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TUM Graduate School
Technical University of Munich



June 2025

Newsletter for Doctoral Candidates

TUM-GS News

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Dear Doctoral Candidates,

We hope you are having a great summer semester 2025. We're excited to share interesting events, new content formats, and exciting insights into the TUM-GS community with you.

Do you wish to join a Writing Retreat to benefit from professional guidance and writing coaching for your thesis or paper, but cannot find the time during the busy lecture period? Then, we have the perfect offer – a 4-day Scientific Writing Retreat in the lecture-free period during summer break.

If you are not that familiar with Munich and Bavaria's landscapes just yet, have a look at our cultural program for this summer. Our first hiking trip on 28 June will lead us to the beautiful Monastery Andechs, which is located on top of a small hill between Lake Starnberg and Ammersee. Check out [our website](#) to learn more about our upcoming events.

In our [TUM Graduate Council section](#), we are pleased to announce the upcoming Graduate Council online meeting, which will take place on 2 July. This is an excellent opportunity to stay informed about current initiatives, contribute your ideas, and connect with fellow doctoral representatives across TUM.

Additionally, the TUMblue working group is excited to share the date for their kick-off event. If you enjoy event planning and would like to help organize one of the most anticipated social events for doctoral candidates, this is your chance to get involved! Join their first meeting on 10 June and become part of the team behind an unforgettable celebration.

In the [Internationalization section](#), we are excited to share our latest interview with doctoral candidate Florence Aruwan, who participated in our first Onboarding program for International doctoral candidates last winter. She gives insights into the program and what helped her most to settle in Germany.

Moreover, we are happy to present our new social media format, "Greetings from Abroad." These virtual postcards aim to showcase the diverse academic and cultural journeys undertaken by your peers during their stays abroad.

Last but not least, we compiled further interesting events and calls for you in the [TUM & Co](#) section.



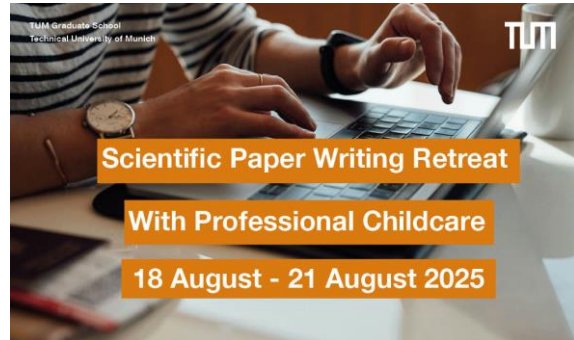
GOOD TO KNOW:

Did you know that we have our own TUM-GS Wiki for even more detailed information on the doctoral journey at TUM, covering all relevant topics from the start of your doctorate, during the doctorate, and the final phase? If you are looking for an answer, the wiki will provide you with the right answers: <https://collab.dvb.bayern/spaces/tumgs21/pages/69917084/Promovierende+Doctoral+Candidates>

Scientific Paper Writing Retreat

Are you working on your thesis or a manuscript and wish to benefit from professional guidance and writing coaching? Are you involved in teaching and other obligations during lecture period, and do not find time to focus on your writing project and join a writing retreat? Then, why not use the opportunity in the lecture-free period during summer break and join our 4-day Scientific Writing Retreat?

Balancing family and scientific work is especially challenging for doctoral candidates with small children, more so during school and kindergarten holidays. Therefore, as a special offer for doctoral candidates with children (3 - 10 years), the Scientific Writing Retreat provides professional childcare during the entire course period.



Person writing on a laptop (Photo: Unsplash)

The course will take place from 18 August to 21 August 2025, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., on the premises of the TUM Graduate School in Garching-Forschungszentrum. Registration is now open in DocGS until 15 July 2025.

[Register here](#)

Welcome@TUM-GS Program: Hike to Kloster Andechs in June

It's time again for a hike to Kloster Andechs, the lovely monastery on top of a small hill between Lake Starnberg and Lake Ammersee in the south of Munich. We will meet on Saturday, 28 June, at 10 a.m. at the S-Bahn station Herrsching. Get to see the idyllic Bavarian landscape and enjoy typical Bavarian food and drinks in the welcoming "Biergarten." After the hike and before returning to Munich, you can take a refreshing dip in Lake Ammersee. Therefore, don't forget to bring your swimwear! The family-friendly hike suits beginners and will be mainly in the shade (as we will hike through a forest).



