Heidelberg. He graduated in 2012 and moved to the DKFZ to start his PhD. After graduating from his PhD in 2016 he became a group leader at the University of Heidelberg (BioQuant) where his research focuses on synthetic biology. Dominik created a toolkit where he can control the activity of the CRISPR/Cas9 system by manipulating the inhibition of the gene scissor with light.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

The freedom to work on things I am truly passionate and curious about. Also, I consider it a privilege to be able to work together with many very smart, self-motivated and creative people on a daily basis.

What is your best academic career decision?

Well, my best decision thus far was to actually go for a career in Academia and try really hard. This decision, i.e. to actually try an academic career despite all the insecurity and competition there is for young researchers, was far more important and difficult as compared to whether I would apply to a specific PhD program/group, position or grant.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

I certainly am inspired by the works of many researchers from the past and from today. But I do not really have a particular person as “scientific inspiration”.

Dr. Priya Chudasama, DKFZ and NCT

1st of October 2020; 14:10-14:30

Talk: How to build and extend your network and establish new collaborations

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Dr. Priya Chudasama is a junior group leader at German Cancer Research Center and NCT in Heidelberg. After receiving her Doctoral degree at the University of Erlangen, she joined the DKFZ as a post-doctoral fellow in 2014. Recently, she received funding by German Research Foundation (DFG) within the Emmy Noether Individual Grant Program to establish her own research group, which employs translational and functional genomics approaches to identify molecular alterations underlying tumour development in bone and soft-tissue sarcoma and uncover targets for precision cancer therapy.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

My motivation to stay in science, specifically cancer research comes from the clear and deep sense of purpose - an opportunity to contribute to better understanding of a nasty disease - which is important to overcome the inevitable moments of disappointments in research. Motivation to stay in Academia comes from relatively earlier chance for freedom to finally realize your scientific ideas, which might take a while in other settings.

What is your best academic career decision?

In spite of not having a Nature, Cell or Science first author publication to have had belief in myself and difference my scientific inquiries can make, and simply “going for it” at a good time point during my post doc training.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Theoretical Mathematician Emmy Noether, in honour of whom my Junior Research group grant is named. She was born, later graduated and worked in Erlangen, where I also did my graduation. Emmy Noether was one of the only two women to study at the university with more than 900 students, was not paid for her work for seven years due to the fact she was a woman and even had her habilitation and work permission revoked by the government due to her Jewish background. These obstacles did not stop her from making remarkable contributions to her field all this time and beyond, for which she is honoured worldwide with grants, buildings, roads and even a planet and a crater on the Moon named after her. While treatment of scientists based on gender and background is still far from being ideal even today, Emmy Noether’s brilliance and courage inspires me to keep “pushing” in spite of it all, and fight against the enemy that took her life – cancer.

Round Table 1: “Women in Science”

hosted by Dr. Julia Gross, University of Göttingen

Nearly the same number of women and men study life science when you consider at the PhD and PostDoc level. However, when looking at the gender distribution after the PostDoc stage, the numbers change drastically, even today. More men hold senior positions in science than women. The reasons behind this imbalance are diverse and not easy to explain in simplistic terms of starting a family. In this round table we would like to encourage discussion about the reasons behind this gender gap and brainstorm about potential solution.

The host

Dr. Julia Gross has been introduced [previously](#) in this booklet.



VectorBuilder.com

VectorBuilder provides researchers with one-stop solutions for all their vector design, custom cloning and virus packaging needs. The easy to

use web-based platform, VectorBuilder.com, serves as both a design tool and ordering portal, allowing researchers from around the globe to design and order construction of their custom vectors and viruses in a matter of minutes. Furthermore, our expansive database of components allows us to minimize gene synthesis thereby decreasing cost and turnaround time. VectorBuilder also offers many other molecular biology services such as stable cell line generation, library construction, BAC modification (recombineering), mutagenesis, and more. The combination of VectorBuilder's intuitive interface, extensive experience and competitive prices has helped us become a favorite among academic and industry leaders with thousands of custom vectors and viruses already delivered. VectorBuilder's goal: save researchers time and money on cloning that can be better applied to important experiments, theory generation and data analyses.

Click [here](#) for additional information.

Round Table 2: “Insights into Mentoring”

hosted by Dr. Celina Cziepluch, DKFZ

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)

Mentoring is key for personal and career development. Mentoring could exploit your full potential! Did you know that defining your mentoring aims is the first step when looking for a mentor? Do you want to know more?

At the round table on “Mentoring” you will have the chance to discuss:

- What is mentoring and why it is important
- How do I find a mentor? Am I allowed to have a mentor?
- What does DKFZ offer for mentoring

The host

Dr. Celina Cziepluch is head of Advanced Training at DKFZ. After truly enjoying an *Academic Education* in Biology, Chemistry and Physics at the University of Heidelberg, Celina finished her PhD at the University of Heidelberg with *summa cum laude* working under the supervision of Prof. Manfred Schwab and Prof. Peter H. Seeburg. Celina gathered experience as PostDoc at Upjohn /now Pfizer and in the Applied Tumour Virology Research Program, and moved on to become a group leader in the division of Prof. Jean Rommelaere. During this time Celina joined the French Health Research Association **INSERM** as permanent fellow (CR1). Scientific contributions made cover topics from gene discovery and functional analysis to identification of parvovirus replication sites. In 2010 Celina turned another passion of hers into her profession. As head of Advanced Training at DKFZ, she is happy to be able to design and foster productive learning settings at DKFZ. Together with others at DKFZ, Celina has initiated and supported the PostDoc Network (PDN) which was founded in 2010. Relevant in the frame of this Career Day: Celina actively supports the diversity and equal opportunity office with the DKFZ advanced mentoring program and has acted as formal and informal mentor at all stages of her professional life.



