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Magazine for alumni, students and staff as well as friends and supporters of Harz University of Applied Sciences



In focus:

Favourite university of applied sciences 2019 | New degree programmes | First Campus Light Festival

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Magazine for alumni, students and staff as well as friends and supporters of Harz University of Applied Sciences

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**Dear alumni,
Dear colleagues,
Dear friends and supporters of Harz University,
Dear students,
Dear readers,**

Three exciting years lie behind us! The changes to the University Management were followed by the passing of the relay batten to new Dean's Offices in all three faculties – Automation and Computer Science, Administrative Sciences and Business Studies. The fact that constant transformation does not have to damage a small, dynamic university is shown by the current statistics: in September, 814 first-semester students were welcomed at our locations in Wernigerode and Halberstadt. Contrary to various trends, Harz University thereby attracted the highest number of new registrations for 10 years. There are currently more than 3100 students enrolled from throughout Germany, many of them in dual study programmes or part time degree programmes for professionals. The fact that we are a TOP University of Applied Sciences was confirmed in 2019 by StudyCheck. Germany's largest university rating portal lists us at number 10 in the ranking of the favourite universities of applied sciences Germany-wide, which also makes us the best-liked university in Saxony-Anhalt. More about this follows on pages 4 and 5.

What contributes to our success and what makes us special can be found in the “three good reasons for studying at Harz University” on the last page of this issue. However, you can find out about the themes behind each of these reasons much sooner: from new additions to the degree programmes (page 6) to the colourful campus life (pages 12-17) and the ground-breaking initiatives and successes in the region and far beyond. You will also rediscover familiar topics: we take up themes from previous issues and continue the story. The Villa – then and now – finds its place, and support for emerging talent is still firmly anchored in the academic year – whether with the award of the “Deutschlandstipendium” (German Scholarship), the visits by young campus guests or success stories with company start-ups.

Following the tradition of this magazine – which started life in 2010 as the alumni magazine – space in this issue is also given to milestones such as the graduation ceremonies. We report on the impressive lives and careers of former students and illuminate the diverse possibilities to revisit us. Examples of what is on the move at your University are also shown by our new lecturers and those who have said goodbye, the innovative student projects and our sustainability offensive. The Campus Light Festival took place for the first time this year: three days of pure campus magic (pages 28-29). Events, projects and careers are constantly followed by the social media channels of Harz University – we would be very pleased if you also visited us digitally!



Picture: Prof. Dr. Folker Roland

Dear readers, we are looking forward to another colourful and successful year in 2020, which we hope will again be filled with exciting stories and shared experiences. We would already like to point out one of the highlights: on Saturday 13th June, Harz University invites you to Campusfever in Wernigerode and Halberstadt. Once again three events – the Open Day, the Alumni Reunion and the Campus Festival – will merge to form one big event. We would be pleased if you would put this date in your diary right now.

I wish you a lot of enjoyment with our University magazine.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Folker Roland". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Prof. Dr. Folker Roland

President of Harz University of Applied Sciences

Cover picture: Saxony-Anhalt's first Campus Light Festival moved the entire University community. The cover picture shows a sculpture by the new student association "Creative Network" – it depicts the University logo, which was illuminated in a colourful sea of light.

Photo: Stefan Steinmetz, STEINSOHN IMAGES



"Good study programme with a lot of practical content, family atmosphere on the campus"

Paul, Business Informatics

"Dedicated lecturers and good teaching"

Johanna, Media and Games Concept Development

"Degree programme that reflects current practice and has a broad base in Business Administration"

Anna-Lena, Tourism Management

"It could hardly be much better!"

Janik, Business Administration and Engineering

"If you want to work in public administration, this is the place for you."

Jule, Public Administration

In 2019, Germany's largest university ratings portal once again presented the StudyCHECK university ranking for the favourite universities of applied sciences Germany-wide; with its campuses in Wernigerode and Halberstadt, Harz University achieved 10th place.

Based on evaluations by current and former students Harz University scored 8.88 from a maximum of 10 possible points, achieving not only 10th position in the Germany-wide ranking but also making it the favourite university in Saxony-Anhalt. Students as well as graduates evaluated their study programme on the basis of various criteria including the content, the lectures and seminars, and the lecturers themselves, for which they could award up to five stars. A precondition for taking part was a recommendation rate of at least 90 percent in the year 2018.

Special atmosphere on the campus

The trend is clearly upwards: also in the category "Favourite Universities 2019 in Germany" (which includes all types of university) Harz University moved up from 19th to 12th position. University President Prof. Dr. Folker Roland and Prof. Dr. Louisa Klemmer, Vice President for Academic and International Affairs, presented the certificate from the ratings portal. Both of them are delighted about this commendation: "This excellent ranking once again demonstrates the close bond between the students and the University. The special family-like atmosphere on our campus cannot be forced, but is lived actively by all members of the University staff and this is felt by our students. A big thank you goes to all our students and alumni who took the time to evaluate their university."

Favourite university of applied sciences 2019 in Germany

Harz University achieved 10th place in ranking by StudyCheck

* Eileen Demangé

TOP
FACHHOCHSCHULE
in Deutschland

Award 2019

StudyCheck.de



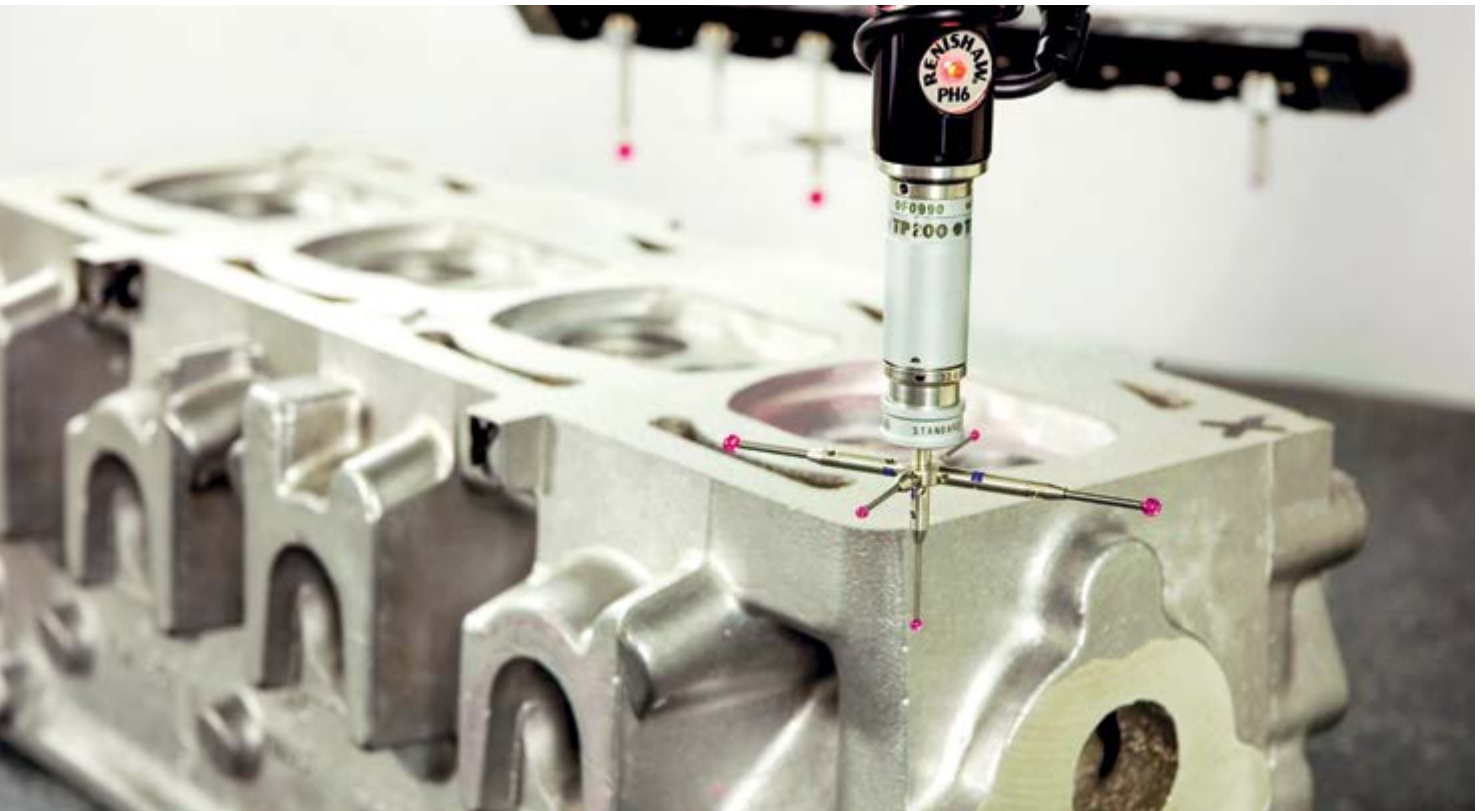
More than 42,000 evaluations on studying were sent in last year from throughout Germany. Only the best universities in Germany made it into the ranking.

