



# newsletter

PostDoc Network

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*Dear Postdocs and Colleagues*

*We are back again, after a short gap, with our new Autumn issue!! Before the holiday mood sets in next month and we all get homesick, we would like to update you about all the interesting events since our last Newsletter was published. In this issue, Nádia Correia narrates the story of the discovery of Tobacco Smoke as a Carcinogen in the 'Did you know' section. We also present to you an interesting book review by Ulrike Träger, who gives us an insight into Karin Bodewits's book 'You must be very intelligent – The PhD Delusion', which describes the struggles of PhD life. Additionally, Michael Fletcher presents a brief report on the 2 years of Research Lounge and discusses new ideas, and Doris Schneller describes how lively and wonderful this year's PostDoc retreat was. Additionally, read about the success story of the Project Management Career Day and the European Researcher's Night in September, written by Deblina Chakraborty and Philipp Gebhardt respectively.*

*We are also delighted to share the career paths of two DKFZ alumni, Eva Nievergall and Kristin Rattay. Moreover, this issue also informs about opportunities for advanced training for Postdocs (p12). In addition, learn how to plan your career development step-by-step, with valuable information from career service (p13). Also, learn more about the upcoming Career day on Entrepreneurship and Biotech (p14).*

*Finally, we would like to update you on changes within the PDN committee. After organizing many rounds of get-togethers, Barbara Costa is stepping down from her post to make way for a new organiser. We would like to thank Barbara Costa for all the hard work put in to organise events like bowling, wine tasting, bbq and skating, to name only a few. We also welcome the new PDN committee members Mine Özcan, Christos Patsis and Neda Yahoo, who joined us recently. One of them will take up the post of the get-together organizer.*

*....until the next issue,*

*Deblina Chakraborty, Nádia Correia and Angela Riedel*

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## Did you know?

Text by Nádia Correia, PDN

### Discovery of Tobacco Smoke as a Carcinogen

We all know that Tobacco smoke is one of the most preventable causes of cancer. But do you know the long and intricate history of how the perspective about smoking changed from innocuous to the most common carcinogen known to humans? And how research contributed to that? Here we offer you a synopsis of the chapter “Coffins of black” from the book “Emperor Of All Maladies A Biography Of Cancer” by Siddhartha Mukherjee, telling this true story.

In **1761**, John Hill, an apothecary in London, published for the first time a pamphlet entitled *Cautions against the Immoderate Use of Snuff* [oral tobacco]. Published without the backing of any medical authority, this pamphlet was received with suspicion by the medical community. At the same time, the import of tobacco was escalating dramatically, nearly tripling between 1700 and 1770 in England. In the mid 1800's, the introduction of “rolling it into combustible paper” technique further escalated tobacco use and in just 30 years the consumption increased from just one cigar per citizen per year to 3.5 billion cigarettes and 6 billion cigars being consumed in America every year!

It was precisely this rapid ascendancy of tobacco consumption that made its medical hazards practically invisible. When a risk factor for a disease becomes so highly prevalent in a population, it paradoxically begins to disappear into the background. If 4 out of 5 men were smoking cigarettes and not all developed cancer, how could one identify the cause?

Only in 1947, the British government alerted about a 5-fold increase in lung cancer morbidity in the preceding 20 years, and asked the Medical Research Council to organize a conference of experts. The goal: To study the inexplicable rise of lung cancer rates and hunt for a cause. The result: Every breathable form of toxin was blamed except cigarette smoke! Nevertheless, all the experts agreed that a more systematic study was needed to identify the risk factor for lung cancer. An eminent biostatistician, **Austin Bradford Hill** and a medical researcher, **Richard Doll**, were appointed to this study. Concurrently, in the US, **Evarts Graham** – a renowned surgeon in St. Louis - and his student **Ernest Wynder** also designed a case-control study to find risk factors for lung cancer. Irony about this duo: Graham, who had pioneered the pneumonectomy (the resection of the lung to remove tumors) and a smoker for more than 50 years, was a strong unbeliever of the tobacco-lung cancer causality, while his student wanted to prove him wrong.

Nevertheless, both studies performed on two populations across two continents converged on almost the same magnitude of risk and were published in **1948** in the British Medical Journal and in the Journal of the American Medical Association. However, to calculate a relative risk of lung cancer among smokers versus nonsmokers a prospective study had to be designed, in which a cohort of smokers and nonsmokers would be followed over time. Fortunately in the UK in 1951, there was a centralized registry with more than 60.000 entries of all doctors involved in the national health care system. Doll and Hill simply questioned their patients about their smoking habits and observed in the following 29 month that, not surprisingly, all the deaths due to lung cancer had occurred in smokers. The difference between the two groups was so significant that complex statistical metrics were not necessary to discern it. Doll and Hill published their study in **1956** — the very same year in which tobacco consumption reached its highest peak at 45% among the adult American population.