Finally, Celina is a member in several networks, and has always combined a full work life with her family, a partner and two daughters. Sadly, the cat left.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

My biggest motivation has always been curiosity and the fascination of discovering the unknown.

What is your best academic career decision?

To combine family and an academic career.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

There are so many! I enjoy discovering and understanding, so every author of great ideas inspires me.

Round Table 3: “Mental Health and Stress Management in Academia”

hosted by Dr. Lorenza A. D'Alessandro and Gabriele Schulze-König, DKFZ

Contact Dr. Lorenza A. D'Alessandro via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)

Contact Gabriele Schulze-König via [LinkedIn](#)

Scientific research institutes are highly competitive working environments and researchers as well as staff members often work under time pressure. The nature of research work in terms of workload, constant deadlines, frustration, performance, publications, career development and often short contracts are some of the aspects contributing to stress. If these various sources of stress are not taken care of, the stress can become chronic, resulting in impairment of performance and outcome and possibly affecting mental health.

At the round table on “Mental health” you will have the chance to discuss:

- The impact of the work environment on mental health – share experience
- What does DKFZ offer to support employees in regards of mental health?
- How does COVID-19 pandemic affect our mental health?
- Contact information to seek for help

The hosts

Dr. Lorenza D'Alessandro

Dr. Lorenza D'Alessandro studied Biology at the University of Turin in Italy. After completing her Master thesis at the Center for Cancer Research and Treatment (IRCCS) in Candiolo, Italy, she did her PhD in Systems Biology at the University of Turin. In 2007, Lorenza moved to the division of "Systems Biology of Signal Transduction" at the DKFZ, as a postdoctoral researcher where she is currently a Team Leader focusing on the development of western diet induced fatty liver disease. Since April 2017 Lorenza has been appointed as equal opportunities and diversity officer at DKFZ aiming support all DKFZ employees in regards of equality, promote diversity, raise awareness of unconscious biases, consults on work-life balance especially for scientists with children. She is involved in initiatives to support women in science as part of the 500 Women Scientists Heidelberg Pod.



What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and academia?

At the beginning of my career the biggest motivation were scientific discoveries, understanding the molecular mechanisms triggering cancer development. During my career I realized that the scientific motivation was not the only one. I enjoy working with students, seeing them developing in their career, supporting colleagues, seeing the success of the group. Team work is a key motivational factor for me. At some point I decided to engage as equality and diversity officer to contribute to science from a different perspective. I fully enjoy both my current positions.

What is your best academic career decision?

I would say that my best decision has definitely been to be coherent with my inner values. It applies to any career one wants to make.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

I am daily inspired by my colleagues, by the students I am working with, by PIs who are further in the career steps and the junior group leaders who are going through a challenging time. I am inspired by their motivation, enthusiasm, & by their way to handle hard and success time.

Gabriele Schulze-König

Gabriele Schulze-König studied law at University of Zurich (Switzerland) and at the Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam (Netherlands). After working at the Civil District Court of Zurich and in the private sector for Zurich Insurance as legal counsel/international claims specialist, Mrs. Schulze-König moved to Heidelberg in 2011 to work as personal assistant to the Administrative Director Josef Puchta at the DKFZ. In 2014, Gabriele set up *DKFZ aktiv!* and the Corporate Health Management Program (BGM), coordinating the respective activities and in 2016 Mrs. Schulze-König became “Fachberater BGM”.



What is your biggest motivation to work in a scientific surrounding?

I am fascinated and inspired by the huge intrinsic motivation of scientists and by what can be achieved when strongly believing in a good cause.

What is your best professional decision?

That I keep all senses open and took the chances when they came along.

Who is your professional inspiration and why?

Those who show a great passion and commitment for what they do at work, but do not forget what is really important to them.

Dr. Wolfgang Huber, EMBL Heidelberg

1st of October 2020; 15:30-15:50

Talk: How to establish a leadership culture in the group and how to deal with difficult situations

Contact via [LinkedIn](#)



Dr. Wolfgang Huber studied physics at the University of Freiburg, and after obtaining a PhD in statistical physics at the same university, Dr. Huber did his postdoctoral research at the IBM Research in San José, USA and the DKFZ in Heidelberg. In 2004, Dr. Huber joined EMBL to start a research group at the European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI) in Cambridge and in 2009 Dr. Huber took up a position in the newly formed Genome Biology unit of EMBL in Heidelberg, and in 2011 he became EMBL Senior Scientist. Wolfgang jointly heads the Molecular Medicine Partnership Unit (MMPU) group Systems Medicine of Cancer Drugs with Sascha Dietrich from Heidelberg University Hospital; this group aims to understand intra- and inter-patient heterogeneity of response to anti-cancer drugs, a major clinical and scientific challenge. Huber is a founding member of the Bioconductor platform.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

To contribute something useful to human civilization by advancing our understanding of life, and by improving our biomedical tools to support healthier longer lives. It's also fun to be your own boss (mostly) and work with smart, enthusiastic people.

What is your best academic career decision?

To switch from being a PhD physicist / programmer to doing a PostDoc in cancer genomics (this was in the year 2000).

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Robert Gentleman; Insistence on always seeing the big picture and going for the big questions. Curiosity. Showing the benefits of abstraction. Demonstrating the power of collaborative, open-contribution and open-access development.

Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein, University of Bremen

1st of October 2020; 15:50-16:10

Talk: How to motivate and reward the effort and a job well done

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Prof. Dr. Janine Kirstein is a Professor at the University of Bremen affiliated to the cell biology department. She studied Biology at the University of Greifswald and did her PhD at the ZMBH in Heidelberg and University of Berlin. For her PostDoc she moved to Northwestern University in Chicago, which was funded by a Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP) fellowship. After 5 years in Chicago she moved back to Germany and became a principle investigator at the NeuroCure Excellence Cluster and a group leader at Leibniz Institute for Molecular Pharmacology in Berlin. Since 2019 Janine is a professor for Cell Biology at the university Bremen and leads an established research group. Her group focusses on mechanisms maintaining a functional proteome using *C. elegans* as model organism to identify key-players in proteostatic imbalance during aging and in neurodegenerative diseases

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

The freedom and joy of doing research. To leave footprints, to discover something new, to figure out a new mechanism.

What is your best academic career decision?

To not let doubts about job prospects, career perspectives keep me from pursuing the academic track.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

No one in particular, I get inspired by colleagues, my own students and those that develop new techniques - there is not enough appreciation for method development.

Dr. Florian Markowetz, Cancer Research UK Cambridge Institute

1st of October 2020; 16:10-16:30

Talk: How to present your work to your institution, field of research and public

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Dr. Florian Markowetz studied Mathematics and Philosophy in the University of Heidelberg before working towards his PhD in Computational Biology in the Free University Berlin for which he was awarded an Otto-Hahn Medal by the Max Planck Society. Dr. Markowetz did his postdoctoral research in the Lewis-Sigler Institute for Integrative Genomics at Princeton University, Princeton, USA and in 2009 he became a Junior group leader at Univ. of Cambridge, CRUK Cambridge Institute. Since 2014 Florian is a Senior group leader (tenured) at Univ. of Cambridge, CRUK Cambridge Institute where his group combines computational work on cancer evolution and image analysis of the tumour tissue with experimental work on understanding key cancer mechanisms like the estrogen receptor. Florian is a Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award holder and received a CRUK Future Leader in Cancer Research prize.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

- The freedom to explore different fields, questions and problems.
- The flexibility to support two careers in the family.
- The privilege to work in a well-funded and supportive environment.

What is your best academic career decision?

Not going to Harvard and never having to experience a soft money environment. Back in 2008, when I was agonizing over a decision between an established department in Harvard ("This is the one chance you have to go there, don't blow it," my PostDoc advisor insisted) and a freshly founded research institute without much of a track record and independent of the local university, my mentor (a DKFZ faculty member) told me: Make a list of what they are really offering beyond just wordy promises. Excellent advice to get my feet back on the ground. And I realized that in a very understated British way the CRUK Cambridge Institute had made me the best offer, a starting PI could ever have wished for.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

The people in my lab. I would love to claim that the direction of my lab is driven by my personal deep scientific insight and profound vision. But that would be a lie. In reality, the science in my lab is driven by the ideas my mentees have and that we nurture together.

Dr. Duncan Odom, DKFZ

1st of October 2020; 17:00-18:00

Talk: How my failures shaped my success



Dr. Duncan Odom did his PhD studies at the California Institute of Technology where he graduated in chemistry. He was then a postdoctoral fellow at the Whitehead Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts and continued his academic career by starting his independent research group at the University of Cambridge in 2006. In 2019 he moved with his research group to the DKFZ where he is the head of the division in regulatory genomics and cancer evolution. His research focusses on how the genomic sequence can shape the regulatory environment of the DNA and how this influences the cancer genome evolution. In 2014 he received the Francis Crick Medal and Lecture for his outstanding work, and became an EMBO Member in 2015. Apart from his exceptional research he is passionate about public outreach and he has also published two commentaries on how to choose the right **PhD** or **PostDoc** laboratories.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

Life is all about realising our intellectual and personal potentials, and I think this should be both a challenging and a fun endeavour. There are very few jobs like mine, where you can surround yourself with energetic, ambitious and clever people who share these values and really want to be their best. I love the German word for scientist: Wissenschaftler/in, a knowledge worker. That's what every person should be.

What is your best academic career decision?

A core value I have is that challenges and scientific opportunities are more important than a comfortable life. Not only does this explain my lab moving between USA, UK, and Germany, but explains my multiple field changes also. For instance, my graduate work was in bioinorganic chemistry - a scientific backwater. So right after I finished my PhD, I ruthlessly switched to genetics and genomics, which was an incredibly difficult transition. But if you never leave your comfort zone, whether that's geographic or scientific, then you cannot reach your greatest potential.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Paul Scudder was an organic chemistry professor at New College where I was an undergraduate. Every year, with eternal enthusiasm, he taught organic chemistry, not as a bunch of boring reactions you have to memorise, but an enthralling story of how electrons want to flow among atoms, centred around the carbon atom's incredible plasticity. It was not just inspiring - understanding this simple but fundamental insight made the better students in the class incredibly insightful and innovative thinkers, compared to their peers at other schools. Paul was 'just' a teacher - yet his students became world-leading organic chemists because of his training. Like Paul, if I can help my students and PostDoc reach their fullest potential, then we will together make a much bigger impact on the world than I alone ever could.