Excellent result reflects the quality of Harz University

Student Counsellor Cornelius Hupe made a large contribution to this success by creating the profile for Harz University on the StudyCheck portal: "Not only students but primarily alumni provide evaluations. The superb ranking therefore reflects on us: what they learnt when studying here is important for their continuing lives and careers." ▲

Further information can be found under:
www.studycheck.de and
www.hs-harz.de.





Technology and Innovation Management – now also in English

Harz University starts new programme option of the master's degree

* Olesya Herfurth and Katharina Reif

Since the start of the winter semester 2019/20 the Wernigerode Campus has become more international. The reason for this is the introduction of the new programme option "Technology and Innovation Management" offered by the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science.

The new programme option is the English language version of the master's degree programme "Technisches Innovationsmanagement" and is mainly aimed at prospective students from outside Germany. The programme teaches current knowledge from the areas of engineering

and business, which is linked with practical experience in the University laboratories. Excursions such as a visit to the Porsche factory in Leipzig provide deeper insights into practical application. Regarding the creation of the new master's course, Programme Coordinator Prof. Dr. Thomas Leich said: "I was getting a noticeably large number of inquiries from abroad regarding the degree programme 'Technisches Innovationsmanagement'. So it seemed like a good idea to introduce an English programme option of this master's programme"

15 students from six nations

Admission was limited by a numerus clausus (NC). After stringent selection from around 600 applicants the new programme option started in the winter semester 2019/20 with 15 students from six nations. ▲



Picture: Awele Ogbogu (left), Tony Jose (middle) and Sushil Astekar are enrolled in the new programme option "Technology and Innovation Management".

„I am happy since all the professors have in-depth knowledge about the course and would guide us through it. The university campus in Wernigerode is wonderful, too. All the amenities are well equipped. I like the surroundings, the nature around it and mostly the silence around here.“

Sushil Astekar, India

„I strongly believe this master's program will add more value to my education and help me acquire more knowledge and expertise in management and research and consequently create more and better opportunities for me to fully unleash my potentials.“

Awele Ogbogu, Nigeria

„My first impression about Wernigerode can be defined in only one word 'magical' and I enjoy being here.“

Tony Jose, India

„nGlow“ – a light in the Harz First game studio in Wernigerode

* Lukas Beckmann and Eileen Demangé

After a year of preparation, a lot of hard work and creative energy, this year it finally happened: five students from the master's programme Media and Games Concept Development have taken the bold step into self-employment and have decided to stay in the town in which their time together as games developers began. "UniGlow Entertainment" is the name of the first game studio in Wernigerode.

The team has already collected a significant amount of experience in the industry – they were awarded third place in the Deutscher Computerspielpreis (German Computer Game Prize) 2018 for the concept of the computer game "nGlow". The team used the past year to extend its competences, to find out about founding a business and to become larger. Mirko Skroch, Managing Director of the newly founded GmbH, talks about the creation of the young company: "The first few months were very chaotic. We went to a lot of events and took all the opportunities that presented themselves. But in the meantime we can clearly define our aims and better prioritise the tasks that occur. In addition, most of us have now finished studying, through which normal office life has become established." Among the programmers in the team is Friedemann Spitzner, who has a special status: he is the only one who joined the team after the nomination for the Deutscher Computerspielpreis. "We were together at a game jam at the University. Mirko told me that they were thinking about founding a company. That was always my great desire", said Spitzner.

Close connections with the University

After the master's degree programme the team of game developers could have chosen any location but they soon decided to stay in Saxony-Anhalt. "The University has become very close to our hearts. We want to continue to cooperate with it and to introduce new students to the theme", said Skroch. As many companies have already discovered the potential of games for society and business, Saxony-Anhalt

A hint of Hollywood

Visual-effects specialist visits Harz University * Prof. Martin Kreyßig

Together with the director Roland Emmerich and partner Volker Engel, his career as a specialist for visual effects began with the film "Independence Day": Marc Weigert originates from Bad Harzburg and dropped in on the studio of the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science – this doesn't happen every day! The winner of Satellite and Emmy Awards reported on a trip to Hollywood that has continued until today.

Professional assessment from Hollywood

"Many ways lead somewhere but only one of them opens doors – try, try, try again", encouraged the 49-year-old film producer. Details of methods and realisation of visual effects were discussed using the example of the production of the film "Anonymous" at the

Babelsberg Studio. Marc Weigert also provided a short professional assessment of some films made by students in the courses "Keying", "Motion Capture" and "3D Animation".

It is important, he said, to concentrate on just a few questions and to work on these intensively. For the expert from California, the interesting thing about both media degree programmes at Harz University is the mixture of design and programming. It is clear that in the future even more will be scripted and automated, especially in the area of visual effects. It is exactly here that the bachelor students of Media Informatics are a nose ahead; equally, alumni of the master's programme Media and Games Concept Development score points with their interdisciplinary competences. ▲



Picture: Friedemann Spitzner, Nina Loof, Jasmin Strnad, Leoni Schulte and Mirko Skroch (from left to right) at the Gamescom 2019 in Cologne.

showed how "gamification" can push forward groundbreaking technologies with its state presentation at this year's Gamescom in Cologne. Skroch explained further: "This year we were really there as exhibitors and were able to contribute to the (first) communal stand of Saxony-Anhalt. We presented our current project 'Neon Nova Ultra Space Rumble'; we also got into conversation with many international game developers."

XR applications as an additional service

In addition to developing games, services in the area of XR are special services in the repertoire of the new studio. XR is the general term for the various approaches to changing our reality. These include virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) as the best-known forms. XR applications are developed for small and medium-sized companies in the Harz region and beyond to help them with problems, to visualise processes and to provide help with learning. The main activity of the company is and remains, however, the development of games. ▲

"The magic of visual effects derives from artistic creation, from the believable interaction of CGI elements, photographic assets and real film."

Prof. Martin Kreyßig, University Lecturer for Digital Moving Images at Harz University



Then and now – a campus through the years

* Annett Leopold and Eileen Demangé



Picture 1: Villa Honig around 1901



Picture 3: The fireplace in the Villa around 1950



Picture 4: Reading room in the convalescence home – known today as the "Senatssaal" (Senate Chamber)



Picture 2: Entrance to Villa Honig



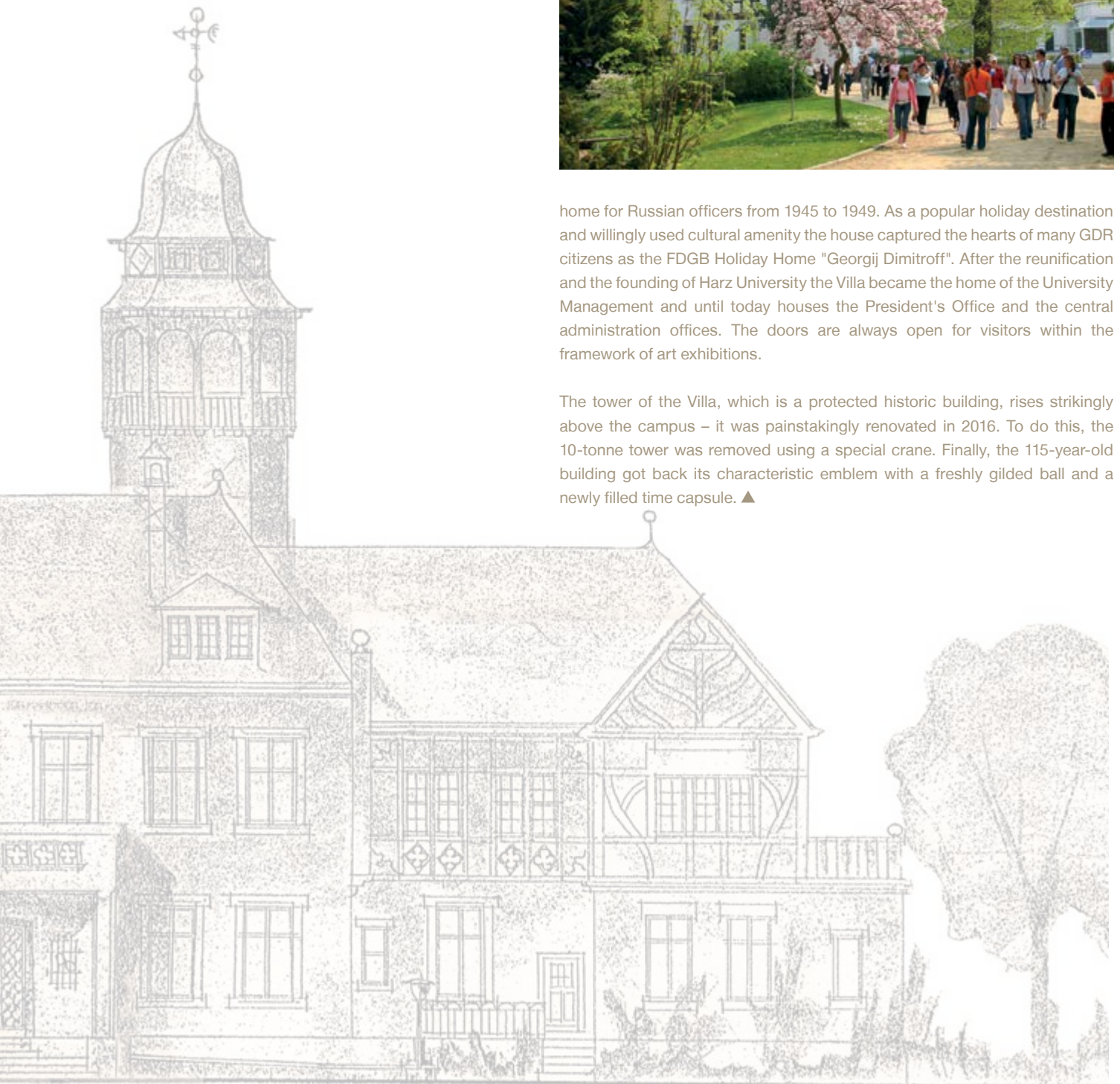
Picture 5: Holiday Home "Georgij Dimitroff", 1955