Concerned about Doll's and Hill's studies, cigarette producers advertised the benefits of cigarette filters as a "safety" measure. Moreover, cigarette companies launched a counterattack to discredit the research that was done, obfuscated the facts and tried to raise suspicion among the public. With a genius move, tobacco companies then proposed to assist in the research that - according to them - *still* needed to be done. After a decade of intense marketing - targeting specific population groups like woman, soldiers, Latinos, and even advertising in medical journals - Americans were consuming on average 11 cigarettes per day by the early 60's.

In the following decades, there was a vivid counter argumentation between tobacco industry and academic researchers, including opinionated editorials, exaggerated scrutiny of the concept of *cause*, but also inspired experiments, historic reorganization of epidemiological research and firm prove of association of tobacco with lung cancer. Years of research had correlated smoking with not only lung cancer but also with lip, throat, tongue, and esophageal cancer.

Remember the surgeon Ernest Graham? He died from lung cancer in 1957 at the peak of his career. However, together with Wynder, he dedicated his career to establish a solid epidemiological link between cigarettes and lung cancer. One of his final warnings about the subject urged to find a political solution to restrict tobacco's spread.

Finally, pressured by the American Cancer Society and other health associations, President Kennedy appointed a national commission to investigate the link between smoking and health in **1961**. This commission should seek, in his words, "a solution to this health problem that would interfere least with the freedom of industry or the happiness of individuals." Nearly 15 years had passed since the Doll and Wynder studies, and several other publications had validated, confirmed, and reconfirmed their results. In medical circles, the link between tobacco and cancer was so strongly acknowledged that most investigators had begun to focus on secondhand smoke as a risk factor. The commission simply revisited the evidence to vivify it into the public's eye. They found the relationship between smoking and lung cancer to be one of the strongest in the history of cancer epidemiology — remarkably significant, conserved between diverse populations, durable over time, and remarkably reproducible in every trial. Nevertheless, politically there was no capacity – or interest? – to regulate tobacco consumption.

It was at this point in history that cigarette packages started to be labeled, but what passed through Congress was an attenuated shadow of the original intended label: "Caution: *Cigarette smoking may be hazardous to your health*". The dire, potent language of the original label — containing the words cancer, cause, and death — was excluded. Although a disappointment, this was one of the first breakthroughs that galvanized the anti-tobacco forces.

In **1966**, a barely-out-of-law-school attorney, **John Banzhaf** remembered about the "fairness doctrine," which held that public broadcast media had to allow "fair" airtime to opposing viewpoints on controversial issues. Based on this doctrine, a court decision in 1968 was made, and "proportional airtime" had to be given to pro-tobacco and anti-tobacco advertising. Television was flooded with anti-smoking commercials. In the late 1970s, these campaigns led the tobacco companies to voluntarily withdraw cigarette advertising from broadcast media. The effect was "tremendous": after having risen for six decades, annual cigarette consumption in America plateaued at about 4.000 cigarettes per capita.

The following decades were prolific in product-liability cases launched against tobacco companies. One worth mentioning was the 1983 case of the lung cancer patient Rose Cipollone against three cigarette manufacturers—Liggett, Lorillard, and Philip Morris. Her attorney, Marc Edell, argued that cigarette manufacturers had not revealed their true knowledge of smoking as a cancer risk factor to consumers such as Rose. Edell's insistence allowed him to ask the courts for unprecedented access to the internal files of the companies. This created a historic precedent, allowing others to raid the same cabinet of horrors by exhuming the internal files of tobacco industries. In 1987, the jury found Rose Cipollone 80% and Liggett 20% responsible for her cancer. Still, no intervention had single-handedly decimated tobacco consumption, but the cumulative effort of scientific evidence, political pressure, and legal interventions had worn the industry down. By **1994**, the annual per capita consumption of cigarettes in America had dropped for twenty straight years (from 4.141 in 1974 to 2.500 in 1994).