Jun.-Prof. Dr. Dr. Monika Hämmerle, University Hospital Halle (Saale)

2nd of October 2020; 12:30-12:50

Talk: How to conciliate clinical work and a research in a lab

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Prof. Dr. Monika Hämmerle is a trained pathologist who received her MD and PhD in Austria. Afterwards, she moved to Heidelberg becoming a pathology resident before starting a PostDoc at the DKFZ. After 3 years PostDoc at the DKFZ she moved to the USA to do a second PostDoc at the MD Anderson Cancer Center. Since 2019 she is funded by the Max-Eder program and leads a junior research group located at the university clinic. Beginning of this year she became an assistant professor at the Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg. Her junior research group defines novel mechanism and regulatory principles between tumours and their microenvironment to improve therapy decisions concerning immune checkpoint inhibitors.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

Make a difference in future cancer therapy.

What is your best academic career decision?

Doing my PostDoc in the US.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Physician scientists who successfully combine daily clinic routine and excellent research efforts.

Dr. Malte Paulsen, EMBL FACS Core Facility

2nd of October 2020; 12:50-13:10

Talk: How to motivate your lab with staff from clinics and research

Contact via [LinkedIn](#)



Dr. Malte Paulsen received his diploma in Biochemistry from the University of Konstanz, Germany and did his PhD at the DKFZ and University of Heidelberg. In 2011 he became head of the FACS Core Facility in the Institute for Molecular Biology Mainz GmbH and in 2013 he moved to London to take the management of the National Heart and Lung Institute FACS Facility at the Imperial College of London. In 2015 Malte became the head of the Flow Cytometry Core Facility of EMBL, Heidelberg and from November 2020 will become the head of the combined scientific platforms at the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Stem Cell Biology in Copenhagen, Denmark.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

The freedom of activity and thought that is pretty much only available in Academia - where in the world can you try to follow through with your ideas and interests if you are not a billionaire? I work and cooperate a lot with companies and R&D prone development co-operations and their world is very restricted. Science in academia is by all means not easy but at least you can make progress in your daily work on your own terms and not hunting down a series of milestones set by people far removed from the actual work.

What is your best academic career decision?

Accepting the route into core facility work and saying goodbye to the publication lottery. Facility work is high pressure and daily performance work, but at the end of the day, if you gave it your best it is very rewarding to fall into bed and not worry about what comes next in the experiment series. The cool part about core facility work is that the feedback of the users gives you real time evaluation and you can very quickly steer things if something is not working well.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Steffen Schmitt - plain and simple Steffen. He is embracing his work every day with the most positive attitude and never wavering with giving advice. Even if he's given that piece of information for the 10.000th time. Impressive.

apl. Prof. Dr. Gabriele Ende, University Hospital Mannheim, Core Facility ZIPP

2nd of October 2020; 13:10-13:30

Talk: How to lead a core facility in the clinic

Contact via **DKFZ Connect**



Prof. Dr. Gabriele Ende studied at the University of Heidelberg for her diploma in Physics. She did her PhD at MR Spectroscopy Unit at DKFZ. Her PhD thesis was on Double Resonance in 1H - 31P and 1H - 13C in vivo MR Spectroscopy: Dynamic Nuclear Polarization and Decoupling. After a PostDoc fellowship at University of California, she returned to Germany to work at Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim, and completed her 'Habilitation' at the University of Heidelberg. Currently she is the head of Neuroimaging and Core Facility CIPP, Mannheim. The goal of her research is to find multimodal imaging biomarkers for psychiatric conditions.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

The possibility to work largely self-determined and to implement my own ideas.

What is your best academic career decision?

I find it difficult to decide between the decision to do a PostDoc abroad and the decision to come and stay at the ZI.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

I cannot give a single name. There is not one role model for me. I see my career as a "niche career" that is oriented on many facets of various role models. Outstanding personalities among MR physicists, behavioural researchers and neuroscientists of all disciplines inspire me.

Prof. Dr. Cläre von Neubeck, University Hospital Essen and West-German Proton Therapy Center Essen (WPE)

2nd of October; 13:30-13:50

Talk: How to establish/maintain a core facility

Contact via **DKFZ Connect**



Prof. Dr. Cläre von Neubeck completed her biotechnology studies at the Darmstadt University of Applied Sciences. During her PhD (2006-2009) she worked at the GSI Helmholtz Center for Heavy Ion Research. She studied prostate cancer therapy by using carbon ions. In 2010 she moved to the US to do a PostDoc at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory for two years, where she researched the effect of space radiation on human skin for a NASA project. She was a senior PostDoc and project manager at OncoRay, University Hospital Dresden, Partnerside of the German Consortium for Translational Cancer Research Dresden and the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg between 2012-2019. Presently, she conducts research in the Department of Particle Therapy at the West German Proton Therapy Center Essen (WPE) at the Essen University Hospital. Her research focuses on the biological effectiveness of particle radiation in cell cultures, tissue sections, and in animal models.



DAAD: Funding and career opportunities for researchers in Germany

presented by Cécile Jeblawei, DAAD

Are you interested in pursuing your career in Germany? In our talk we will provide you with information on the numerous career opportunities that Germany offers to international researchers. You will learn more about:

- research and funding opportunities,
- the German research landscape,
- useful links to job portals.



We look forward to meeting you!

The host

Ms. Cécile Jeblawei's expertise lies in international academic cooperation and promoting Germany as a research destination worldwide. As team leader for Online Coordination and Social Media at the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), she represents the *Research in Germany* initiative of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. Having joined the *Research in Germany* team in April 2020 she currently coordinates all activities related to the extensive **Research in Germany** website, as well as the corresponding social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Youtube, Wechat).