Kloster Andechs (Photo: Adobe Stock/ JFL Photography)

To join our hike or other activities of our Welcome Program, please register by e-mail to cultural-events@gs.tum.de.

[Find out more](#)

Graduate Council

Invitation: Next Graduate Council Meeting on 2 July

The next TUM Graduate Council (GC) meeting, which is the 120th, has been scheduled for 2 July 2025, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. You can join the meeting online via this [Zoom link](#). At the beginning of the meeting, you will hear more about the Supervisory Award. The members of the Graduate Council are looking forward to meeting you! 😊

Join the TUMblue 2025 Organising Team – free drinks and pizza included

The TUM Graduate Council is kicking off preparations for TUMblue 2025, their legendary networking event and party for doctoral candidates – and the Graduate Council wants you on board!

Kick-off: 10 June 2025 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Location: Z538, seminar room (0505.Z1.538Z), Arcisstr. 21 (0505)/ 1st floor

They are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help organize: Food & Drinks, Music, Fun & Games, Theme & Design, Social Media, Accounting ... and more exciting activities!



TUMblue Working Group in Raitenhaslach
(Image: TUM-GC)

Whether you're keen to take the lead or just want to get involved, this is a great way to connect, collaborate, and create something special with fellow doctoral candidates. No experience is needed – just your motivation and good vibes!

Come to the kick-off, enjoy some pizza and drinks, and help the Graduate Council to shape an unforgettable event!

[Learn more](#)

Internationalization

Interview with Florence Aruwan about our International Onboarding Program

Last year, we offered our Onboarding Program for International Doctoral Candidates for the first time, and this year's program is about to start soon. To give better insights, we talked to last year's participant, Florence Aruwan, who is a doctoral candidate at the Chair of Metal Structures. She explained what she liked about the program and how it helped her to settle in Germany and adapt to a new culture. Learn more about Florence and our Onboarding Program in the short interview. Registration for this year's program is still possible until 15 June.



Interview with Florence Aruwan
(Photo: TUM-GS/ Florence Aruwan)

[Full interview](#)

Greetings from Abroad – Impressions from Doctoral Candidates

We're excited to introduce our new social media format, "Greetings from Abroad," where we spotlight the experiences of our doctoral candidates spending time abroad. Whether it's conducting research at a partner institution, attending international conferences, or simply soaking in a new culture, these moments are full of personal growth and academic enrichment.

Spending part of your doctoral journey abroad offers countless benefits, from expanding your professional network and gaining fresh perspectives on your research to developing intercultural skills and creating unforgettable memories.

Through this format, we aim to celebrate your unique experiences and encourage others to explore the opportunities that international mobility can offer. Are you currently abroad or planning a research stay soon? We'd love to hear from you! Share your story, a snapshot of your surroundings, or a memorable moment from your time abroad, and become part of this inspiring series. To get involved, contact marina.schmidt@tum.de and get featured.



Impressions of Stuart's research stay in South Africa in November 2024
(Photo: Stuart Daniel James)

[Learn more](#)

TUM & Co.

TUM Diversity Month 2025 – Bridging the gap: Allyship for an inclusive organization

The German Diversity Day has taken place every year since its initiation through the association Charta der Vielfalt e.V. Did you know that TUM was the first university to sign the Charta of Diversity in 2007? With this act, TUM committed itself to creating a working space that is free of prejudices and exclusion and a working culture that is open and based on respect. Throughout the month, the Staff Unit Diversity & Inclusion, together with other TUM entities like TUM Alumni & Career, TUM Language Center as well as research groups and chairs will be hosting a series of events, such as Allyship in Action: Building Inclusive Workplaces, Mental Health Market Place or Growing a Diverse Network – Connections That Feel Right. Have a look at their website to get an overview of all the opportunities in June. <https://www.zv.tum.de/en/diversity/news-events/tum-diversity-month-2025/>

Applied Data Management Seminar starts in the Winter Semester – apply now!

The Applied Data Management Seminar offers ten researchers at TUM the opportunity to strengthen their research data management (RDM) skills. Led by experts from the TUM Research Data Hub, the seminar provides participants with in-depth knowledge they can directly apply in their research projects and share with collaborators. Apply now and become part of the next seminar group in the upcoming winter semester!