In the end: "It remains an astonishing, disturbing fact that in America - a nation where nearly every new drug is subjected to rigorous scrutiny as a potential carcinogen, and even the bare hint of a substance's link to cancer ignites a firestorm of public hysteria and media anxiety - one of the most potent and common carcinogens known to humans can be freely bought and sold at every corner store for a few dollars." (Siddhartha Mukherjee) –

Send us your 'Did you know' contributions to [d.chakraborty@dkfz-heidelberg.de](mailto:d.chakraborty@dkfz-heidelberg.de)

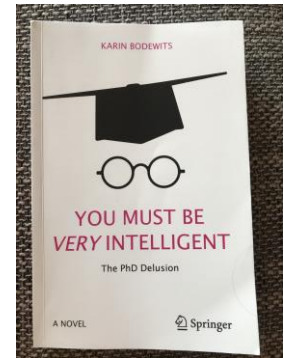
## A fairy tale gone bad - A book review

Text by Ulrike Träger, PDN

### [“You must be very intelligent – The PhD Delusion”](#)

By Karin Bodewits'

ISBN 978-3-319-59321-0



Karin Bodewits' partly autobiographic book "You must be very intelligent – The PhD Delusion" is a revealing, tongue in cheek tale about PhD life. We first meet Karin as an idealistic, yet naïve student who wants to add to our knowledge and make a difference in the science world. She jumps at the chance to do her PhD at the prestigious University of Edinburgh - surely the best place to accomplish her goals. 42 chapters and three years later Karin is a different person – frustrated, disheartened and fed up with science. What happened? The realisation that working at a high-ranked university does not protect from choleric, over-enthusiastic supervisors, who change your project every five minutes before losing interest in your work altogether; unsocial, power-mad lab mates trying to steal your publications or underfunded labs making it hard to do any meaningful experiments.

The book shows a PhD student struggling with, for academics all too familiar, bouts of feeling insufficient, lonely, anxious and the pressure to perform to your own standards and what you think others expect of you. That and the reality of science politics - authorship ranking is rarely fair, lack of job perspectives and security - makes this book a revealing and realistic peek behind the curtain of science. This may sound like a depressing affair, but it is also full of witty anecdotes, such as professors sending virtual pets to pretty PhD-students or PostDocs blowing up hotel rooms with dry-ice, making the book a truly enjoyable read.

For academics, this book will remind them of their own journey and that they are not alone in their struggles. Potential PhD students can use it to make an informed decision and not be blinded by the promise of a perfect science world. "You must be very intelligent" is full of good advice, like the importance of choosing the right PhD position. Knowing the pitfalls, you hopefully ask the right questions at your interview. But this book is not just for academics. Everyone thinking PhDs must be very intelligent can learn a lot from this book and understand scientists a bit better in the process. Indeed, that is what the author intended: "I actively chose to write it humorously and, as a friend pointed out, 'Sex and the City and Science' style. I do want to show that scientists are a hilarious, somehow odd bunch of perceived brainiacs, but that at the same time we are just human beings like anyone else."

By the end of the book, you may wonder if Karin has given up on science, or at least the way science is conducted these days. But asked if she would do it again her answer is clear: "Yes, science is great! I was naïve, unlucky and rushed my decision about which PhD programme to join. I would still choose a scientific field for my undergrad studies if I were to choose again. Scientists have been proven to be more open-minded and flexible compared to other people. At the same time, we are less sociable, more arrogant and dominant. Not surprising; it is a somewhat uncanny bunch of people and in most universities we are not punished for our strangeness. It is scientific output that counts. To a certain extent, academia seems to be a drip can of weird personalities, where everyone is welcome. It makes for a strange but interesting workplace. It is this environment, where you have the freedom of being yourself, which, despite its drawbacks, I came to love. So, I'd probably decide for a PhD again. A different PhD." I think this answer sums up the spirit of the book perfectly. While it is in large parts the tragic story of a painful PhD experience, it is also light-hearted and full of lessons. It does not mean science is all bad. Just that there are areas that need to be worked on by the science community. And books like this will help as it starts a conversation.

## Research Lounge at the end of year 2: what comes next?

Text by Michael Fletcher, PDN

Two years on from the first Research Lounge (RL), the PDN committee is looking for fresh blood and new ideas to ensure that the RL is meeting the needs of the community in the future.

Our original idea, for an informal event for DKFZ researchers of all levels to come and discuss their research and network with each other, has been a smashing success.

Here are some statistics:

- **14** events (from 08.12.2016 until 03.09.2018; roughly 1 every 2 months)
- **28** total speakers
- **25** average attendance (range: from ~15 to a packed house in K1+2 for Peter Lichter's talk)
- **2** venues (DKFZ K1+2, IIC Seminar Room)

We have generally stuck to the structure as proposed: half-and-half short talks and networking/discussion time, followed by pizza and drinks.