It is an insight into days gone by: in almost a century of German history the Wernigerode campus has undergone a multifaceted change from German nationalism to an open academic community. The foundation stone was laid in the year 1900: From the green idyll of the Honig family in the years 1900 to 1938, through the time from 1938 to 1945 as the industrialist Rudolf Artur Rautenbach used the "Villa" for prestige purposes, until it became a convalescence



home for Russian officers from 1945 to 1949. As a popular holiday destination and willingly used cultural amenity the house captured the hearts of many GDR citizens as the FDGB Holiday Home "Georgij Dimitroff". After the reunification and the founding of Harz University the Villa became the home of the University Management and until today houses the President's Office and the central administration offices. The doors are always open for visitors within the framework of art exhibitions.

The tower of the Villa, which is a protected historic building, rises strikingly above the campus – it was painstakingly renovated in 2016. To do this, the 10-tonne tower was removed using a special crane. Finally, the 115-year-old building got back its characteristic emblem with a freshly gilded ball and a newly filled time capsule. ▲



Picture 6: The Rautenbach era begins: the drawing for the alterations to the Villa is the only testimony to the time from 1938 to 1945.

For less greenhouse gases in Saxony-Anhalt A professor on the advisory board of the Environment Ministry

* Katharina Reif

A scientific Advisory Board supports the federal state of Saxony-Anhalt with the implementation of its climate change targets. Andrea Heilmann, Dean of the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science at Harz University, is one of two Vice Chairpersons of the Board. The Professor for Environmental Technology and Environmental Management joined the Advisory Board in order to share her experience from research projects with districts and local communities in the fields of climate change and adjustment to it. She lists some of the issues: "Which greenhouse gas reduction measures are particularly effective? How does one create acceptance for them? What support do those who are active in the municipalities need?"

The 15 members of the Board from universities in Saxony-Anhalt were appointed by Claudia Dalbert, Minister for the Environment, Agriculture and Energy, in February 2019 to act as scientific advisors for the implementation of the state's climate and energy concept. The concept foresees 72 measures in five fields of activity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions: in the energy sector, in buildings, in transport, in industry and commerce, agriculture and forestry, and in land use and nutrition. Andrea Heilmann participated in the development of the concept. The challenge of developing recommendations for action together with experts from very different disciplines is one that appeals to the professor: "All perspectives and all interactions need to be considered. For example, using renewable resources for energy or construction can benefit climate protection but it can also result in competition for land and changes in land use."



Bild: Prof. Dr. Andrea Heilmann, Dean of the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science

At Harz University, Andrea Heilmann has been working towards a better understanding of sustainability since her appointment 19 years ago – as head of the working group and the Academic Senate commission "Sustainable Harz University", on the committee of the association "HS Harz Solar" and in lectures on the sustainable economy, on the use of biomass or on environmental technology and work safety. Her activities are aimed not just at raising awareness among the students for the consequences of their actions but also at making the University's own activities more sustainable. ▲

Fresh tap water free of charge Refill Station at Harz University * Eileen Demangé

The heat last summer affected many people and served as a reminder that it is essential to drink enough. Everyone, not just students, should always have a water bottle at hand at all times. Thanks to the "Refill Stations" across the country, refillable bottles can be topped up with tap water on the go. This doesn't just save on unnecessary plastic waste but also helps to protect the climate and the environment. Started in 2015 in Bristol in the UK, "Refill" has now become a nationwide movement in Germany. Following its premiere in Hamburg, 1500 stations have been set up – and Harz University recently joined the list.

Collaboration with the working group Sustainable Harz University

The former students Christin Rothe and Jana Hoffmann initiated the Refill campaign in Wernigerode in 2018; the Wernigerode and Halberstadt campuses joined in August. "The issue of sustainability is taken seriously at the University. Access to good drinking water is by no means a



Photo: Initiator Christin Rothe; Chancellor Michael Schilling and University employee Jeannette Israel-Schart (from left to right)

certainty in many parts of the world. We are making a small contribution to a better environment and are providing people with healthy drinking water", explains Michael Schilling, Chancellor of Harz University.

The two graduates have already convinced several locations in Wernigerode's town centre to participate in the good cause, for example the "Bürgerinformation" (Citizens' Information Office), the town library and the "Bürgerpark" (municipal park). Their model was the "Refill Town" of Halberstadt, where over 50 locations offer free tap water. "We both found the idea great and independently of each other contacted Corado Stock, the initiator of Refill in Halberstadt. We now work together to talk to owners of potential locations", explained Christin Rothe, and added: "In cooperation with the working group "Sustainable Harz University", we were quickly able to gain the campus as a station. Many

students, but also many people outside the University, gladly take advantage of the free offer." Her collaborator Jana Hoffmann, a native of Halberstadt, explains: "Since all the information about the project is only available online, there is no printed information material – this sets a clear signal against paper waste".

How do I find the closest Refill Station?

All Refill Stations are marked by a sticker on the window or the entrance door – in Wernigerode these are sponsored by the town, which has supported the project from its inception. ▲.

Further information on participating locations in Wernigerode and Halberstadt can be found at: refill-deutschland.de

Sustainability week at Harz University

Exchanging items that still have life in them * Eileen Demangé



Picture 1: No need to throw anything away: "TauschRausch" (SwapFrenzy) in the sports hall of the Wernigerode Campus.

If Harz University's sports hall has been transformed into a hip second-hand shop, then it must be time once again for the "TauschRausch". At this exchange market students can give their unneeded belongings a second life by exchanging them with other students and discover new favourites for themselves. Over 1000 items have already found new owners this way. Books, computer games, clothes, jewellery, bags – there was something for all tastes. "TauschRausch" is organised annually by Business Psychology students as part of Sustainability Week.



Picture 2: Many friends of sustainability search for their next favourite items in Halberstadt – and get lucky.

At the Halberstadt Campus too, room S111 was transformed into a colourful clothing store for the occasion. Many treasures were presented for exchange and numerous flyers and banners informed visitors about sustainable clothing. Music and drinks rounded off the event. The visitors also took part in a tombola in which the much-loved University mugs were the prizes – a way to drink one's coffee sustainably in the future! ▲

Did you know?

The daily consumption of "coffee to go" cups at Harz University is around 140 cups. For the production of this number of disposable cups 19,600 litres of water are wasted every day. This is the same as the total water consumption of around 150 people in Germany

(around 12 times the volume of our "Cup" in front of building 4). However, the sustainability efforts seem to be bearing fruit: since 2016 the number of disposable cups per day has almost halved from 260 to 140!

First-semester students take the Harz by storm

Orientation days and welcoming of the new students

* Janet Anders and Eileen Demangé



Welcome! The winter semester at Harz University started with the highest number of new registrations for 10 years: 814 first-semester students were welcomed to the faculties of Automation and Computer Science, Administrative Sciences and Business Studies.

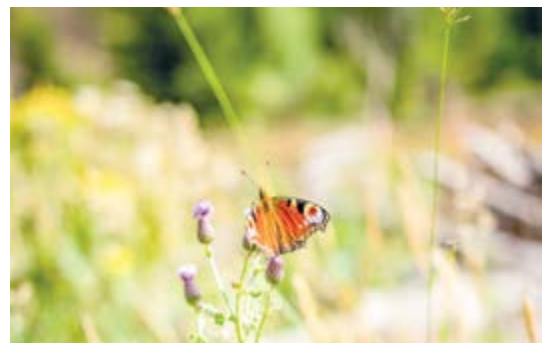
There are currently more than 3100 students from throughout Germany matriculated in over 20 degree programmes. They are studying in bachelor or master programmes, full-time, in a part time degree programme for professionals or in a dual study programme in connection with a company or public institution; around 160 international students from almost 60 nations provide Wernigerode and Halberstadt with cosmopolitan flair. In addition, there are participants in continuing education and certificate courses, guest participants and those attending "Generation University" and "Children's University" events. President Prof. Dr. Roland was pleased to welcome the newcomers. "Harz University is characterised by its family atmosphere: we work together, we study together, and we celebrate together. Hopefully, this will also make your time as a student a very special one and will bring you back later to the traditional graduate reunion at your University."

