

## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

### **"Well2Wheel": Investigating the Acceptance of E-Mobility and Mobility Behavior**



The members of the research project "Well2Wheel".

In May 2013, the research group "New Mobility" started the project "Well2Wheel" in cooperation with industry and research partners. The project investigates how the growing amount of electric vehicles influences electric grids, and how this influence can be controlled and integrated in distribution systems. One research focus is the contribution of electric vehicles to buffering and saving volatile renewable energies – thus the project name "Well2Wheel". Fachhochschule Frankfurt is investigating the social aspects and the impact of growing e-mobility. This accompanying research includes surveys about the acceptance of e-mobility and mobility behavior in general, as well as expert discussions and a project evaluation. New research aspects will focus on the impact of red and green light phases signaling the availability of local renewable electricity on users' charging behavior. The project is funded by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety.

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## EDITORIAL



President Dr.-Ing. Detlev Buchholz

Dear Readers,

For quite some time now international mobility has been paramount at Fachhochschule Frankfurt. We are strongly committed to providing excellent services and a wide scope of mobility opportunities for students, lecturers, and staff. For instance, in 2012/13, 117 students went abroad on an ERASMUS scholarship – up 65% from 2011/12! Our efforts have now been recognized by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Its ERASMUS Quality Seal "E-Quality" honors our exemplary implementation of incoming and outgoing ERASMUS mobility. Not only is this award an acknowledgement of our past endeavors: it shows that we are on the right track! In the future we are determined to further increase the quality of mobility services.

Sincerely yours,

Dr.-Ing. Detlev Buchholz

## Living at Home till 100? Field Test of Age Appropriate Assistance Systems in Domestic Environments



Technology to assist the elderly in living at home longer.

Personal alarm systems have been well known for decades; they are, however, hardly used. Today, additional assistive devices like heat sensors, water detectors or fall detectors are available. The field test "Age appropriate systems in domestic environments" investigates the acceptance and benefits of these new

devices in connection with personal alarm systems and the service "telecare". 60 persons, aged 70plus, are testing a variety of sensor-based equipment linked to a personal alarm system in order to enable them to live as long as possible independently at home. Other objectives of the project are to analyze the ease of use and reliability of the technology, requirements for service design of telecare as well as data privacy. A close exchange with Prof. Dr. Glenda Cook from Northumbria University (Newcastle) allows for an insight into experiences in England. The project is funded by LOEWE (Hessen State Offensive for the Development of Scientific and Economic Excellence). The consortium is led by Fachhochschule Frankfurt with project partners from real estate (ABG Frankfurt Holding), the healthcare sector (German Red Cross), private security (All Service Sicherheitsdienste and Klug Sicherheit) and technology promoters (House of IT e.V.).

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### TEACHING AND LEARNING

## Engineering: Special Course on Numerical Methods by Visiting Professor from University of South Florida



Professor Kaw of USF (centre) with participants of the special course and Professor Billmann (right).

"Numerical Methods for Engineers" was the topic of a course taught by Autar Kaw, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of South Florida (USF, Tampa), at Fachhochschule Frankfurt this March. This special course was conceived during an earlier visit of Professor Billmann (Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering) to USF. The eight-day class included

32 hours of instruction followed by an exam. Most of the participants were undergraduates in the course in Process Engineering. Professor Kaw found the heterogeneous group of students (freshers and seniors) to be highly attentive in an intensive setting. Fachhochschule students appreciated Professor Kaw's use of open courseware resources, personal response



systems (clickers), hands-on computer programming, real-world applications, interpretation of experimental data, peer-to-peer learning, and social media compo-

nents. Fachhochschule Frankfurt is keen to strengthen the partnership with USF through exchanges and visits of students and faculty in engineering.

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#### TEACHING AND LEARNING

## New ERASMUS Intensive Program on Self-Management and Empowerment in Social Work and Health Care

Students and teachers from the Faculty of Health and Social Work have successfully participated in a number of Intensive Programs (IP) funded by ERASMUS grants. These programs bring together students and teaching staff from higher education institutions from at least three participating countries. The IP "Constructors of Well-Being" took place from 2009 - 2012 in Lahti, Finland. Each year ten Fachhochschule students were thus part of an international group and an interdisciplinary team of altogether 40 students

and eight teachers in the fields of Nursing, Physiotherapy and Social Work from four different countries (Finland, Germany, Ireland, and the Netherlands). The new IP "Self-Management and Empowerment in Social Work and Health Care (SMESH)" will take place from 2013 - 2015 in the Netherlands. SMESH will be focusing on client/patient autonomy. The aims of the IP are joint learning, to foster mutual understanding and to gain new perspectives through international and interdisciplinary collaboration.