Working at VectorBuilder: the world's leader in custom cloning and virus packaging solutions

presented by Dr. Justin Mirus, VectorBuilder

It is an exciting time for the growing VectorBuilder family. Having experienced steady growth the past number of years, the tight-knit and independent-thinking VectorBuilder Europe Team is looking to expand! I will provide a brief overview of VectorBuilder's services to give you a flavour for how we support researchers around the globe before delving informally into some details about our work culture, our expectations and the 'typical' work day for a VectorBuilder team member. We value free-thinking and this is reflected in the majority of our team members having PhDs. This informal discussion will also give us the opportunity to address the challenges that a small-to-medium biotech company faces/must overcome. I'm more than happy to field questions upfront or informally during this discussion and look forward to this opportunity!



The host

Justin Mirus

2017-present: Senior Territory Manager, VectorBuilder GmbH

2014-2017: PostDoc, MPI for Heart and Lung Research

2007-2013: PhD, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Round Table 1: “Family and Academia”

hosted by **Dr. Lorenza A. D'Alessandro, DKFZ** and **Dr. Carol Bacchus-Wermke**

Contact Dr. Carol Bacchus-Wermke via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)

Managing a professional career and caring for children or a relative in need of support represents a challenge. The compatibility of work and family care is a central issue and poses many questions to employees affecting career decisions, family balance, physical and mental health. What are the challenges and the acquired skills when being in such situation? Do you want to discuss it further?

At the round table on “Family and Academia” you will have the chance to discuss:

- Challenges and skills of managing a professional career and family - Share experience
- What is needed to balance life and work
- How does COVID-19 pandemic affect our life and work balance?
- Which measures are in place at DKFZ to support managing life and work?
- Contact information at DKFZ

The host

Dr. Lorenza A. D'Alessandro has been introduced [previously](#) in this booklet.

Dr. Carol Bacchus-Wermke

Dr. Carol Bacchus-Wermke studied biology and obtained her doctorate (Dr. sc. hum.) in human genetics at the University of Heidelberg. After 2 years as a PostDoc, she moved from Academia to Industry and worked for 3 years as a Study Director for reproductive toxicology at Hoffmann-La Roche (Basel). She then moved to the scientific publishing industry, where she gained profound knowledge in scientific publishing and communication as Editorial and Publishing Director for Life & Medical Sciences for Springer Verlag (Heidelberg), Thieme Verlag (Stuttgart), Wiley-VCH Verlag (Weinheim) and John Wiley & Sons (Shanghai). After 15 years in the publishing industry she joined the DKFZ in 2017, where she currently works for Prof. Dr. Michael Baumann as Editorial Manager for “Radiotherapy & Oncology”, the flagship journal of the European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (ESTRO). She is also Deputy Equal Opportunities and Diversity Officer for the DKFZ



What do you miss the most about doing research in Academia?

Probably the excitement of exploring unknown territory with the aim to progress in science and combat disease.

What is the major change in your life after stepping down research in Academia?

For me it was a complete mind change - from a purely scientific think tank to commercial thinking.

Who is your scientific inspiration, and why?

Women in science, who changed the world and are role models. From Marie Curie to Katherine Johnson or Rosalind Franklin, who should have received the Nobel prize for discovering the double helix.

Round Table 2: “Minorities in the Academic World”

hosted by **Dr. Alia Abukiwan, University Hospital Heidelberg**

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)

Moving to a different country and establishing yourself there can be daunting. Apart from professional challenges one also needs to deal with and overcome cultural, and especially in Germany, the language barrier. This round table will focus on these issues

What will be discussed

- How to adapt yourself to the host country
- What specific challenges you face as an outsider and how to handle it
- Breaking the barriers and flourishing

The host

Dr. Alia Abukiwan is from Jordan where she studied at the Al-al biet University, Almafraq for her Bachelors in Biological Sciences. She moved to Heidelberg, Germany and did her Masters at DKFZ in Molecular Biosciences. She continued at DKFZ for her doctoral studies, which she completed. Her PhD thesis was on Dexamethasone-induced microRNA regulation of pancreatic cancer progression. After a PostDoc at DKFZ she has now become a project leader in the Division of Endocrinology at the University Hospital of Heidelberg, where her focus is on micrRNAs in diabetic complications.



What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

I am a person that is hugely thinking outside the box. I felt that my work and passion for discovering the molecular biology world would positively fuel my motivation and encourage me to stay in Academia. Frankly, from a very young age, I had inspirations of becoming a scientist. I was a curious girl who wanted to know "how?" and "why?". I was amazed by the stories my teacher told me about famous scientists like Marie Curie and many others.

What is your best academic career decision?

My current position (PostDoc and project leader). I've been privileged to work with some amazing researchers through my career in DKFZ, and I wouldn't be where I am today without their support. When I applied to a project leader position at the Heidelberg university hospital, I never thought I would get it; it was a dream to me. But since 2018, that dream became a reality. My current position has given me the freedom and resources to follow my instincts. I love the fact that excellent scientists and medical doctors always surround and supported me.

Who is your scientific inspiration, and why?

So many people inspired me differently. But my first inspired person is Marie Curie because she was successful as a woman, a mother, and a scientist.

Round Table 3: “Ethics in Academia”

hosted by Prof. Dr. Jörg Hoheisel, DKFZ

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)

The scientific community functions on a foundation of trust that can often be misused. Ethical behaviour and scientific integrity are extremely important for scientific progress. Academic ethics encompasses many issues such as research integrity, maintaining a culture of honesty, plagiarism, bullying, etc. These issues can be reinforced both at an institutional and personal level. Join this round table round to discuss the tenets of ethics in Academia, how to remain ethical in the face of pressure, and the ramifications of unethical behaviour.