For the majority of the newly matriculated students getting to know the campus began before the orientation days. In the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science the introductory phase already started on 2nd September with a ten-day pre-study mathematics course. In addition to information about the individual degree programmes, before the start of lectures the new students got to know all the service facilities, the

campus management software, the library system and the comprehensive language and sport opportunities. Students from higher semesters provided an authentic and uncomplicated impression of the upcoming phase of life: As mentors they accompanied the first steps of the new arrivals on campus tours and at information events. ▲



Picture: At the matriculation ceremonies at the beginning of the winter semester 2019/20 a total of 814 first-semester students were welcomed to the three faculties – this is the highest number of new registrations for 10 years.



Many new faces on the campus: in typical Harz weather the first-semester students got to know the campus and student life during the orientation days. Together they explored Wernigerode Castle on a tour of the town, visited the Halberstadt Cathedral or made it to the 1142 metre summit of the Brocken – all the "Erstis" thereby passed the (un) official entrance examination, a successful start to university life! The students can look forward to an exciting time in more than 20 student associations that shape everyday life at Harz University outside of the lecture hall.



Picture 1 and 2: At the start, DJ Prof. Dr. Patrick Hehn got the neurotransmitters of the crowd glowing; his fan club supported him by holding up slogans



Picture 3: Just as competently as she gives out cheese schnitzels, special guest "DJ Mensafrau" presented her skills on the mixing desk.



Picture 4: Even lecturers have undiscovered talents: as if Uwe Richter had never done anything else, he threw himself into the partying crowd.



Picture 5: Beate Prochnau is known and loved as "Mensafrau" (Cashier at the Mensa) - especially on cheese schnitzel days.



Picture 6: The fan club member at the DJ console and enjoyed the music.

It's all about music

Swapping the lectern for the DJ desk * Eileen Demangé

Steamed-up windows, a jubilant crowd, music with lots of guitars and somehow the DJs behind the mixing desk look different from those of the "Musikfreunde" student music association. Clear case! It was time once again for a "Your Prof is Your DJ" party in the Wernigerode Mensa. Many students came to support their "University stars" on the decks with self-made posters. Especially the DJanes Beate Prochnau alias Mensafrau, Prof. Dr. Louisa Klemmer and Prof. Dr. Elisabeth van Bentum got the crowd dancing wildly. The mood was euphoric, which shows once again what a relaxed atmosphere Harz University has. The playlists included many bands from the student days of the professors, for example The Cure, Genesis and Rod Stewart.



If you couldn't be there, all the DJ sets can be heard on the Spotify channel of Harz University.



... positioned himself in front of the DJ
... the songs of DJane "Mensafrau".



Picture 7: With the help of an air guitar or by singing
himself, DJ Michael Neumann rocked the stage.



Picture 8: The well-rehearsed duo Prof. Dr. Elisa-
beth van Bentum and Prof. Dr. Louisa Klemmer.

Student activities outside the lecture hall



DAHEIM: The first musical on the campus

*** Tom Nussek (Director)**

In the summer semester 2019 the dream of the first "Kulturschock Musical" came true. Following the critical acclaim of the well-attended productions brought to the dining hall stage by the student association in previous semesters, the wishes of the song and dance enthusiasts among the members were finally fulfilled: from April to June they rehearsed as often as possible. The group of around 20 performers studied their own songs, rewrote lyrics, got used to the microphone and despite their high workload did not allow their enthusiasm for the theatre to be dampened.

On 16th June it became a reality, the curtain opened and the audience was thrilled from start to finish. The premiere of "Daheim" was even attended by the two authors of the piece, Reinhard Griem and Horst Bruhn, who travelled from Hamburg. After three grandiose performances the musical unfortunately came to an end, but we are already eagerly anticipating what "Kulturschock" has in store for us in the next semesters. "Hopefully, there will be more singing and dancing on stage again soon", the audience agreed after the final applause. ▲

A warm welcome to "Act." and "Creative Network"

* Maya Göttching

Everybody knows about our student associations. Around two thirds of all students at Harz University join at least one of these communities of interest. Today there are around 20 associations that actively contribute to University life, for example by organising events, driving forward projects for the common good or holding community evenings. The problem for students is choosing which of the many student associations to join – and this just got harder with the establishment of two new cross-faculty societies that want to add value to University life.

Act. – a student-organised group following on from the former sustainability working group

Although not yet officially a student association, Act. is already actively involved in student life. With 35 members already, the association's vision is to increase the visibility of the issue of sustainability at the University and to raise awareness among students. Lea Brösdorf, member of the committee of the group, explains: "We want to motivate students to view the issue of sustainability not just as a black and white issue – as something that one either always or never does – but rather as a theme to which everyone can contribute without completely disrupting one's life." As the association is still in an early phase, all

ideas to structure the initiative and its projects are welcome. On game nights, hikes and workshops, the students exchange ideas on how to be more sustainable in their everyday life without foregoing anything. "So that we can contribute to perhaps just slightly improving the dominant problem of this world", says the Business Psychology student.

Creative Network – the creative student association for media enthusiasts

The committee members of Creative Network – Arnulf Quint and Marcel Siegert – had the idea for a community of interest focused on media as early as autumn 2018. Since the 2019 Campus Festival, they have officially become a student association focused on the areas of photo, video, audio, design and drawing, examining both the creative and the professional angles. "We found that while every student association covers a niche, none of the existing ones fully addressed media enthusiasts", explained Marcel Siegert. "We want to exchange our abilities, skills and experiences, introduce interested people to the subject of media and work on building up competences for later professional life outside the lecture hall." Besides participating in the University's events, sometimes with their gastronomic speciality "fries", the student association also organises photo hikes and group evenings and offers after-party movies.



Picture 1: Excursion to the Kaiserturm

The largest project at the moment is reviving the MINFF Awards (Media Informatics Flying Fish Awards). "We offer the opportunity to develop creatively", summarises the master's student, before appealing to all new students: "Regardless of which student association you choose, make sure you join one, have a good time and get to know people. The large number of communities of interest really differentiates our University from others, so make use of them!" ▲



Picture 2: At the start of the summer semester 2019 the "Sustainable Harz University" working group, led by University staff member Jeannette Israel-Schart, decided to found a purely student association in which students would organise themselves. They named this association "Act." and revised the concept to make clear that it is not just the same interest group. The first goal – attracting more students – has already been achieved. Just like, for example, Creative Network or Kulturschock, they are active on Instagram and report about their daily life at the University.

International cooperation in globally distributed teams

"Playing Bauhaus" – exhibition opens at the Goethe Institute Tokyo

* Eileen Demangé

A hundred years of Bauhaus as a video game: students of the master's degree programme Media and Games Concept Development at Harz University and the Tokyo University of Technology used the Bauhaus anniversary as an occasion to transform the concepts of the famous art school into a new media form that did not yet exist 100 years ago. The exhibition "Playing Bauhaus" was opened at the Goethe Institute Tokyo by Prof. Dominik Wilhelm. Seven students accompanied the expert for applied games concepts to Tokyo and learned a lot about international cooperation in globally distributed teams. In the course "International Game Studio" the games were developed together with students in Japan for almost half a year. "The Goethe Institute found the idea excellent and wanted to exhibit our games", reported Dominik Wilhelm.

In the development of the games, new methods of communication had to be found as some of the Japanese students speak hardly any English. But getting over this hurdle is exactly the purpose of the seminar: "In this industry it is common practice that the employees are distributed between many locations worldwide; the teams must nevertheless work together", explained the graduate of Communications Design and added: "The students met each other for the first time after one year – this was by far the best moment for me. After a short warm-up phase they had meals together, laughed together and even exchanged addresses. For this reason alone the project can be regarded as a success for international cooperation at Harz University."

Creative prototypes for video games

Learn colour theory at the wheel of a racing car? How does Roro the pig feel in a pen designed according to Bauhaus principles? The seven exhibits were much appreciated by both the visitors and the staff at the Goethe Institute. For the game "Moving Bauhaus" full bodily participation was required. "We wanted to present the works of art of the Bauhaus teachers in a playful way – the player balances on a board with an iPad and uses body movements to move through the world of pictures by Paul Klee and Oskar Schlemmer", said Media and Games Concept Development student Alexandra Herbersdorf, who, like her fellow students, would like to go back to the metropolis again. "The exhibition lasted three days plus two further days to set it up. The time with our Japanese counterparts was very



Picture 1: Game exhibit: Moving Bauhaus



Picture 2: Takoyaki, octopus snack



Picture 3: In front of the Tokyo Tower: Sofia Schwerdtfeger (left) and Alexandra Herbersdorf



good: although I can speak a little Japanese, my language knowledge was unfortunately not sufficient for discussing Bauhaus works of art. Despite this, we were all united by the fact that we were able to display our own game", said the 28-year-old. After the exhibition there was still a little time for the students to discover the culture of the country.