The founding concept of "scientific troubleshooting" was followed for about half of the RLs that we've had. However, because finding 2-3 speakers every month was extremely hard work, we also started hosting "Special Editions" where we would have speakers on a specific topic: Behind the Scenes of a Cell paper (with the PhD network), getting DNA into cells (DNZ Vector Lab), A Journal Editor's Perspective (IJC Editor-in-Chief Prof. Peter Lichter), Statistics, Obesity and Cancer (Profs. Rudolf Kaaks and Matthias Haikenwlder), Microscopy, and Project Management (Dr. Axel Szabowski).

From my personal perspective, it has been a great success, and we have definitely brought together researchers who might never otherwise interact. For example, we had a lovely moment early on where a technician was presenting their issue with a particular Western blot... and we had a postdoc in the audience who was able to help (SMARCA4!).

Furthermore, we were able to host discussions about important, but not directly research topics, such as reproducibility and statistics. Other productive results of the RL include PIs talking to each other about potential collaborations, and the establishment of the new R and statistics help DKFZ mailing list.

However, there are also some clear areas for improvement. Finding speakers is 95% of the work and really, really hard. There is just not a culture in the institute of presenting that would encourage people to volunteer. We had huge fluctuations in attendance which could be put down to various factors (the topic, what time of day/week/month, ...).

In an ideal future, I believe a sustainable model for the RL would be to have an orga "committee" (although I wouldn't use this word, a Whatsapp group might literally be a better way of thinking about it) consisting of postdocs and students. Between them they could balance the workload of finding topics and speakers; as the saying goes, many hands make light work.

**Do you have ideas? Comments? Suggestions? Or maybe even you want to join in? Drop Mike ([m.fletcher@dkfz-heidelberg.de](mailto:m.fletcher@dkfz-heidelberg.de)) or the committee ([pdn-committee@dkfz-heidelberg.de](mailto:pdn-committee@dkfz-heidelberg.de)) to find out more.**



## DKFZ PostDoc Retreat 2018 – bringing together expertise and friends

Text by Doris Schneller, PDN



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In October 2018, the **7<sup>th</sup> annual DKFZ PostDoc retreat** organized by the PostDoc Network took place at the Herz-Jesu-Kloster in Neustadt. The focus of this year's retreat was on scientific contributions by the PostDocs themselves. During the two day event, PostDocs from the DKFZ, NCT, DKTK and ZMBH presented their scientific research in talks and poster sessions and took the opportunity to exchange their ideas and to expand their professional network. The combination of scientific and social program allowed not only to talk about science and projects but also to chat about work and life balance and PostDocs' life in Heidelberg in general.

Our invited speaker, Angela Wagner, used her interactive workshop to make the participants aware of the different stages leading to burnout and additionally provided some exercises to deal with stress and therefore avoid depletion of energy or strength. Sabine Schuler-Hofmann from the DKFZ Career Service emphasized the importance of career development. Participants had the opportunity to talk to her in one to one sessions about their future.

The PDN would like to thank all participants for their active support and making the PostDoc Retreat 2018 a great success! We hope to see many of you again at our **PostDoc Retreat 2019 which will be held at the Herz-Jesu Monastery, Neustadt on the 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> of October**. Check out our homepage for latest updates concerning the upcoming Retreat: <http://www.dkfz.de/en/postdoc-network/retreat.html>.

### **PostDoc Retreat 2019**

*When?* 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> of October

*Where?* Herz-Jesu Monastery, Neustadt

## Career Day: Project Management

Text by Deblina Chakraborty, PDN

On **September 28th 2018**, the DKFZ organized the **Project Management Career Day** in the communication center with 142 participants. 13 DKFZ alumni speakers were invited, who enthusiastically shared their experiences with the PhD students, PostDocs and a few master's students, on their transition from PhD/PostDoc to Project Management. The program was divided into 3 main sessions which included topics like project management in academia, industry and consultancy.



picture credit: Haiko Schellhammer



picture credit: Jens Langstein

The talks mainly emphasized the daily working profile of a Project Manager and how different it is from scientific benchwork. The speakers also stressed the importance of developing effective communication and organizational skills to excel as a Project Manager. Many records were broken during the Career Day. **Speed Dating** was introduced for the first time in DKFZ, where participants got the chance to ask questions to a panel of DKFZ science managers. Each participant had 5 minutes for a one-on-one interaction with each manager in the panel. The round table discussions after the talks were also very informative and their new location (K1/K2) was appreciated by the participants. After the sessions, a very interactive panel discussion was held with 5 speakers and 85 attendees, on the topic '**Strategies to find a PM Job in academia or industry**' and the participants availed of the extremely useful suggestions from the speakers.

