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TUM Graduate School
Technische Universität München



September 2023

Newsletter for Doctoral Candidates

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Dear Doctoral Candidates,

We hope you're ready for the upcoming semester and some exciting events and news we have in store for you! 😊

In our [TUM-GS section](#), we would like to announce our new focus topic for the academic year 2023/24: "[Future Skills. Key Competencies for a Transforming World.](#)" Stay tuned for transferable skills training, lively panel discussions and talks on 'Future Skills' throughout the academic year. You haven't participated in our transferable skills training yet? In this case, learn everything you need to know about our course offerings in our brand new [TUM-GS #Explained video](#).

We've also included a gentle reminder for your [annual data confirmation in DocGS](#). Best do it right away and have it out of your mind!

We are already counting the days until [TUMblue 2023](#) on 15 September – the legendary networking event hosted by the [TUM Graduate Council \(GC\)](#). Secure your spot via [DocGS](#) until 14 September – the GC looks forward to welcoming you! But the GC does much more than organize events. As the official body for doctoral candidates, it advocates for higher education policy issues, e.g., in the context of the reform of the [WissZeitVG](#). Get active yourself and get involved in the [PromVerBund working group](#) while expanding your network.

In our [international section](#), we're thrilled to announce the next round of our exchange and networking program [TUM.Africa Talent](#), targeted towards doctoral candidates from sub-Saharan Africa and TUM. Also, we'd like to invite our international doctoral candidates who are new in town to our [guided Munich Old Town tour on 23 September!](#)

As always, we compiled further interesting events and calls for you in the [TUM & Co. section](#).

PS: Don't forget to register for one of the upcoming [Kick-Off Seminars](#) if you haven't done so already. Registration opens on 27 September at noon.

We wish you all a pleasant day!

TUM-GS News

New focus topic for the academic year 2023/24: "Future Skills"

The new academic year is just around the corner, and so is our new TUM-GS focus topic: "Future Skills. Key Competencies for a Transforming World." Why is this topic of such importance to doctoral candidates?

Starting your doctoral journey is like stepping into the unknown, an exciting yet challenging chapter of life. It's a quest for undiscovered knowledge, sharpening scientific thinking, and developing skills critical for one's future life and career. The term 'future skills' refers to precisely this equipment for a complex, rapidly changing, and in many respects genuinely uncertain future.

With our [transferable skills training](#), we encourage you to discover, rethink and enhance your skills under the focus topic 'Future Skills'.



Our new focus topic "Future Skills"
(Photo TUM-GS)

Dive into courses like "[Kompetenzen für eine Welt im Wandel](#)," (registration opens in October) and enhance your leadership abilities with "[\(Selbst\)Führung - Führungsseminar in den Alpen \(Brannenburg\)](#)" or strengthen your emotional intelligence in our course "[Managing Emotions - Produktiver und stressfreier durch die Promotion](#)." Stay tuned for lively panel discussions and impulse talks on 'Future Skills' throughout the academic year. Be ready for what the future holds!

[Learn more](#)

TUM-GS #Explained: Transferable Skills Training

You haven't participated in our [Transferable Skills Training](#) yet? Then learn everything you need to know, from course registrations to content and competence areas within our offering, in our brand new [TUM-GS #Explained video on YouTube](#). So what are you waiting for? Directly try a course from our broad portfolio!

Are you already a fan of our program and don't want to miss any important updates and free spots? 😊 Then make sure to sign up for our [Transferable Skills Training Newsletter](#)!



The Transferable Skills Training is divided into six different competence areas.
Impression from our new video
(Photo: TUM-GS)

[Watch on YouTube](#)

Reminder: Your annual data confirmation in DocGS

The annual data confirmation („Rückmeldung“) has started on 1 September and ends on 15 October. As soon as you have confirmed your data in DocGS, your supervisor will automatically be asked to confirm the data as well.