Together with the Tokyo University of Technology and the company Ubisoft, which provides mentoring support, the next project is already being planned: on the theme of the Olympic Games, which will take place in Japan in 2020. ▲

Two continents and three countries

Arriving in the heart of Germany

* Maya Göttching



Picture 1: Mariana Monroy Ordoñez at home in Colombia

Born in Colombia, studying in Germany and a work placement in Tenerife: Mariana Monroy Ordoñez was 14 years old when she first came to Germany. At the time, she left the Colombian capital Bogotá for a four-month school exchange. She learned the German language because of family connections from an early age. Like her older sister, she had therefore always considered the possibility of studying here. When the theme of professional field orientation came up at school, the young woman from South America decided to go in the direction of services. "Harz University was the only place offering a suitable degree programme and I hoped that my

application for the bachelor programme would be successful", remembers the 21-year-old. And so she left the eight-million metropolis to head for the small town in the Harz mountains, to study Business Administration/Service Management on the Wernigerode Campus.

"Wedding Planner" on Tenerife

In her fourth semester Mariana Monroy Ordoñez absolved her compulsory work placement in San Cristóbal de La Laguna on the island of Tenerife: "I always wanted to do something involving weddings. In Colombia they say that Spain has the best wedding planners. This is



Picture 2: Green landscapes in Eje Cafetero

why I was very keen to go there." In addition to the preparations she was even allowed to attend a wedding. "That was the first time that I had been at a wedding. I put together the bouquets of flowers myself", reported the Colombian proudly. The work placement was very worthwhile for her: "It was really a lot of fun and I can definitely imagine working with the theme of weddings in the future."

International plans

In her seventh semester the Wernigerode resident of choice intends to go to Ireland or England: "I want to travel a lot more and get to know other cultures." Despite this desire, or perhaps because of it, Mariana Monroy Ordoñez loves the Harz. In her home city of Bogotá people dream of such cute little houses, which is why she is especially fond of Wernigerode and Quedlinburg: "The towns round here are also beautiful." She feels good in her new home – also because of the new friends she has gained: "If you find friends in Germany, they are friends forever." ▲



Picture 3: Ráquira – the colourful potter's town in Colombia is always worth a visit.



From the Brocken Railway to the Trans-Siberian train Bright-yellow graduate acts as a tour companion

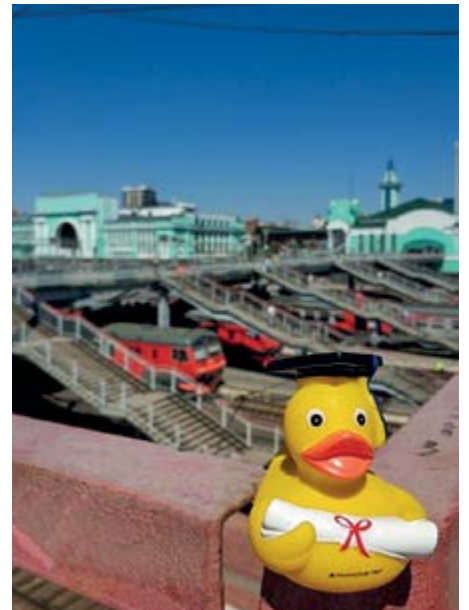
* Eileen Demangé

Picture: Having arrived in Iceland's volcanic landscape, it was time for another snapshot. Anyone who has hiked on the Tuffring Hverfjall in the island's north knows that extremely strong winds always blow. Lucky for us then that our "AbsolvEnte" graduate duck took this photo instead of flying straight back down to nearby Mývatn Lake, renowned for its huge duck population. The volcano's crater presents wonderful scenery. It was formed 2500 years ago in a violent steam explosion. At the edge of a mighty column of steam through which nothing could sink, loose volcanic material trickled down, forming a ring one kilometre wide and 90 to 150 metres high.



Picture (left): The Sydney Opera House is a cultural highlight Down Under. Located right by the harbour, it is the city's emblem and is a major attraction for architecture fans, especially at night. Its unmistakable roof is clad with 1,100,000 glazed, white, shining ceramic tiles imported from Sweden.

Picture (right): Choo choo – our AbsolvEnte graduate duck loves travelling by train! The Trans-Siberian Railway was therefore a must on her trip through Russia. At 9288 kilometres, it is the longest railway line in the world. Did you know that if you take the complete journey from the capital, Moscow, to Vladivostok on the Pacific coast, you pass through 400 train stations, and that the trip usually takes 144 hours, or six days? Now that's impressive!



Discoverer duck crosses continents

Our AbsolvEnte graduate duck has established herself as a much-loved travel mascot and accompanies our students and staff on their exciting travels. The bright-yellow graduate has almost made it all the way around the world: from the Harz, through America, Iceland, Spain, Italy, Norway and Denmark, all the way to Australia.



Doing research where Tolkien, Hawking and Mr. Bean studied From the Harz via Silicon Valley to Oxford

* Moritz Peters

Business Psychology graduate Jonas Paul Schöne proudly presents his Harz University T-shirt in front of the venerable Oxford University Library. Before he started studying he never expected that he would end up here, a university that is 748 years older than Harz University. But after successfully completing his bachelor's degree in Wernigerode he could not refuse the offer to do his doctorate here directly (in Britain it is not unusual to do this without first doing a master's degree). In fact, his bachelor's thesis was so good that he even received a further offer from Columbia University in the USA.

However, closer proximity to his family and friends was important to him, so he opted for the United Kingdom to continue his research.

During his school education the native of Worms already became very interested in Business Psychology and so he decided to study at Harz University. Thanks to the Erasmus exchange programme of the EU and the "Deutschlandstipendium" (German Scholarship) he completed an exciting semester abroad at the Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences.

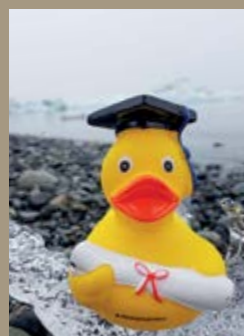


Picture: Graduate Jonas Paul Schöne proudly presents his Harz University T-shirt in front of Oxford University; He still feels connected with us.

Research at Stanford University

Schöne was even awarded the Harz University Support Prize for his outstanding achievements. "It sometimes happens that a thesis is worthy of publication, but that it is written in Stanford and the student is accepted by Oxford whilst he is still working on it has never happened before", recounted Georg Felser, Professor for Business Psychology at Harz University. The Chairwoman of the Harz University Support Committee, Angela Gorr (member of the Federal State Parliament), was also impressed with the acceptance by Oxford: "It doesn't always have to be the well-known institutions in Magdeburg and Halle. Mr Schöne's example shows that excellent research is also done in the Harz."

The 24-year-old's thesis is concerned with the connection between sleep and the regulation of emotions. At the American University of Stanford, close to Silicon Valley, he investigated the sleep behaviour of numerous test persons. "They were fitted with a cap with 36 sensors, similar to that used for an EEG. They did not sleep in the laboratory but at home in a familiar environment", said the graduate, explaining the research concept. And the results were astounding: "I determined that people convince themselves of many things. They say that they have slept well but the measurements tell a different story. People who believe, for example, that they have slept badly or too little could be more irritable and impulsive just because of this." The business psychologist remains true to the theme of emotions in Oxford and is currently working as a doctoral student on the collective distribution of emotions in the internet. ▲



Editorial staff around the world

Harz University bids farewell to around 500 graduates annually. Not all of them start their working careers in Germany. Many even head for a completely different continent, where they have found a second home. This was the case for Nadine Schmidt, who, after finishing her studies, moved the focal point of her life to Australia and Holger Kliesch, who spent three years among the skyscrapers of Frankfurt before moving to the USA, where the dimensions are even larger. Two staff members of Harz University used their summer holidays to visit the two alumni in their new environments.

From the Brocken to Brooklyn

* Moritz Peters

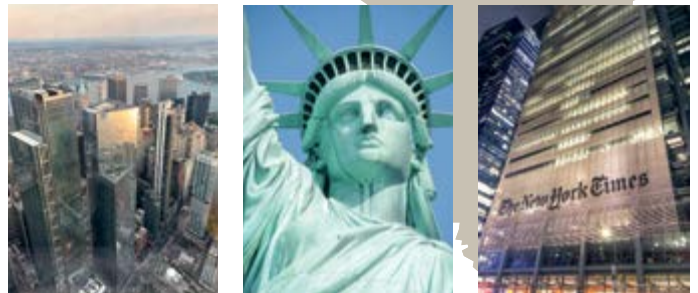
Getting to work each day is always something special for Holger Kliesch. Before getting onto the train in Hoboken/New Jersey, he takes a look at the gigantic skyline of New York, dominated by the One World Trade Center. "I have run up the tower twice in recent years, 417 metres in 23 minutes", says the Business Administration graduate. His commuter journey takes the native of Lüneburg under the Hudson River and directly into downtown Manhattan. This is also where he works – at the Deutsche Bank in Programme & Change Management. The way there was long but varied. After completing his training as a Bank Clerk in Brunswick he wanted to study Business Administration. Because of its close connections with practical application, in 1997 he headed for Harz University. "It was a close community with the other students", remembers the graduate and smiles: "We were not more than 30 people, which provided a super ratio of students to staff." Still today, he makes use of the content from the seminars Negotiation Techniques and Project Management and he liked the global perspectives of the degree programme International Business Studies a lot. He already sharpened his intercultural competences during his semester abroad in Charlotte/North Carolina and the MBA that he completed there.