The participants also got an opportunity to get a photo clicked for their CV by a professional photographer. They also found the job board quite useful. Moreover, the participants had the chance to learn more project management skills in the workshop 'Ensuring Effectiveness in Scientific Projects' by hfp consulting, that took place on the previous day.

Participants also enjoyed the Tombola round at the end of the day, where they could win prizes after submitting their feedback and could interact further with the speakers during this time. The organizers received positive reviews from the attendees, especially on the speed dating, and the overall event was very successful. Directly after the Career Day, the attendees could enjoy themselves at the European Researcher's Night.

## What do scientists do at night?

Text by Philipp Gebhardt, DKFZ International Postdoc Program

To start answering this question, one can say that at least during the night of the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018, many of the DKFZ scientists have been involved in explaining their cutting-edge research projects to the general public. More than 1850 visitors came to explore the DKFZ during the European Researchers' Night in Heidelberg. Between 16:00 pm and 23:00 pm, DKFZ staff provided unique insights into cancer research, the diagnosis and prevention of cancer, and showcased the scientific infrastructure at the center. A major attraction was the walkable colon cancer model in front of the DKFZ Communication Center.



picture credit: Philipp Gebhardt/DKFZ



picture credit: Tobias Schwerdt/DKFZ

Children strolling the campus with their parents enjoyed the hands-on experiments offered by the Heidelberg Life Science Lab.

On behalf of the International Postdoc Program, we organized a Science Reporter's activity. I am very grateful to Doris Schneller, Nele van der Steen, Juliane Hafermann, Elisa Espinet and Santiago Cerrizuela for engaging in dialogue with our visitors. They did a fabulous job by competently answering a broad range of questions from children and adults, and by describing their perspective on the various important roles scientists take on in our knowledge-driven society.



picture credit: Tobias Schwerdt/DKFZ





Postdoc Nele Van Der Steen interviewed by a young visitor with many questions for a cancer researcher.

picture credit: Philipp Gebhardt/DKFZ

Coordinated by the International Postdoc Program and the DKFZ Communications department, the first European Researchers' Night at the DKFZ was a great success. We are looking forward to open the doors again for the next event in 2019. We invite you to contribute to the NIGHT on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2019. Let us know your great ideas to communicate your research to the general public! We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Have a look at the [picture gallery](#) and the [short YouTube video](#) to get an impression of the European Researchers' Night 2018.

**Juliane Hafermann, PDN** also describes her experience at the ERN. This is what she wants to share with us:

'When I volunteered to participate in the Science Reporters activity during the European Researcher's Night, I only had a vague idea of what the event would be like. I was pleasantly surprised not only by the number of visitors, but by the variety of questions they always wanted to ask a scientist. We answered questions not just regarding cancer research, but also discussed how to become a scientist, what PhD students do to relax after a trying day in the lab and whether any of our research ever exploded – literally. I really enjoyed the curiosity and interest people showed for cancer research and life as a scientist. Overall, I was happy to be there to make science a bit more approachable to the visitors of the Researcher's Night.'

## Career Paths of DKFZ Alumni

**Eva Nievergall, PhD – Project Manager Clinical Trials at University Hospital Heidelberg, Germany**



### **Research background?**

I did my PhD at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia on Eph receptor tyrosine kinase signalling in cancer. My first post-doc was in translational leukaemia research at a research institute in Adelaide, which included the analysis of correlative clinical studies in CML (Chronic Myeloid Leukemia), testing the stem cell targeting potential of a CD123 antibody against CML stem cells and developing assays to identify high risk Ph-like ALL (Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia) cases and their sensitivity to clinically available

tyrosine kinase inhibitors. During my DKFZ post-doctoral fellowship, I have worked on a project on the impact of the bone marrow microenvironment and developing xenotransplantation assays in myelodysplastic syndromes.