Only if both parties confirm the data before the deadline on 15 October, your membership will continue regularly. All candidates should have already been notified via the email address provided in DocGS. Therefore, please check your mailbox (and remind your colleagues).



Reminder Data Confirmation
(Photo: Pexels)

Graduate Council

Countdown to TUMblue – Final registrations until 14 September

We are already counting the days until **TUMblue** – the legendary networking event organized by the **TUM Graduate Council**. On 15 September, all doctoral candidates are cordially invited to join TUMblue 2023 under the motto “Come as you are, Network like a star”!

Secure your spot for 15 September from 7 p.m. onwards in the Mathematics Informatics Building, Boltzmannstr. 3, Garching. With complimentary drinks for all attendees, free food for the first 1,000 attendees, a poetry slam, a live band, and a DJ, this networking event will be a night you won't forget! ★

- Event Date: 15 September
- Event Time: 7:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.
- Location: Mathematics Informatics Building, Boltzmannstr. 3, 85748 Garching bei München
- [Registration in DocGS](#): 1 August – 14 September
- Learn more about [TUMblue 2023](#)



TUMblue poster: “Come as you are, Network like a star”
(Image: Graduate Council)

[Register](#)

PromVerBund – Call for applications

The Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz (WissZeitVG – *the legal basis for the employment of scientific staff in Germany*) is currently being reformed and aims to regulate the contracts for doctoral and post-doctoral researchers in Germany. Join the PromVerBund working group of the **Graduate Council** to shape the environment for researchers within TUM and beyond by working on issues of employment, funding, and other topics arising from the reform. The group is active in the Network of Doctoral Representatives in Bavaria ([Landesnetzwerk der Promovierendenvertretungen in Bayern - LaProBay](#)), which aims to establish a Bavarian-wide representation and network structure of doctoral candidates, as well as the Federal Association of Doctoral Researchers (Bundesverband Promovierende) that will officially be founded in September and of which TUM is a founding member.

Take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to connect, discuss, and work with doctoral candidates from partner universities. You can also join the GC as an associate member to get a certificate for your work. If you have any queries or would like to receive further information, please contact the current team [via email](#). The TUM GC can't wait to have you on board!

Contact

Internationalization

Be part of TUM.Africa Talent 2024 – Call open now!

TUM.Africa Talent is a research exchange and networking program bringing together researchers from sub-Saharan Africa and TUM.

A total of six doctoral candidates from the sub-Saharan Africa region can receive funding for a 3-4 months research stay at TUM, starting 1 April 2024. TUM doctoral candidates can join the program as a "buddy" to their guest doctoral candidate and will benefit from an exclusive program and additional internationalization funding.

Franz Aschl, buddy in the first TUM.Africa Talent cohort shares his experiences:

"I can highly recommend participating in the TUM.Africa Talent program. My buddy and friend Emmanuel and I had the opportunity to work intensively on exciting research projects. Beyond this, we were supported by the program in various ways, from intercultural and scientific training to networking events and excursions. Even my plan to visit Emmanuel at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) in Ghana is subsidized by the TUM.Africa Talent program."

TUM professors and Junior Fellows can now nominate candidates, so spread the word! The nomination phase runs up to 15 October 2023. Learn more about the program on [our website](#).



TUM.Africa Talent 2024 – Call open now!
(Photo: Andreas Heddergott/TUM)

Apply now

Join our Munich Old Town Tour on 23 September

New in town? Then join us on 23 September, 10 a.m., for our [Munich Old Town Tour](#). This is the perfect opportunity for you to explore the city and connect with your peers. During the guided walking tour in English, we will stroll through the city and learn more about the former historical hotspots of the Bavarian capital. After the tour – weather permitting – we will rest at a Biergarten nearby and enjoy some drinks and food together. The tour is part of the [Welcome@TUM-GS Program](#), which is aimed at TUM doctoral candidates who started their doctorate within the last 12 months. Save your spot now via [email](#). TUM-GS will cover the costs for the tour.