15 years in the USA

Around the turn of the century his studies were

coming to an end and so Holger Kliesch attended many career fairs and came into contact with the Deutsche Bank. Everything began with a work placement in Frankfurt and the thesis that followed. "The internationality of the bank excited me and so after the work placement I remained in Frankfurt", said Kliesch, summarising his career start. Three years later he was offered the chance to take part in an international staff exchange and to go to Baltimore/

Maryland for a year. In the meantime the year has developed into 15 years in the USA – including moving to the pulsating metropolis of New York City. He now works in the COO area of the Chief Security Office and is in close contact with the service providers. In his free time Kliesch makes use of the many possibilities that New York has to offer as a city, operates comprehensive networking in the area of new technologies and offers mentoring for start-ups.



Picture: Holger Kliesch sees the skyline of New York every day from Hoboken/New Jersey. Moritz Peters, Alumni manager at the Harz University, visited him there.

Two metropolises, one coffee cup



Are you also in another country and want to network with other graduates who live and work in your town? Then register now in the Harz University alumni portal: www.hs-harz.de/alumni

From the Harz to Down Under

* Eileen Demangé

Koalas, kangaroos and kookaburras: Australia is famous for its unusual animals. But the country has much more to offer for the graduate Nadine Schmidt. After completing her master's degree at Harz University in 2012, she moved together with her boyfriend to the five-million metropolis Melbourne. Starting as an adviser in a small travel agency, she now works as a Manager for Customer Development at ISIC – an organisation that issues an internationally recognised verification of school pupil or student status, which enables discounts worldwide. The 35-year-old has also taken on a part-time position as a lecturer for sustainability in the event industry: "This job gives me an unbelievable amount of pleasure. It is impressive to see the effect that my activities have on young people and their attitude to sustainability. At the end of the semester many students even said to me that they have changed their habits because of my course – sustainability always means starting with yourself."



Picture: Nadine Schmidt works in the Australian metropolis Melbourne and obviously feels happy there. Eileen Demangé, Online Editor at Harz University, met her at the Yarra River in the heart of the city.

Sustainability in tourism is an issue close to the heart of the graduate

The former student of the master's programme Tourism and Destination Development has a heartfelt desire to make events in the tourism industry more sustainable. She would also like to promote this theme in Australian industry and is active voluntarily in the global project "Impact Travel Alliance". She is happy to sacrifice the little free time that she has for

this. If, however, some time remains, she uses this to discover the diversity of the country. "I love to go hiking in the mountains – this has not changed since I was in Wernigerode, but it is also a unique experience to go through the Australian bush and to camp there", says the graduate enthusiastically and adds: "The only disadvantage is that I'm so far away from friends and family. I regularly use the German

summer as an opportunity to fly home. I often think back to the time in Wernigerode and what a great community there was at the University. I learned so much there that was of value for my life. The master's programme was especially valuable for my career development." ▲

Thinking computers and intelligent robots

Does artificial intelligence have a gender problem?

* Katharina Reif and Eileen Demangé



Picture: Claudia Hellwig and Prof. Dr. Frieder Stolzenburg show exhibits from research projects on artificial intelligence.

The scientific year 2019 was characterised by the theme "artificial intelligence" (AI). Prof. Dr. Frieder Stolzenburg, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science at Harz University, has been involved with this theme for many years and at the end of November at an AI convention in Magdeburg under the title "AI & WIR*", he explained how the theme is not only finding its way into science and practical applications but also into equal opportunities.

Robots that react to orders? This has been reality for a long time – and they are becoming ever more intelligent. "We are all already confronted with the theme of AI every day. Algorithms penetrate daily life more and more, often without us noticing", said the Informatics expert Stolzenburg. He explains: "Fundamentally, it involves machines that behave intelligently – they can compose pieces of music and poetry that can hardly be distinguished from those written by humans." Under his leadership there are currently two projects at Harz University in which AI is being successfully utilised: one of

them involves a smartphone which serves as an input device for someone controlling a robot; through voice recognition, facial expressions and gestures the robot interacts intelligently with the user. "But don't worry, he won't take over the world", joked the Professor for Knowledge-Based Systems. The DFG-supported project CoRg (Cognitive Reasoning) has the aim that in future machines will be able to understand text using human logic: "The AI often learns from a large number of training examples: artificial neuronal networks are trained using data from practical situations. The network should eventually be able to generalise like a human brain." Unfortunately, this could also mean that prejudices and role models could be reinforced, says the professor, providing something to think about. A well-known example for discrimination against women was provided by Amazon when the company used artificial intelligence for the preselection of job applications: "New applications were compared with existing profiles and men were preferred because mostly men were working in the area with the position to be filled."

Discrimination problems in AI

But is it possible to design AI algorithms so that they are fair and free from discrimination? In his lecture at the Magdeburg AI Convention in November, Frieder Stolzenburg talked about whether explainable AI could be a solution for discrimination problems because: "Up to now, neuronal networks have worked like a black box. There are generally no explanations or justifications for why a particular decision was made", explained the researcher. Claudia Hellwig, employee in the state-wide project FEM POWER for the promotion of equal opportunities for women and men in science and research, accompanied Frieder Stolzenburg to the AI Convention at the "Festung Mark" (Mark Fortress). She is convinced: "More women must get involved with artificial intelligence; we need more female computer scientists and technicians in leadership positions." At Harz University she tries to make sure that young women lose their aversion to IT and technical careers. ▲

Results from teaching and research are utilised worldwide

Harz University receives award from software manufacturer SAP

* Claudia Aldinger

As one of the first German educational institutions, Harz University has been awarded the title "SAP Next-Gen Chapter". With this award, one of the largest software manufacturers in the world has highlighted the special role of Harz University in imparting its technologies academically and integrated the educational institution into its pool of experts for new challenges. "Through more than 10 years of cooperation between Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg and Harz University the many joint projects have produced artefacts, mainly in the form of teaching materials, that are available to more than 3700 educational institutions worldwide via the programme SAP University Alliance", said Stefan Weidner, Commercial Head of the SAP University Competence Center (UCC) Magdeburg. He nominated Harz University for the award.

Online tool for the depiction of company structures

In the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Scheruhn has been integrating SAP technologies into the teaching for more than 20 years. "Even back then students were greatly interested but I did not want to offer pure software training", explained

the professor for Business Informatics. So he had to think laterally: how can you teach SAP technologies and at the same time show which business decision is connected with every click? After all, it is exactly at this interface that the students later work. The result was "Enterprise GPS". In this online tool, the University lecturer and his team extended well-known models for the representation of company structures from Business Administration to include technical aspects: IT departments, IT roles, emerging data and of course software solutions such as those offered by SAP. "If you learn with 'Enterprise GPS', you are not only able to trigger an order process technically, you also know which company targets are connected with it. The students love to learn through such connections and on the basis of examples", said the expert.

This enthusiasm has spread worldwide. Since the presentation of "Enterprise GPS" at a conference held by the "SAP University Alliance" in the year 2015, educational institutions from more than 700 towns have logged into the Harz University servers thousands of times in order to navigate through company structures and IT applications with the help of the tool. ▲

In addition to Harz University, at the end of 2018 a total of 13 German educational institutions were awarded the title "SAP Next-Gen Chapter", including Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, Karlsruhe Institute for Technology (KIT) and the Hasso Plattner Institute (HPI) in Potsdam. SAP organises academic education on its technologies via the "SAP University Alliance" with more than 3700 members worldwide. Harz University be-

longs to the regional unit DACH for Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Through institutions such as the University Competence Center (UCC) Magdeburg, SAP provides access to software and hardware. Support was also provided by LEADing Practice, a non-profit committee that is concerned with standardisation in companies and industry and functions as a licence issuer for "Enterprise GPS".



Picture: Prof. Dr. Hans-Jürgen Scheruhn and his team present their online tool for the depiction of company structures: "Enterprise GPS" is now in use worldwide.

A selection of the best Instagram pictures from the year 2019

* Eileen Demangé



Liebe Grüße vom #Domstadt-Campus! 🍷



Mit der Harzer #Schmalspurbahn durch den bunten #Herbstwald 🍁🍂



Die Winkel-Gassen Halberstadts erinnern bei Nacht an eine Filmkulisse... 🍷📷



Der #Frühling ist nach einer kurzen Pause zurück! ✨



Heute ist #HSHarzDay♥ Diesen Tag könnt ihr überall feiern – sogar an der über 9.000 Kilometer entfernten Golden Gate Bridge.