<https://web.tum.de/en/researchdata/training/applied-data-management/>

TUM IDEAAward 2025: Apply now!

Do you have an innovative idea or technology with market potential that addresses societal challenges? Then apply for the TUM IDEAAward 2025! As a finalist, you'll benefit from personalized pitch training, hands-on workshops, and valuable feedback from the jury. At the public award ceremony, you'll also have the chance to present your idea to a broad audience. The best teams will receive a total of €37,500 in prize money (sponsored by the Zeidler Research Foundation) and

tailored coaching from TUM's start-up consultancy – supporting your journey from idea to market.
Application deadline: 30 June 2025

<https://www.tum.de/en/innovation/entrepreneurship/for-founders-start-ups/start-up-competitions/tum-ideaward>

Laura Bassi Scholarship for Female Researchers

The Scholarships are aimed at female doctoral candidates at TUM in the final phase of their doctorate, as well as female postdoc researchers at TUM. The scholarship provides €1,200 per month for doctoral candidates and €2,400 per month for postdocs, for up to 12 months, enabling them to fully focus on their research. Secondary employment is generally not permitted during the funding period. The next application deadline is 15 June 2025, with a second deadline on 30 September 2025.

<https://www.zv.tum.de/en/diversity/gender-equality-office/career-and-training/laura-bassi-scholarship/>

New EIT Urban Mobility DTN Call for Doctoral Candidates

The EIT Urban Mobility Doctoral Training Network (DTN) is all about making our cities more liveable by connecting people, putting new mobility ideas into action, and giving public space back to everyone. As a doctoral candidate in the DTN, you'll join a Europe-wide community, build your network, and boost your skills in innovation and entrepreneurship. The two-year program includes a 4 to 6-month international placement and is free for doctoral candidates from partner universities (including TUM). After being accepted to the DTN, TUM doctoral candidates become members of the Graduate Center International Graduate School of Science and Engineering (IGSSE), one of TUM-GS' 11 Graduate Centers. Application deadline: 8 June 2025

<https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/what-we-offer/education-and-training/doctoral-training-programme/doctoral-training-network-applications-procedure/>

TUM Language Center offers Certificate: German for Engineers B2/C1

Doctoral candidates in the field of engineering (no exchange doctoral candidates) can participate in the program if they have good or very good German skills and want to develop them even more. The program structure consists of three modules (Technical German B2/C1, Communication at Work, and Intercultural Communication) as well as two evening events. Registration is possible until 22 June.

<https://www.sprachenzentrum.tum.de/en/sz/languages/german/german-for-engineers/>

SEED Annual Symposium 2025 – Research with Impact

Join a global community of researchers at the 2025 SEED Annual Symposium, taking place from 25 to 29 August 2025 at the TUM Main Campus. This year's symposium focuses on the present and future of mini-grids, electricity access, and energy supply in the Global South. Expect a rich program featuring hands-on workshops, an interactive poster session, and spotlight presentations by TUM professors and external stakeholders such as Dalberg Research and Husk Power Systems. The SEED Annual Symposium is your opportunity to engage, connect, and drive change on a global scale. Learn more and get involved: <https://web.tum.de/seed/annual-symposium/>

acatech Autumn School 2025: Communicating Technology and Innovation

How can we communicate emerging technologies effectively? From 20 to 22 October 2025, early-career professionals and students are invited to join the Autumn School in Munich for hands-on workshops, expert input, and exchange on science and technology communication.

Application deadline: 6 June 2025

<https://www.acatech.de/autumn-school-2025-bewerbung/> (website is only available in German)

Logos Verlag Berlin Launches Excellence Initiative

To mark its 30th anniversary, Logos Verlag Berlin is launching a new Excellence Initiative to support outstanding early-career researchers and strengthen Germany as a hub for science and innovation. Doctoral candidates whose dissertations are graded at least magna cum laude are invited to apply until 31 December 2025. Accepted works will be published free of charge, including three

complimentary copies. In order to ensure a balanced mix of subjects, the Logos Verlag will maintain subject-specific contingents within which a selection will be made.

<https://www.logos-verlag.de/cgi-bin/engtransid?page=/exzinitiative.html&lng=deu&id=> (website is only available in German)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!
Best regards from the TUM-GS Management Office Team,



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