Photo of Munich's Old Town
(Photo: Unsplash)

Join us

TUM & Co.

Mental Health Day at the TUM Institute of Lifelong Learning on 10 October

On that day, everything evolves around the topic of mental health. What do leaders need to know? What evidence-based approaches can increase your mental health and well-being? What practical tools can help you stay mentally strong? These and other questions will be answered in numerous short virtual lectures and workshops. Registration is now open.

TUM employees: www.tum.de/mental-health-day

External doctoral candidates: www.lll.tum.de/mental-health-day-join-our-expert-lectures-on-october-10th-2/

PhD Day at TUM Campus Straubing – Impulse Talk on Career Paths in Academia

Pursuing a career in academia is a promising option for many young researchers. However, it is well known that this can turn out quite tricky and tedious when they continue their career beyond a doctorate without being aware of the academic career system, third-party funding and how to apply for these funds. Join the [TUM Talent Factory](#) on 18 September 2023, 2:30 p.m. at TUM Campus Straubing for Biotechnology and Sustainability (Uferstrasse 53, 94315 Straubing, Room U7) to receive valuable insights on career paths in academia. This impulse talk offers you an overview of the largest funding organizations in Germany and the third party funding system, as well as general information about relevant career paths at a university.

Registration: Please send an email to m.zapilko@tum.de until 17 September.

IGP Winter School in India from 13-23 December

Under the theme “Localizing climate action: water, energy and climate policies in India,” a second IGP Winter School will take place in India again this year. The Winter School is open to TUM doctoral candidates and master’s students. It includes a ten-day trip to India (13-23 December 2023), where participants will attend lectures by renowned researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay and take a field trip to the Kerala region. Successful applicants will attend several mandatory online lectures in November and December in preparation to the winter school. Winter School participants will receive an IGP Mobility Grant to support their travel and accommodation expenses.

www.international.tum.de/en/global/indo-german-partnership/#c13373

Agnes-Mackensen-Program – support for women* with a non-academic background

With the Agnes-Mackensen-Program, TUM strengthens the self-efficacy of first-generation academics and promotes their digital, scientific and entrepreneurial leadership skills. The program is named after the first woman to study at TUM, who obtained a diploma in 1915 and is therefore considered the first graduate (and beyond that, did not have an academic family background!). It is initiated by the Staff Unit Diversity & Equal Opportunities of Senior Vice President for Talent Management & Diversity Prof. Dr. Claudia Peus. The program, starting this winter semester, comprises mentorship, networking initiatives as well as a workshop for doctoral candidates and PostDocs on “Entrepreneurial Thinking.”

www.chancengleichheit.tum.de/en/diversity/staff-unit-diversity-equal-opportunities/projects-and-programmes/agnes-mackensen-program/

EFR Zukunftsstipendien - Grüner Wasserstoff

Mit dem neuen Stipendienprogramm "EFR Zukunftsstipendien - Grüner Wasserstoff" des Deutschen Akademischen Austauschdienstes (DAAD) wird die Forschung zu Grünem Wasserstoff unterstützt. Nachwuchswissenschaftler*innen haben mit dem Programm die Möglichkeit, für Forschungsaufenthalte ins Ausland zu gehen. Das Programm wendet sich sowohl an Masterstudierende, Promovierende als auch PostDocs, welche sich für die Wasserstoffforschung interessieren und ist für alle wissenschaftliche Disziplinen geöffnet. Bewerbungen von Promovierenden können jederzeit eingereicht werden. Am 19. und 28. September 2023 finden Online-Informationsveranstaltungen statt, in denen

der DAAD über Fördermöglichkeiten im Ausland informiert und Fragen zum GH2-Stipendienprogramm beantwortet.

www.daad.de/de/studieren-und-forschen-in-deutschland/stipendien-finden/gruener-wasserstoff/

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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(she/her)

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