Was für ein fantastisches Frühlingbild von unserem Campus 😊🌸



Unser Wintercampus ❄️



Was haben die #Brockenbahn und der #HogwartsExpress gemeinsam? 🚂🐉
Richtig, eine eigene Haltestelle an einer (Hoch)Schule.



Unser wunderschöner #Campus von oben 🌍



Wir möchten auch unsere #Internationals herzlich an der #HSHarz begrüßen! 🌍



Winterliche Grüße aus #Lillehammer
#Norwegen ❄️

University chirping on Twitter

Hochschule Harz @HS_Harz · 7. Okt.
Prof. Weiß ist mit Kolleginnen & Kollegen aus verschiedenen Hochschulleitungen auf einer #LearningJourney in #Boston & #NYC. Dort hat er @JoannHalpern wieder getroffen, die von 1996-2001 Leiterin des International Office der #HSHarz war. Jetzt ist sie Direktorin des @HPI_NYC 🇺🇸

Design thinking is a process and a mindset.
Don't wait. Innovate!
Hasso Plattner

Hochschule Harz @HS_Harz · 30. Sept.
Herzlich Willkommen an der #HSHarz! Neben ihrer regulären Arbeit studieren seit diesem #WS21 insgesamt 23 junge Frauen & Männer #berufsbegleitend im #MBA, #Bachelor #BWL sowie #Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen 🎓. Infos zu den berufsbegleitenden Studiengängen: hs-harz.de/weiterbildung

Hochschule Harz @HS_Harz · 14. Nov.
Hochschulrektorenkonferenz für den öffentlichen Dienst:
Prof. Dr. Jürgen Stember einstimmig zum neuen Präsidenten des Gremiums gewählt! Der Prof. für #Verwaltungswissenschaften war 12 Jahre Dekan des gleichnamigen Fachbereichs der #HSHarz in #Halberstadt, rikhoed.de

Hochschule Harz @HS_Harz · 15. Mai
Fragen rund um Berufsorientierung und -qualifizierung: #Firmenkontakttage an der #HSHarz @wehnigerode_de mit über 30 Ausstellern. Studierende informierten sich heute über #Karrierechancen & knüpfen Kontakte zu potenziellen Arbeitgebern.

Three days of pure campus magic

* Eileen Demangé



Picture: "Shapes of light" Max Weber and Laura Drissen; photos: Stefan Steinmetz, STEINSOHN IMAGES

The brightest campus in Germany

In an unmistakable atmosphere everything was offered from open-air cinema to theatre and a comfortable lounge concept with live music. "Together with the Student Union we organised the first Campus Light Festival in Saxony-Anhalt from 15th to 17th May and it was a complete success in every way. Both the programme and the intricately designed illuminations from our student associations impressed the public", reported organisational talent Max Weber proudly. The 25-year-old student of the bachelor's degree programme Business Administration/Service Management had already supported the large Campusfever event in the previous year as a radio trainee. Now the well-networked student took on a unique and sizeable project together with his fellow

student Laura Drissen. "We not only lit up our wonderful campus but also presented a leisurely student programme on the stage every evening. With the help of many blankets the student community made themselves comfortable on the lawn in front of the barbecue area despite the rainy weather", recounted the 23-year-old.

Light Festival exceeds all expectations

Laura Drissen and Max Weber are pleased to have been able to use the knowledge that they gained in the specialisation Event Management of the degree programme Business Administration/Service Management for their University. In addition to attending lectures they spent many hours working on "their baby" and learnt a



It was like a dream from the Arabian Nights: just before this year's Campusfever, students from Harz University transformed the Wernigerode campus into a colourful sea of light for three evenings with their sculptures. This was the first time in the history of Harz University that the Campus Light Festival had been held.



lot. "It was an absolute dream for us to see the campus in this way, just as we had imagined it beforehand – the Light Festival simply exceeded all our expectations", agreed the two students.

Votes for the best sculpture

The event was made possible by a clever sponsoring programme and the support of the Student Union. The many dedicated student associations of Harz University also took part with their illuminated sculptures, which were displayed on the idyllic campus during the Light Festival. At the end there was even a Facebook poll to find a winner. This was "Kulturschock" with their delicate and detailed peacock, which amazed all the visitors. ▲



Diligent insects and centuries-old treasures impress junior students

The big buzz: beekeeper explains everything about bees in the Harz

* Eileen Demangé

"If the bees die, humans will have only four more years to live" – with these words from Albert Einstein the beekeeper Enrico Kretschmar opened the first Children's University of the year. "The Bee is the most important working animal in the world", explained the speaker and added: "If there were no bees, here would be no pollination of the flowers and therefore no fruit, and as a result no more food." The lecture was followed by 211 mini-academics, who were impressed with the protective clothing, the smoke generator and the honeycomb that the beekeeper had brought with him as visual props. The expert explained what bees do and how a beehive is constructed. The interaction between people and the hard-working insects was also an important theme.

answers: a queen bee can live for up to five years whereas a worker bee in the vegetation period only lives for six weeks. "I want to make beekeeping better-known and modern again. In total I look after eight school bee projects in the Harz District and am always amazed at how much the children already know about our bees", said the native of Görlitz enthusiastically. At the end of the lecture all connoisseurs were able to sample the delicious honey harvested by the "Erlebnis- und Wanderimkerei Hessen" (Enrico Kretschmar's beekeeping business). As a thank you, there was even some fan-post for Enrico Kretschmar: one of the schoolchildren had painted a picture for the beekeeper: "I am always delighted about something like this. The lecture was so much fun; I am completely satisfied."



For the love of bees

As it is a heartfelt desire of the hobby apiarist to make the topic accessible for children, he had thought up some quiz questions for the junior students to consider: "How long does a queen bee or a worker bee in a bee colony live?" The youngsters were able to shine with their abundant knowledge – the majority chose the right



Since May 2017 Harz University has had three bee colonies, which produce the campus's own honey. During the season, Enrico Kretschmar comes to the Wernigerode campus once a week with his "natural gas bee mobile" and takes care of the diligent insects. "They are a bonus for everybody. The nearby nursery schools and the local residents profit from the bees, for example because the fruit trees are better pollinated", enthuses the 60-year-old, who runs the family business on the edge of the Harz that has existed since 1946.

Looking for treasure in Halberstadt Cathedral * Mandy Ebers

Premiere at the Halberstadt campus of Harz University: in the summer mini-academics took part in a Children's University in cooperation with the "Evangelische Gemeinde Halberstadt" (Protestant Parish Congregation Halberstadt), the "Domschatzverwaltung" (Cathedral Treasury Administration) and the "Gymnasium Martineum" (Martineum Grammar School) for the first time. They discovered that the Cathedral is not only a popular tourist attraction but has also been a place of living faith for hundreds of years.

Works of art, glass paintings and organ music

Arnulf Kaus, Parish Priest of the Protestant Congregation, took the 8 to 12-year-olds on a journey through the centuries of church and cultural history of the Cathedral: architecture, mediaeval works of art, colourful glass paintings, light from metre-high windows, organ music, singing and candlelight were some of the focal points of his lecture. He answered many questions, for example: what is the volume of the Cathedral in cubic metres? How many pipes does the Cathedral organ have? Why is there a roof above the pulpit? The lecture included a treasure hunt through the Cathedral. This was a rally with 10 stops in



which the junior students visited, among other things, the font and the wheel chandelier.

Programme for 2020 and registration at:

www.kinderhochschule.eu

20 years of "Bonjour und Guten Tag" Double degree programme celebrates its birthday

* Cindy Eheleben

In the summer semester the 20-year partnership with the Université d'Angers was celebrated within the framework of the Excellence Network of the "Deutsch-Französische Hochschule" (DFH) (German-French University). When in July 1999 Harz University signed the contract for a degree programme with a double degree in German and French as one of the first universities in Germany it could not have been predicted how successfully this would develop – after 20 years around 120 German and French students have graduated!

Two recognised degree certificates

The French student Fanny Guyonvarch sees the double degree programme as a great advantage for her future: "Through the cooperation programme I can study for longer than just one semester at Harz University and also have a double degree, which will make it easier for me to find a job in Germany." She had only a few hours a week of German and would therefore like to improve her language level. The young French woman also says: "I also like the many opportunities offered by the student associations and in the next semester, when I have been living here for a while and can speak better German, I want to become active with the Sports Group and the InterForum."



Picture 1: Congratulations on the birthday of the German-French partnership: Prof. Dr. Louisa Klemmer; Jasmin Putze; Myriam Khammari; Prof. Dr. Harald Zeiss; Katharina Budkiewitz; Gesine Legler (International Office); Anna-Lena Schou; Christin Gebauer and Sarah Piper (from left to right).