The host

Prof. Dr. Jörg Hoheisel heads the *Division of Functional Genome Analysis* at DKFZ ([website](#)) and is one of the three ombudspeople. Until recently, he acted as the chairman of the Scientific Council for altogether 11 years. His research aims at understanding the molecular realization of cellular function from genetic information.

His scientific journey started with his PhD work at the University of Constance in Germany on the subject of topologically induced DNA structures, such as Z-DNA and cruciform DNA. He studied biophysical properties and biological implications.

During a five-year postdoctoral term at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London, UK, which was partly funded by an EMBO fellowship, he developed and applied genome-mapping processes using array-based techniques as a preparation for large-scale genome sequencing. After moving to DKFZ, he was coordinator as part of the international consortium that was sequencing the yeast genome. In addition, he was much involved in early developments in the area of microarray technology and used it in studies on various biological systems.

His current focus has shifted to the analysis of variations in protein abundance, localization, structure and interaction by means of affinity proteomics. Concerning cancer, his emphasis is on pancreatic tumours. His work covers the entire range from performing basic science for the elucidation of relevant molecular mechanisms, via investigating non-invasive processes for molecular diagnosis, to setting up investigator-initiated therapy trials. Another, more recent line of work is in *Synthetic Biology* for the *in vitro* production of orthogonal functional biomolecules and the establishment of artificial molecular systems.

During his career, Jörg has supervised 84 PhD students (finished and ongoing theses). Apart from some 480 scientific publications, his division filed a substantial number of patents, of which some were licensed out. He also was involved in the formation of four companies, of which two are listed at the stock exchange meanwhile. Another four companies were founded by former group members independently.



Dr. Nina Cabezas Wallscheid, MPI of Immunobiology and Epigenetics, Freiburg

2nd of October 2020; 15:10-15:30

Talk: How to apply to an ERC grant

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Dr. Nina Cabezas-Wallscheid studied biotechnology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. She moved to Germany to pursue her PhD at the Medical Center of Mainz and her research focused on the evolution of transcriptional landscapes and cancer stem cell hierarchies using a pre-leukemic and leukemic mouse model. After a PostDoc at the Division of Stem Cells and Cancer at DKFZ she recently started her own research group at the Max Planck Institute of Immunobiology and Epigenetics (MPI-IE) in Freiburg. Her research group aims to investigate the hematopoietic stem cells metabolism.

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The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is a joint organisation of German institutions of higher education and their student bodies devoted to internationalising the academic and scientific research system. With the scholarship programmes, the DAAD enables students, researchers and university lecturers to take advantage of the best study and research opportunities available.

“Research in Germany” provides practical information to help international researchers earn a PhD in Germany, collaborate with German research organisations or complete a research stay in Germany. For more information about the “Research in Germany” campaign, please click [here](#).

Follow the DAAD on [Twitter](#).

Dr. Barbara Pauly, Human Frontier Science Program, Director of Fellowships

2nd of October 2020; 15:30-15:50

Talk: Funding opportunities and criteria

Contact via [LinkedIn](#)

Follow the HFSP on [Twitter](#).



Dr. Barbara Pauly completed her PhD in Cell Biology at the University of Munich (Germany) and the University of Edinburgh (UK). She then worked at the University of California at Berkeley (USA) as a postdoctoral researcher, before joining EMBO reports in 2008 as a scientific editor. In 2014, she was promoted to Senior Editor at the same journal. In 2016 she joined the Human Frontier Science Program (HFSP) in Strasbourg (France) as Director of Fellowships. At HFSP, Barbara is responsible for the postdoctoral Fellowships and the Career Development Award programs.

What do you miss the most about doing research in Academia?

I miss finding things out myself and make discoveries that I can discuss with fellow scientists. It is exciting to read about scientific ideas and discoveries made by others, as I do now and as I did as a scientific editor, but sometimes I miss being at the bench or the microscope and feeling the excitement of finding something new or unexpected.

What is the major change in your life after stepping down research in Academia?

After having left Academia, I moved away from doing work in the lab and nowadays work mainly in an office. However, I still attend scientific conferences and interact with scientists all over the world and this is very rewarding and exciting. It is a different way of thinking about science, but I am still very close to what interests me most, so I feel very lucky with what I am doing.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

I cannot pin down a single person who inspired me most, but I have had a number of mentors throughout my scientific career who inspired me both personally and scientifically.

Vitaliy Bondarenko, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR)

2nd of October 2020; 15:50-16:10

Talk: How to apply for a Marie Curie fellowship

Follow the MSC Actions on [Twitter](#).



Mr. Vitaliy Bondarenko is a foreign language teacher and holds a Magister degree from the University of Bonn. In addition, he is sworn interpreter and court certified translator for the Russian and Ukrainian languages. From 2006 to 2013 he worked as an educator of Russian and Ukrainian languages at the German Federal Language Agency (Bundessprachenamt). He then moved to Alexander von Humboldt Foundation where he was a Research advisor till 2015. Currently, he is employed as staff member of the German National Contact Point for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR) and coordinator of the German EURAXESS network.

What is your biggest motivation to stay in science and Academia?

Working for a scientific research funding agency is a great opportunity to get in touch with recent developments in the various scientific field

What is your best academic career decision?

As I work for the German Aerospace Center, I would be happy to contribute to developing of electric aeroplanes, which may drastically cut plane emissions and reduce aircraft noise pollution.

Who is your scientific inspiration and why?

Working for the German National Contact Point for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions I am full of admiration for Marie Skłodowska Curie who has so far been the only woman to win the Nobel Prize twice and the only person to win the Nobel Prize in two scientific fields.