### **What is your current position and what do you like about it?**

I am currently employed as a Project Manager for Clinical Trials within the German-speaking Multicenter Multiple Myeloma Group based at the Heidelberg University Hospital. What I like most about my current role is that I am involved in all aspects of running investigator-initiated clinical trials, from creating core documents, site selection, preparing ethics and regulatory applications to data analysis and organizing the day-to-day running of the trial, while maintaining direct contact to the approximately 70 sites in Germany taking part in the study. This variety of tasks is rarely seen in a similar industry position.

### **What skills have been useful in obtaining your new job?**

After finishing as a post-doc at the DKFZ, I shifted to industry to work with a Contract Research Organization. There I worked in clinical trial monitoring for almost two years. This experience together with my research background in hematology-oncology and an open communicative personality was critical for moving to my current position.

### **What is your tip for DKFZ Postdocs and PhDs that are interested in a similar job?**

Get some hands on industry work experience in the field of your interest outside of pure research, sometimes this takes a perceived step back first. Others manage a direct entry through smart networking and/or internships or work experience during their PhD or post-doc time.



**Research background?**

After finishing my PhD and a Postdoc time in Bruno Kyewski's lab at the DKFZ, I planned on applying for a Postdoc position in the USA. I interviewed in different labs all over the USA in order to get a better impression about what is being done where and what I actually consider important when choosing a new lab.

**What information was useful in obtaining your new job?**

I also got some very good information on the new job and the lab by asking the lab mates the following questions: What do you like the most about your work and group? What would you like to change about your work or group, if possible? What has your previous work been on? What is your training background? I highly recommend thinking about the questions that you have in advance, and I actually write them down and bring them to the interview. That way you do not forget to ask what is important for you to address. Of course, this is a personal preference, but I never made any negative experiences with bringing notes.

**What is your tip for DKFZ Postdocs and PhDs that are interested in a similar job?**

I realized that I have been paying attention to a couple of things that I would like to share with you. First of all, for those of you who like to ask new scientific questions, troubleshooting and research, you will probably have to spend some thoughts on whether you prefer "basic research" or "translational research", and if you prefer bench work or computational research. This is about finding the right fit for your personal preferences.

The second most important question for me was: How independent do I want to work? In some groups an obligatory meeting with the PI once a week might be part of the new job whereas in others the PI might be traveling a lot and basically let you work on your own. I think at this point it was very important to be honest with myself and think about how much supervision I want or maybe also how much I actually need.

Third, the topic to work on was obviously important (which has also been an initial selection criterion for the applications, of course), but equally important were the lab members, the institute, the atmosphere and yes, I am honest, also the cafeteria and lunch restaurant. I am a strong believer in coffee breaks for a productive day.

My very last piece of advice: If you want to do research and love what you are doing, then pursue it! Yes, you might be paid less in comparison to other jobs; yes, you will probably have irregular (but also flexible!) working hours, there will be moments of high frustration (But I believe this is the case in any other job as well) and many people will tell you that it is going to be difficult. This is why you need to at least try to enjoy the journey itself. The PhD and Postdoc should be a good time and in case you decide to do something else than research afterwards, then that can be your new exciting challenge and it will not be a failure or just a plan B.

## Information for Postdocs on Advanced Training

Text by Celina Cziepluch, Advanced training

DKFZ offers a very sophisticated and exclusive training program which is specifically tailored to the interests and requirements of Postdocs wishing to make the most of their time at the DKFZ.

This training comprises two events/modules which take place within a 4-month time period.

Module 1 (CDP1): **Taking the next steps: a career toolkit for Postdocs** (1,5 days; day1: 11:00-18:00; day2: 9:00-17:00).

Module 2 (CDP2): **Reflection and moving forward** (0,8 days; day3: 9:00-16:00).

Both trainers, Dr. Alexander Schiller and Dr. Daniel Mertens, are outstanding and have so far only received best ratings and exceptionally positive feedback from participants.

For further information, please take a look at their [homepage](#).

Since both modules together prepare Postdocs for a rich experience at the DKFZ, we strongly recommend this training and the **participation in both modules** to all Postdocs prior to choosing any other soft-skill course from the Advanced Training Program at DKFZ. Postdocs having participated in CDP1 and CDP2 will be preferentially selected for overbooked soft-skill courses in the frame of the internal Advanced Training Program.

If you would like to learn more, you may contact Philipp Gebhardt (Postdoc Program Office), Barbara Janssens (Careers Office) or Celina Cziepluch (Advanced Training).

Please find the course dates in the list below and register through the DKFZ [Training Portal](#).

