

# International Newsletter

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## EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

I am pleased to once again present diverse activities at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences to you: For instance, our Center for Applied European Studies recently launched a video competition for students from all over Europe. Participants were encouraged to show their vision of Europe in a short self-made video. In view of Frankfurt UAS' participation in the pan-European network U!REKA it becomes apparent that Europe is indeed lived reality. You can read about new collaborations that have been established between Frankfurt UAS and various partner institutions such as the Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, Helsinki, Finland, via U!REKA as well as about other exciting news and events in this newsletter. Please enjoy!

Sincerely yours,



Prof. Dr. Frank E. P. Dievernich

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### “Shaping the Future of Europe” at Frankfurt UAS

How can civic commitment be developed at institutions of higher education? What is the benefit? How should civic commitment be promoted? In addition to these issues, the annual conference of the German higher education network ‘Education through Responsibility’ on “Shaping the Future of Europe”, which took place on May 28 to 29, 2018, focused on what forms civic commitment can or should take with respect to Europe. Lecturers, students and administrators from various German institutions of higher education and from abroad discussed conceptual questions and practical examples within the field of civic commitment. Of special note were the keynote speech by Professor Dr. Gerhard de Haan, head of the Institute for „Educational Future Science” in Berlin, who discussed ‘institutions of higher education as spaces of societal transformation’, the keynote speech by Julie Anderson, Policy Manager at the European Commission, on how European institutions can promote civic commitment inside and outside universities, as well as a discussion panel on the possible influence of the higher education sector on shaping Europe.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

# Making Cities for People: Keynote Lecture by Henriette Vamberg at Frankfurt UAS

“Making Cities for People” was the title of the keynote lecture to be given by Henriette Vamberg from the internationally renowned architectural office, Jan Gehl Architects, Copenhagen, at the 10th anniversary event of the master program Urban Agglomerations on May 29, 2018. This course of studies has been offered at Frankfurt UAS since 2008; it constitutes an international and interdisciplinary two-year program in sustainable planning and development of cities and metropolitan regions. The course is taught entirely in English and includes an exchange semester at one of the worldwide partner universities. More than 100 graduates from over 30 countries have already completed the program since its inception. Henriette Vamberg’s lecture focused on global urban development. This public celebratory act was part of the university’s simultaneous international week. Representatives of many international partner universities and alumni were invited to join this festive series of events.

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Frankfurt UAS: M. Peterrek

## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# Frankfurt UAS Participates in Pan-European Cooperation with Respect to Research and Teaching



U!REKA Steering Committee including Prof. Dr. Kastell, Frankfurt UAS (2nd person from right).

The international U!REKA Consortium (The Urban Research and Education Knowledge Alliance) held its second conference in Edinburgh, United Kingdom, at the end of November 2017. Roughly 100 scientists and members of staff of the six European universities of applied sciences involved took the oppor-

tunity to form closer ties within the network and to advance joint activities in research and teaching. The consortium seeks to jointly tackle research projects in the area of research on a practical basis in collaboration with regional companies, to further develop the professional education of students as well as their future connectivity in their professional routine, and to advance the exchange among lecturers, staff, and students. Besides the Frankfurt UAS, the universities Amsterdam UAS, the Netherlands, Edinburgh Napier University, United Kingdom, Metropolia UAS, Finland, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences, Norway, and University College Ghent, Belgium, also belong to U!REKA. According to Prof. Dr. Kira Kastell, Frankfurt UAS Vice President, “the conference project presentations once again clarified the existing research potential of the U!REKA universities. U!REKA intends to further position itself as a brand within the European university environment.”

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## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

## Launch of International Drug Research Project



Project meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan from January 24 till 25, 2018.

Internationalization of science and research: This is the objective tag line under which the project partners – Frankfurt UAS, Bishkek Humanities University, Medical University in Astana, and Tajik National University in Dushanbe – pool their experiences in order to build a long-term strategic scientific cooperation. As part of the international project “InBeAIDS” the partners jointly study the infectious diseases HIV/AIDS and hepatitis among injecting drug consumers. The research team wishes to find answers to the challenges concerning the spread of drug-associated infectious diseases especially by revisiting the increasingly important role of social work as well

as self-help and self-help organizations, respectively, in these areas. Within the framework of this project Frankfurt UAS will host the young Central Asian scientists in fall 2018. The researchers will attend lectures and seminars at the university and collaborate with the Institute of Addiction Research (ISFF) of Frankfurt UAS in order to familiarize themselves with study programs for social work focusing on addiction.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