International study programme: a year in France

As a student at Harz University, Christin Gebauer decided to spend time abroad at the Université d'Angers because she had already learned French at school and had taken part in many programmes and trips to France. "The degree programme International Tourism Studies made it possible for me to deepen this interest and to obtain a German-French bachelor's degree. I see the year abroad as a positive point for my personal and practical experience in another culture. The Université d'Angers also offers a specialisation in Hotel Management, which is what attracted me personally to this partner town. The Uni has a very good reputation regarding the studies in this field", reports the 20-year-old, who feels content in her temporary home.

But how can I finance studying abroad?

The common worry that studying abroad is too expensive does not apply here: "The DFH supports all participating students with 300 euros monthly", emphasised the person responsible for the programme and French native Sarah Piper. The University staff member is proud of this programme: "We are the only university in the state of Saxony-Anhalt that belongs to the Excellence Network of the DFH. The programme is financed by the German Federal States and the French and German governments." Programme Coordinator Prof. Dr. Harald Zeiss sees many advantages in the programme: "The option to spend two semesters studying at a partner university in France helps to improve not only one's own language abilities but also the understanding of the relationship between the two cultures." The University Lecturer for Tourism Management also points out the good future prospects for the students: "Our alumni currently work for companies, for example in Paris, Marseille, Arles, on the Cape Verde Islands, on the island La Réunion, but also in Berlin, Munich and Hamburg." ▲



Picture 2: Christin Gebauer, student of the bachelor's degree programme International Tourism Studies enjoying her time abroad in France with a typical French baguette.



Graduation ceremonies

* Eileen Demangé

University says goodbye to more than 500 alumni

Faculty of Business Studies

A total of 292 alumni successfully completed their degrees in Business Studies at Harz University this year. Most of them came together in the dining hall on the Wernigerode campus at the end of September for their graduation ceremony. With this final celebratory act in sunny autumn weather, the young women and men said farewell to student life. President Prof. Dr. Folker Roland wished the 243 bachelor and 49 master graduates all the best for the future both privately and in their

careers, and encouraged them to bring some fresh ideas to the companies where they will work. The Dean of the faculty, Prof. Dr. Reynaldo Valle Thiele, also congratulated them and asked them to keep in contact: "We are looking forward to finding out what you are doing at the next alumni reunion." The ceremony ended with the traditional moving of the tassels on the mortarboards from right to left – before these were thrown into the air and the celebrations started.



Faculty of Administrative Sciences

It is the ceremonial conclusion of a successful time spent studying: 103 graduates of the Faculty of Administrative Sciences received their certificates at the end of the summer semester. To celebrate the occasion, family, friends and professors as well as numerous other members of the University came together in the lecture hall at the "Domplatz" (Cathedral Square). "According to the prognosis of a current study by a consultancy company, in the year 2030 the public

sector will have a shortage of over 700,000 personnel. The lack of new staff with an academic background will be especially serious. Dear graduates, you are in the right place at the right time", emphasised Dean Prof. Dr. Thomas Schneidewind and congratulated the 79 bachelor and 24 master alumni on successfully completing their degrees.



Faculty of Automation and Computer Science

This year, the Faculty of Automation and Computer Science said goodbye to 128 alumni, among them 76 with a bachelor's degree and 52 with a master's degree. Dean Prof. Dr. Andrea Heilmann invited them to their graduation ceremony at the end of November in the Audi-Max of Harz University. In her farewell speech she said: "I wish you all the best for your personal and professional development and I'm already looking forward to seeing you again at the Campusfever on

13th June 2020." On the occasion of the celebrations individual graduates were especially honoured. Florian Hellmund received the Ferchau Support Prize as the best bachelor graduate of the year. Others were commended for outstanding theses. Representing all the alumni, Saskia von Bloh gave a speech of thanks: "I am thankful to all of you that I am able to say: I am proud to have studied at Harz University."



Graduates conquer the world

* Eileen Demangé



Manager in a luxury hotel

Christian Westbeld has made it to the Raffles Hotel in Singapore – possibly one of the best-known hotels in the world. It is not only famous for its first-class service but also as the birthplace of the Singapore Sling cocktail. In 1902 the last tiger in Singapore was shot here in the billiard room and Hermann Hesse was also a regular guest. The 132-year-old luxury hotel is something very special for the 44-year-old: "As far as hotels are concerned, The Raffles is Singapore's figurehead and its market leader in terms of quality." The graduate of the former diploma degree programme that is known today as International Business Studies has found his second home in Asia: "After graduating I went to Manila. Since then, this continent has taken a firm hold on me. Among other places, I have worked in the hotel industry in Macao and Peking and have always looked for new challenges."

Two years ago a job offer came up that Westbeld could hardly turn down: "I was asked if I would like to become the General Manager of the Raffles Hotel in Singapore. It is quite simply one of the hotels to which I have built up emotional ties because of my previous professional activities." Especially at the international tourism trade fair ITB in Berlin the native of Frankfurt thinks back to his time as a student and how it has influenced his career - after all, his roots are in Germany: "My time at Harz University was fantastic and I felt good in the small town of Wernigerode. Most of all, the possibility of spending a semester abroad as well as the professors who shared their international experiences with us were invaluable to me." ▲

Graduate in the Atacama Desert

A further graduate of the Harz University who was also at the ITB is Elena Dimitrova. She completed her degree in 1997 in the Harz and has since become the Managing Director of the travel agency Atacama Spirit in Chile. She went to the South American country for a work placement shortly before graduation. This developed into a further five years in which she was an employee of a Chilean travel company before she became self-employed. "I discovered through my work that the Atacama Desert is largely untouched by tourism. With the foundation of our company we have closed this gap in the market", summarises the tourism expert. Last year, Elena Dimitrova and a further graduate of Harz University even celebrated the 25th anniversary of getting to know each other in far-off Chile.



Three good reasons for studying at Harz University...

* **President Prof. Dr. Folker Roland**

1. The innovative range of degree programmes

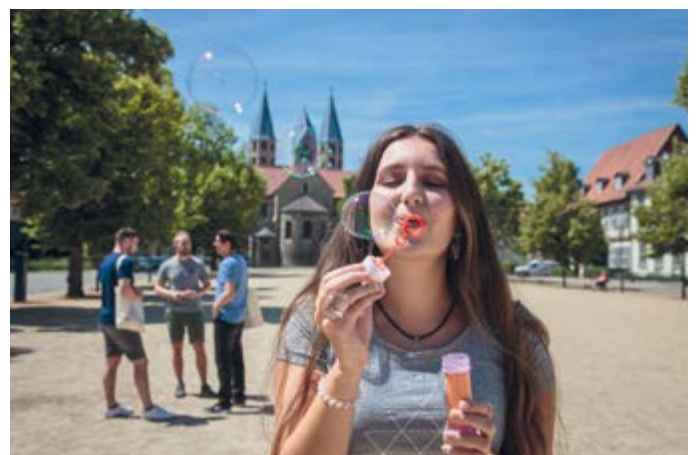
Ever since it was founded in 1991, Harz University as a small, dynamic educational institution has always managed to keep up with trends and developments and to orientate its range of degree programmes towards the interests of prospective students and the requirements of the market. We were among the first educational institutions to develop Tourism Management, Business Psychology and Media Informatics at an academic level – since then many have taken up these ideas, but mostly one can only study the "original" in the Harz. And today we still have a finger on the pulse of the times with popular dual study programmes and part time degree programmes for professionals such as the bachelor programme Digital Administration/Public Sector IT-Management. For those who are undecided there is also the Orientation Programme, which is unique in this form in central Germany. Those who want to "try studying" are not limited to one particular subject but can test modules from all three faculties – and profit additionally from accompanied training of study-relevant key competencies.

2. The beauty of the region

It is no coincidence that the Harz and the area surrounding it have been popular tourist destinations for 200 years, counting more than two million visitors every year. With us you can study where others go on holiday. Destinations such as the Brocken, the Nationalpark Harz, the historic town centres of Wernigerode and Quedlinburg as well as the Halberstadt Cathedral and its Treasury are almost directly outside the door and there is also an infrastructure that is far better than in most small towns. The special locations – both Wernigerode and Halberstadt – are not only unequalled throughout Germany, they also provide the study programmes with an anchor and a stage. The intensive networking with the region makes sure that our students can take part in practice-orientated projects, use their knowledge in local companies and also find future perspectives there.

3. The strong identification with the University

Our students are not only numbers – the professors know them and the staff support them actively in order to overcome all hurdles. Hoodies and shirts with the University logo are common sights on the campus and in the town – the students wear them proudly in order to demonstrate their affiliation with the University. Student life outside the lecture halls can be freely coloured by joining one of the many student associations. Spending time as a student is one of the most exciting periods of life – at Harz University we offer the perfect framework for this. After they have successfully completed their degrees we see many former students again at our annual Alumni Reunion. ▲



#HSHarz
#Campusfeber



Wernigerode/Halberstadt

Campusfever 2021

Campus Festival - Open Day - Alumni Reunion