	Date	Time
CDP 1	21./22. March 2019	day1: 11:00-18:00h; day2: 9:00-17:00h
CDP 2 for participants of CDP1 in Nov. 2018 and before	27. March 2019	day3: 9:00-16:00h
CDP 1	23./24. May 2019	day1: 11:00-18:00h day2: 9:00-17:00h
CDP 2 for participants of CDP1 in Mar. 2019 and before	28. May 2019	day3: 9:00-16:00h
CDP 1	16./17. Oct. 2019	day1: 11:00-18:00h day2: 9:00-18:00h
CDP 2 for participants of CDP1 in May. 2019 and before	18. Oct. 2019	day3: 9:00-16:00h



## DKFZ Career Center

Text by Karin Greulich-Bode from DKFZ Career Service

*The DKFZ Career Service supports Postdocs in planning their professional future by providing guidance, information, training and a network with Alumni. Where to start?*

### 1. Join the DKFZ Connect Postdoc Group



### 2. Check out where former Postdocs are now: Many are in these six main tracks below

### 3. CDP: Define your Career Development Preferences/Perspectives and write down

#### Main Career Goals



- You can have a look at [myidp.sciencecareers.org](http://myidp.sciencecareers.org) for a first self-assessment to match with typical perspectives

- Coming soon: Your Postdoc Career Development Portal with competence assessment adapted to DKFZ current and former scientists. Postdocs at the retreat voted for **the name** – watch the PDN to find out more and ask Sabine if you have any questions

### 4. CTP: Career Transition Plan

You have a CDP, your papers are (about to) be published and you would like to discuss how to get to the next step, receive feedback on your application, practice interview situations.

**Your advisors are:**



**Dr. Barbara Janssens**  
(Career Manager)



**Marion G rth**  
(Deputy Career Manager)



**Dr. Karin Greulich-Bode**  
(Career Advisor)



**Sabine Schuler-Hofmann**  
(Postdoc Career Development)

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[dkfz-connect.de](http://dkfz-connect.de) including [Postdoc Group LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#)

[www.dkfz.de/careers](http://www.dkfz.de/careers)

## Upcoming Career Day:

Entrepreneurship and Biotech - December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018



The poster features a woman in a plaid shirt standing in a green field, reaching up to hold a string of colorful balloons. The balloons are decorated with various icons: a test tube, a bar chart, a lightbulb, a handshake, a gear, a heart, and a Euro symbol. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds.

**dkfz.**  
GERMAN  
CANCER RESEARCH CENTER  
IN THE HEIMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION  
Research for a Life without Cancer

CAREER SERVICE  
DEUTSCHES  
STUDIUM UND  
LEHRE

UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
ZIMMER  
SEIT 1386

Heidelberg  
Startup  
Partners

**Career Day  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
& (BIO)TECH**

**DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)

09:00-17:00 **Startup Fair**  
Startup Stories & Job opportunities

09:30 **Career Day Talks**  
How to become an entrepreneur  
Proper marketing  
11:00 Startup accelerator  
Business models  
Skills for entrepreneurship  
14:00 The art of pitching  
Venture capitalism  
15:45 Get entrepreneurship training  
Crowdfunding for startups  
Making translational science happen

17:30 **Innovator's Pitch**  
Researchers' idea contest

12:00-20:00 **Food Trucks**

18:30 **Happy Hour**  
with Food & Drinks

**Register now**  
[www.dkfz.de/careerday](http://www.dkfz.de/careerday)

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

**Pfizer** **GHG** **Baden-Württemberg** **jobvector** **Heidelberg PHARMA** **Rentschler Biopharma**  
**HEIDELBERGER VOLKSBANK** **startup bw** **PHARMA AKADEMIE** **academics**

The registration for the Career Day “Entrepreneurship and Biotech” is now open!

- Listen to *entrepreneurship stories* – first-hand information from people who founded or are working with a startup company
- Find job opportunities at the *Startup Fair*
- Vote for the best idea and presentation at the *Innovator's pitch*

When? **December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Where? DKFZ Communication Center, INF 280, Heidelberg

To discover more about the program and for registration: <https://www.dkfz.de/en/career-service/entrepreneur&biotech18.html>

See you there!

On behalf of the Career Day Organization Team

## Achievements by Postdocs

We are happy to announce new publications of postdocs and awards, fellowships and stipends awarded to them.

### ***New Publications***

#### **Dr. Silvia Vega-Rubín-de-Celis (B050)**

Vega-Rubín-de-Celis S, Zou Z, Fernández ÁF, Ci B, Kim M, Xiao G, Xie Y, Levine B. [Increased autophagy blocks HER2-mediated breast tumorigenesis.](#) Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2018 Apr 17;115(16):4176-4181.