## Making the Best of Our Unique Strengths

Located in the heart of possibly Germany’s most diverse city, Frankfurt UAS is home to a community of students originating from more than 100 nations and having very different educational and cultural backgrounds, ages and family responsibilities, to name just a few important factors. „One size fits all“ can therefore no longer be the answer when it comes to creating study conditions that ensure a successful path to a degree for every student. In order to devise a more strategic approach to accessible and successful practice-oriented studies for a highly diverse group of students, Frankfurt UAS participates in the diversity audit ‘Shaping diversity’ promoted by the ‘Stifterverband’, a public-private initiative in

support of advancements in science and education. After generating an inventory of the status quo of diversity-oriented initiatives at the university in 2017 and progressing through a series of workshops in 2018, it is our long-term objective to develop an integrated diversity strategy. We intend to offer an inclusive education which benefits all students willing to push themselves and not only the so-called but non-existent „average student“.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

# Imagine – Create – Inspire: Student Video Competition 'Imagine a New EU'



Imagine it is your task to reinvent the European Union! In March 2018 the Center for Applied European Studies (CAES) launched a video competition under the patronage of the Hessian Minister of Higher Education, Research and the Arts, Boris Rhein, for students from all over Europe. Students were encouraged to show their vision of a reinvented European community in a self-made video not exceeding one minute in length. In doing so, they were free to question whether there actually ought to be national states or EU institutions at all. The three best videos were awarded prizes of up to € 1,000. The CAES aims at offering young people a platform

to express their perceptions of the current state of the EU and to share their future visions. The competition sought to illustrate the great variety of existing perspectives on the EU. Many different ideas were submitted; for example, students recommended to create new social policy instruments, or to focus EU policy more on cultural identity than on market integration. The award-winning videos can soon be viewed on our website: [www.europe-center.de](http://www.europe-center.de).

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## TEACHING AND LEARNING

# Technology Competition “F1 in Schools”: Successful Service Learning Project at Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering

On March 3, 2018, the Regional Championship South-east of the technology competition “F1 in Schools” took place in Hof (Saale), Bavaria. Student teams from the Federal States of Hesse and Bavaria, from the Netherlands and from Austria competed against each other using self-designed miniature Formula 1 racing cars. Frankfurt UAS Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering supported two participating teams from the high school St. Angela Schule, Königstein, for the fifth year in a row already. This cooperation is based on the idea of service learning: Frankfurt UAS students of mechanical engineering participating in the program module CAD/CAM program the racing cars jointly designed by the school's students and their tutors. At the same time, the university's

machine tool laboratory mills the chassis components and the laboratory of manufacturing engineering produces the racing car's wheels and spoilers utilizing 3D printing processes. During the school's students' visit to the laboratories of Frankfurt UAS, experiments with respect to computational fluid dynamics and the visualization of the racing cars using 3D glasses yielded impressive results. The Hessian teams supported by the Frankfurt UAS did well at the competition in Hof – especially regarding the technical aspects.

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## TEACHING AND LEARNING

# Cooperation with Helsinki Metropolia UAS: New Opportunities for Students Studying Electrical Engineering



First graduate holding two degrees at Frankfurt UAS and Helsinki Metropolia UAS (from left to right: Vice President Prof. Dr. Kastell, Kai Kukasch, graduate, President Riitta Konkola).

At the end of 2017, Frankfurt UAS and Helsinki Metropolia UAS, both partners of the European university association U!REKA, signed an agreement according to which students of

both universities can earn two degrees in the field of electrical engineering. The agreement enables students from both universities to not only complete a student exchange year at the respective partner university but also to earn a degree in the corresponding scientific field at the partner university. At Frankfurt UAS, the bachelor degree programs Technology of Information Systems as well as Electrical Engineering and Communications Technology participate in this program. Now the program's first graduate successfully completed his course of studies, graduating in Electrical Engineering and Communications Technology at Frankfurt UAS and in Information and Communication Technologies at Metropolia UAS. "It is our objective to offer our students the best possible education and ideal prerequisites in order to allow them to prepare for the global market and gain as much experience abroad and in diverse companies as possible. A Finnish university is ideal in this context, given that the Finnish university system and Finnish companies demonstrate considerable innovative strength", says Prof. Dr. Kira Kastell, Vice President of Frankfurt UAS. Please find further information at [www.metropolia.fi/en](http://www.metropolia.fi/en)

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## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# Personalized Biomedical Engineering Lab Established

Personalization is a promising new approach in medical diagnosis and therapy. Using patient-specific devices or treatments improves their effectiveness, reduces the risk of mistreatment and thus also reduces the burden on the health-care system. The members of the newly founded Personalized Biomedical Engineering Lab aim to model human structures to develop personalized diagnostic procedures and devices (e.g., endoprotheses or bicycle saddles). This work is based in part on the previous research network Preventive Biomechanics, in the context of which methods for the non-invasive characterization of human tissue have been developed. By bringing

together experts on material modelling and simulation with those for additive manufacturing, surface treatment and product data management, the entire product development process chain can be provided by the research lab. Thus, a center of competence for the development of personalized processes and products will be established. The research lab is initially funded by the federal state of Hesse for a period of three years.

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### IMPRINT

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