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#### TEACHING AND LEARNING

## MBA Aviation Management India en Route!



EU Ambassador João Cravinho, Prof. Dr. Yvonne Ziegler (FH FFM) and Prof. Dr. KC Gandhi (UPES) with MBA Aviation Management students.

"Ready for take-off" was the motto when in spring and summer students of different nationalities met for the first sessions of their MBA Aviation Management degree program in Mumbai, Delhi and Bangalore. Funded by the EU, Fachhochschule's degree course "Made in Germany" was implemented in cooperation with the University of Petroleum and Energy Studies Dehradun. The MBA leads three batches of students to double degrees. The two-year program is geared towards working professionals. Graduates will be equipped with all the qualifications they need to fill a management position in aviation: strategic competen-

cies, international management and leadership as well as consulting and project management techniques. So much for the theory – what makes the MBA especially attractive goes beyond the basic curriculum. Training in presentation and press relations, airport field trips and meetings with industry lobbyists are part of the course. Personality training, one-on-one career coaching, 360-degree feedback, business etiquette and meetings with business and political leaders will prepare students for the challenges of a successful executive career in aviation.

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## Transnational Social Work: New Bachelor Program

The new Bachelor program "Social Work: TRANSNATIONAL" was launched in the summer semester this year and will take in 18 students each semester. The focus of the degree program is on multiculturalism, the effects of global developments, and their significance for the field of Social Work. Topics such as migration, poverty and conflicts are treated from both academic and practical perspectives. The eight-semester program helps students develop their skills in intercultural, comparative and international fields. Students will spend one semester studying at a European partner



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university, and another five months working in a (supervised) social work environment in a non-European country. On completion of the bachelor degree, students are also eligible for state certification as Social Worker in Germany. Future employment opportunities may include governmental and non-governmental organizations, development aid groups as well as the full range of social service institutions in Germany, especially those dealing with migration, multiculturalism or global issues.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Summer Program „International Encounters – Social Justice”: Bringing together Students and Lecturers

In July 2013 a new annual summer program was launched at Fachhochschule Frankfurt. For two weeks "International Encounters – Social Justice" brought together students and lecturers from European and non-European universities in a unique learning environment; international and multidisciplinary debates on issues of social justice were the objective of lectures and events. The first week was designed to enable social and cultural encounters among peers, and also included language classes. The second week focused on academic encounters with lectures and

workshops that were jointly taught by bi-national teams from different universities, academic disciplines and faculties. Lecturers came from China, Ghana, India, Israel, Malaysia, Turkey, and a number of European countries. The program is open and free of tuition fees for students from all partner universities of Fachhochschule Frankfurt. "International Encounters – Social Justice" is sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Tools for Life Foundation.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Fachhochschule will Expand Welcome Services

Fachhochschule Frankfurt is expanding its services for incoming students. Better orientation on and off campus, preparation services for entering the German labor market as an intern or for future employment and last but not least, more support related to student

housing are the core subjects of a new project. The project is funded by the European Social Fund and is supervised by the Ministry for Science and the Arts of the State of Hessen.

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## New Head of International Office Appointed



After having served as International Officer at Fachhochschule Frankfurt am Main for 23 years, Günter Kleinkauf retired in June 2013. During his tenure, he built a strong network of international co-operations, vastly expanded incoming and outgoing

mobility, and counseled program directors to build international opportunities into their courses. His successor, Andrea Janssen, has been with Fachhochschule for four years. In her responsibility for program development at the Faculty of Business and Law, international academic collaboration has already played a big part in her work, e.g. when participating in the development the university's Bachelor of International Business Administration or when coordinating the EU-funded "export" of the MBA in Aviation Management to India. Andrea Janssen highly appreciates the professional team and the strong foundations she can build on in the International Office. She is looking forward to working with all international partners. Your feedback and input will be appreciated.

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## German-Chinese Cooperation: Joint Student Projects in Computer Science

The cooperation with the Henan Normal University (HNU) in China is Fachhochschule Frankfurt's oldest international partnership. In well-established biannual joint projects Fachhochschule professors and students from various degree courses in engineering attend workshops at the HNU labs and meet their Chinese fellows in computer programming exercises. In April/

May 2013, Chinese students reciprocated the visit and came to Frankfurt for the first time to conduct joint projects in computer science, e. g. programming a website and online forum for the cooperation. A delegation headed by Prof. Dr. Falkenberg will visit HNU in fall 2013.

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