#### **Dr. Katharina Schlereth (A190)**

Schlereth K, Weichenhan D, Bauer T, Heumann T, Giannakouri E, Lipka DB, Jaeger S, Schlesner M, Aloy P, Eils R, Plass C, Augustin HG. [The transcriptomic and epigenetic map of vascular quiescence in the continuous lung endothelium.](#) 2018 May. eLife, 7: e34423.

#### **Dr. Sebastian Vosberg (L701)**

Vosberg S, Hartmann L, Metzeler KH, Konstandin NP, Schneider S, Varadharajan A, Hauser A, Krebs S, Blum H, Bohlander SK, Hiddemann W, Tischler J, Spiekermann K, Greif PA. [Relapse of acute myeloid leukemia after allogeneic stem cell transplantation is associated with gain of WT1 alterations and high mutation load.](#) Haematologica. 2018 Jun 28. pii: haematol.2018.193102.

#### **Dr. Alexander Rölle (D120)**

Rölle A, Meyer M, Calderazzo S, Jäger D, Momburg F. [Distinct HLA-E Peptide Complexes Modify Antibody-Driven Effector Functions of Adaptive NK Cells.](#) Cell Rep. 2018 Aug 21;24(8):1967-1976.e4.

#### **Dr. Lionel Larribère (G300)**

Wu H, Larribère L, Sun Q, Novak D, Sachindra S, Granados K, Umansky V, Utikal J. [Loss of neural crest-associated gene FOXD1 impairs melanoma invasion and migration via RAC1B downregulation.](#) Int J Cancer. 2018 Aug 15. doi: 10.1002/ijc.31799.

#### **Dr. Ayala Shiber (ZMBH-DKFZ Alliance)**

Shiber A, Döring K, Friedrich U, Klann K, Merker D, Zedan M, Tippmann F, Kramer G, Bukau B. [Cotranslational assembly of protein complexes in eukaryotes revealed by ribosome profiling.](#) Nature. 2018 Sep;561(7722):268-272.

## **New Awards and Grants**

### **Dr. Carsten Kramer (E030)**

Carsten Kramer, postdoctoral fellow at the division of Radiopharmaceutical Chemistry and medical student at the University of Heidelberg, received a grant from the Wilhelm Sander Stiftung together with his supervisor Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Klaus Kopka for the development of new bi-modal tumor tracers.

### **Dr. Daniel Paech, M.D. (E010)**

Daniel received in May this year the Young Investigator Award of the German Radiology Society (DeutscheRöntgengesellschaft). In June he received the Junior Fellowship Award of the International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM) and in October, the Marc Dünzl Prize of the German Society for Neuroradiology (DGNR).

### **Dr. Silvia Vega-Rubín-de-Celis (B050)**

Silvia received a grant from DFG (German Research Foundation) entitled: Targeting autophagy as treatment for Receptor Tyrosine Kinase-amplified cancers, and funded with 230,100€, including the salary for a PhD student. She will be looking for candidates soon!

*In the next newsletter we will again promote achievements by DKFZ & DKTK Postdocs. Name us your publications, awards, and grants!*

Send your information to: [n.correia@dkfz.de](mailto:n.correia@dkfz.de) or [a.riedel@dkfz.de](mailto:a.riedel@dkfz.de)



## Vacancies at PDN

We are always happy to welcome new Postdocs to the PDN. If you would like to actively participate and join the committee, we are looking for people interested in helping the **Design and Homepage Team**, and **Research Lounge Organizing Committees**. If you would like to develop your networking, communication, management and creative skills, these positions are just right for you. Or if you have an idea that PDN could help with, ask us!

Send us an email at [pdn-committee@dkfz.de](mailto:pdn-committee@dkfz.de).

### PDN: From Postdocs for Postdocs

*Making more of your time as a Postdoc at DKFZ*

**Last but not least, keep an eye on these opportunities/events:**

#### Save the Dates:

**Entrepreneurship & Biotech Career Day** - 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2018, DKFZ Communication Center

**Christmas Market get-together** – 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2018

**Running Meetup** – Every Thursdays at 18:00. Meeting point: DKFZ Main Building foyer (contact Stefan Kallenberger [s.kallenberger@dkfz.de](mailto:s.kallenberger@dkfz.de))

**Next PDN meetings** – 4.12.18 and 18.12.18, H1.00.028 at 17:00

#### Editors:

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