Dr. Deniz Senyilmaz Tiebe, Scientific Editor, EMBO

2nd of October 2020; 16:10-16:30

Talk: How to become a scientific editor and Behind the Scenes of the Publishing Process at EMBO Press.

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)



Dr. Deniz Senyilmaz Tiebe received her PhD from the University of Heidelberg. During her PhD work in the laboratory of Aurelio Teleman at the DKFZ, she uncovered a dedicated signaling pathway through which stearic acid regulates mitochondria. During her PostDoc, one of her projects focused on the effects of dietary stearic acid on human metabolism, which was a collaboration with the lab of Peter Nawroth at the Heidelberg University Hospital. Deniz joined EMBO Reports in 2018, where she covers subject categories such as metabolism, cell cycle, angiogenesis and cytoskeleton.

Dr. Sigrid Ziegler, DFG Program Officer Life Science 3: Medicine, Bonn

2nd of October 2020; 16:30-16:50

Talk: Does and Don'ts when applying to DFG

Contact via [LinkedIn](#) or [DKFZ Connect](#)

Follow the DFG on [Twitter](#).



The DFG is the self-governing organisation for science and research in Germany. It serves all branches of science and the humanities. One of the DFG's key objectives is the advancement of early career researchers. It therefore offers them programs which provide appropriate support at every phase of their qualification. The DFG is especially committed to the early independence of researchers and supports the recruitment of talented scientists and academics from at home and abroad for German research.

Dr. Sigrid Ziegler holds a PhD in natural sciences and joined the German Research Foundation in 2018. As part of the department for scientific affairs she is responsible for several scientific areas and all proposals submitted there.

Useful Links on Funding and Grant Writing

Funding Opportunities in Germany

<https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/phd-studies-and-research/phd-studies/>

<https://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-programmes/overview-all-funding-programmes.html>

<https://www.mpie.de/2979689/German-funding-programmes.pdf>

Funding Opportunities in Europe

<https://erc.europa.eu/>

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/funded-projects>

Grant Writing

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03914-5>

<https://blog.mendeley.com/2017/06/15/how-to-write-a-good-research-funding-application/>

For DKFZ members

www.dkfz.de/postdoc/pocketguide

<https://careercheck.dkfz.de/Resources/FundingApplication>

DKFZ Career Service

www.dkfz.de/careers

The DKFZ Career Service aims to support all Masters, Doctoral Researchers and PostDoc at the DKFZ in planning their professional future by providing



Career Guidance

- 1-to-1 Career Guidance appointments
- CV and Cover Letter review



Career Information & Training

- Career info events (Career Days, Career Coffee/Lunch, ...) dkfz.de/careerday
- Seminars/Trainings (Job Applications/Interviews, Business Skills, ...)



Career Network

- Platform: dkfz-connect.de for current and former DKFZ scientists
- Group: [linkedin.com/groups/DKFZ-Career-Network-4831669](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/DKFZ-Career-Network-4831669)
- Page: [facebook.com/phdcareers](https://www.facebook.com/phdcareers)

Career Guidance for DKFZ Researchers

DKFZ Researchers can book an appointment with a Career Advisor for a personal and confidential guidance interview of 25min or 50min. PostDocs with Barbara Janssens or Esther Mills and Doctoral Researchers and Masters Students with Marion Gürth. For booking please use the contact form on careercheck.dkfz.de.

There are different modules:

A. Career Development Plan (CDP)

The DKFZ [Career Center for PostDocs](#) offers competence assessment and support in creating and reviewing an individual Career Development Plan. In addition, for Doctoral Researchers a CDP can be useful and we recommend doing the self-assessment on careercheck.dkfz.de before your appointment.

B. Career Transition Plan (CTP)

How and where to look for professional possibilities, application and interview preparation. You already have a career plan A (and B!) and would like to discuss how to get there, how to contact people/networking and/or receive feedback on your application.

If you have a specific question/something good to know to prepare the meeting, please email us. It is useful if you check availability of your preferred Advisor and make a suggestion for time and date via the Outlook Calendar App.



We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Career Service Office
DKFZ main building (8th floor) H828 and H832
Email careers@dkfz.de
phone: +49 6221 42 2146 and -1762

DKFZ Career Check

<https://careercheck.dkfz.de>

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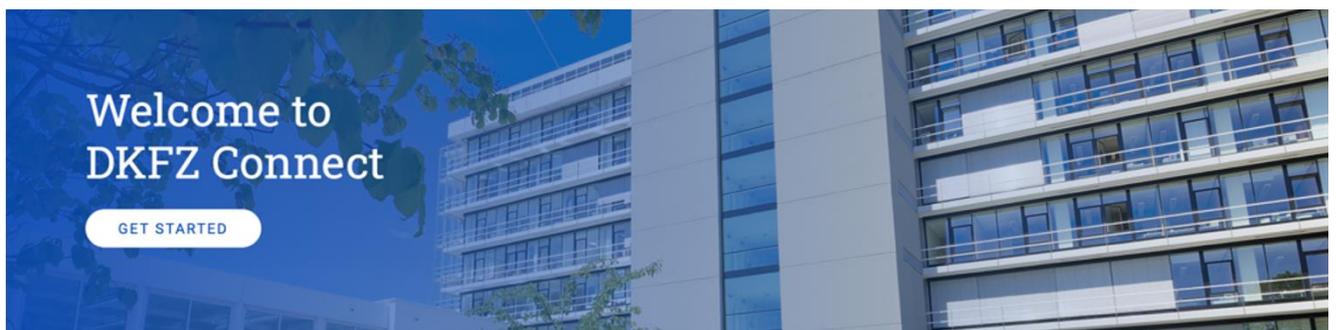
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- Global Biomaging - Training Programme Manager**
EMBL
- Tierschutzbeauftragter / Tierarzt (m/w/d)**
DKFZ, Zentrum für Präklinische Forschung

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Join the “DKFZ Mentoring – Tailored to your needs”!



The **DKFZ Tailored Mentoring** is designed to meet the needs of both young and advanced staff by offering opportunities as mentees to build new networks, to bond with experienced mentors, and to expand one’s professional skills and competencies in line with one’s personal future career plans. Mentors are recruited from senior staff at DKFZ Heidelberg, NCT, DKTK, and from industry and/or collaboration partners, i.e. DKFZ Alumni and collaboration research institutes.

The DKFZ mentoring program is open to ALL DKFZ employees whether scientific, technical and/or administrative staff and is divided into two tracks: a basic and an advanced track.

The **basic mentoring track** addresses the needs of junior staff, i.e. master and PhD students or practicing technical staff. ***The basic track is based on DKFZ Connect, don’t miss the chance and register now!***

The **advanced mentoring track** is tailored to the needs of more experienced and advanced employees. For the advanced track an application and selection process is required to enable customized matching of mentees and mentors.

The “DKFZ Mentoring – Tailored to your needs”- program” was officially launched in September 2019! Currently 29 mentees are enrolled in the Advanced track!

*For more information visit the [DKFZ Tailored Mentoring homepage](#).
For questions, contact the Equal Opportunities and Diversity Office:
equality@dkfz.de*

The programme is coordinated by the Equal Opportunities and Diversity Office of the DKFZ in cooperation with Advanced Training, the Career Service, the Grants Office, the international PostDoc & Clinician Scientist programme and the international PhD program.

October 2020 - Mental Health Awareness Month at DKFZ



OCTOBER 2020 | **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH @DKFZ**

Weekly emails and interactive seminars addressing the topic of mental health in the workplace:

08/10 12:00	Risk and protective factors for mental health Prof. Angela Heinrich (in English)	Organised by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PhD Council• Postdoc Network (PDN)• PhD Program Office• Postdoc Program Office• Equal Opportunities & Diversity• Corporate Health Management Program (CHM) Further information and link to online seminar livestream: Shared via weekly emails and on DKFZ intranet pages (search 'Mental Health Awareness')
14/10 12:00	Ways to promote your own mental health Dr. Sonja Noss (in English)	
21/10 12:00	Harassment in the workplace: It concerns us all! Martina Peskoller-Fuchs (in English)	
27/10 11:00	Unterstützung am DKFZ und darüber hinaus & Verschiedene Sprecher (auf Deutsch)	
28/10 11:00	Practical support at the DKFZ and beyond Various speakers (in English)	

Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum (DKFZ) | Im Neuenheimer Feld 280 | 69120 Heidelberg

During the month of October, aligned to the World Mental Health Day on 10. October, the **Mental Health Awareness** campaign aiming to raise awareness and provide support on the various aspects of mental health in the context of a research environment is taking place at DKFZ.

The campaign will:

- Promote a mentally healthy working environment
- Inform on how to recognize warning signs for each person individually as well as how to identify signs amongst colleagues
- Encourage to take responsibility for own wellbeing and to help others
- Provide information contacts when in need of help
- Practical tips to prevent and manage stress

During the campaign there will be a weekly seminar series on the topic of mental health: don't miss them! For more information visit the webpage on Mental Health Awareness campaign on the DKFZ intranet.

The Mental Health Awareness campaign is coordinated by the international PhD program in cooperation with the PhD Council, the Corporate Health Management, the Equal Opportunities and Diversity Office, the international PostDoc & Clinician Scientist programme, the PostDoc Network.

Equal opportunities and diversity at DKFZ



The Equal opportunities and diversity office at DKFZ provides **counselling on work-life balance** when planning to have children and information on childcare centers and possible solutions according to individual case's needs. It also provides **information** on what to do in case of unexpected family situation occurs and close relatives need support.

Since October 2017 a yearly **flea market for children items** takes place at DKFZ to give opportunity to young families at DKFZ to meet and share experiences. The event also supports networking among employees from different research units, administrative staff and infrastructure. The equal opportunities and diversity officer organize a **running team** for family with kids at the yearly benefit NCT run including activities for kids before the run.

The DKFZ together with its network partners address every year the topic "balance work and care" in an annually alternating lecture series "**Family care from A-Z**" (*Angehörigenpflege von A-Z*).

To discover more about all the activities of the Equal opportunities and diversity office, visit DKFZ intranet page!

Would you like to collaborate? Contact us: equality@dkfz.de

Career Day 2020



Career Day: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

December 3 – 4, 2020

ONLINE

Day 1

Session 1 — Academia vs. Industry

Session 2 — PM in Industry

Day 2

Session 1 — PM in Academia

Session 2 — Climbing up the hierarchy

December 2nd
Project Management Workshop



Organized by the
DKFZ Career Service

www.dkfz.de/careerday

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Upcoming Career Days 2021



Do you want to join one of the organizing teams?

Publishing (May 7, 2021)

Entrepreneurship (Oct 1, 2021)

Research & Development (Dec 10, 2021)

Register now via [DKFZ Connect](#) or careers@dkfz.de for the

Career Day **ORGA BOOT CAMP 2021**

Friday **January 22**, 2PM – 6PM

(Opening event "Hands-on Project Management" Training)

Thank you and please give your Feedback!

We value your Feedback.

Share your thoughts on the event, what you liked and what can be improved!