

# University of Cologne

International Office

## Albert's Global Researcher Network



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Spring 2014



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# EURAXESS Roadshow came to Cologne

April 28th, 2014

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The announcement:

The EURAXESS Roadshow arrives at the University of Cologne on 28th April! Get your research career moving by visiting the bus stop where you will have direct access to information terminals and EURAXESS professionals, ready to talk you through the awesome services available and how to use them.

In order to provide that extra special boost to your CV, there will be a professional CV photographer available on the bus and access to the EURAXESS Jobs Portal where you can upload your CV ready for employers to find. So, don't forget to look smart and bring your CV on a USB!

There will be interactive sessions such as workshops with experts, discussion sessions, and science slams taking place near-by, jam-packed with info on job-hunting, careers, mobility, funding and more! Ask at the bus for the exact location and timetable.

EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion! This one-of-a-kind initiative brought to you by ERA provides European and non-European researchers with all the information and support services they need to follow an international research career – within Europe and further afield. From access to job offers and employers, to relocation advice and support, EURAXESS offers it all.

[www.euraxess.org](http://www.euraxess.org)



[f pictures](#)

[f information on the event in Cologne on Facebook](#)

[f The EURAXESS - on tour Facebook page](#)

[Follow @Euraxess\\_OnTour on Twitter • #EURAXESS\\_OnTour](#)

[The programme in Cologne](#)

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## German Science Days and First UoC Researcher Alumni Meeting in Japan

in Kyoto - 25/26 Oct, 2013

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Many of the UoC's Japanese Researcher Alumni are jurists. Therefore we decided to have the first Researcher Alumni Meeting in Japan in connection with the German Science Days at Kyoto University, where the UoC participated in the „Japanese-German Dialogue in Law Studies“.

At the workshop besides Prof. Dr. Martin Henssler (Dean of the Fa



culty of Law, UoC) and others, researcher alumnus Prof. Shintaro Koike (Keio University) gave a lecture. The alumni meeting after the science Days took place at the Goethe-Institut Villa Kamogawa (Kyoto), where 25 researcher alumni gathered to hear about the latest developments at the UoC concerning jurisprudence, internationalisation, and Japan relations as well as about Albert's Global Researcher Network. They were then invited by the Goethe-Institut to join its Oktoberfest.

Find links and more information about programme, venues etc. in our [previous newsletter article](#)

Information by the [German Research and Innovation Forum - Tokyo](#)

Information in [Japanese](#)



[Pictures from the events](#)



[Article in German \(on page 8\)](#)  
[\(Wissenschaft & Forschung Japan\)](#)  
[www.network-for-science.net](http://www.network-for-science.net)



[Article in German and Japanese](#)  
[\(世界に向けて -WELT WÄRTS: DAAD-Außenstelle Tokyo\)](#)

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# Pictures: Global Ethics and the Sciences – First Major Alumni Meeting in China

in Kyoto - 25/26 Oct, 2013

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[PICTURES ON FACEBOOK](#)

Find Information on the event in our [previous issue](#).



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# Pictures: First UoC Researcher Alumni Meeting in India

in New Delhi - February 28th, 2013

[permalink](#)

 [PICTURES ON FACEBOOK](#)

Find Information on the event [here](#)



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## Cologne Pro-Rector for International Affairs to Sign Memorandum of Understanding in India



Cooperation between the University of Cologne and the Jawaharlal Nehru University to become official

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The Pro-Rector for International Affairs of the University of Cologne, Prof. Dr. Michael Bollig and his Indian colleague Prof. Dr. Varun-Sahni of the [Jawaharlal Nehru University](#), New Delhi, are to sign a Memorandum of Understanding. The document will be signed during the "Figurations of Afterlife/Afterdeath in the East and West" conference, which is taking place in New Delhi from 12th – 14th February, 2014, and being organized by the [Morphomata International Center for Advanced Studies](#). The intensive cooperation on work between the University of Cologne and one of India's best Universities, Jawaharlal Nehru University, which has been ongoing for more than six years, will therewith be made official.

further information [here](#)

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## University of Cologne at the European Career Fair in Boston

02. February 2014

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UoC Researcher Alumnus and member of [Albert's Global Researcher Network](#), **Dr. Shirong Liu**, will give a 'Testimonial for Ph.D in Germany' in Session I of the [European Career Fair](#), an annual recruiting event organized by the [MT European Club](#).

Registration for Research in Germany Information Sessions in Boston: [ECF2014](#)

The ECF Blog: [ecfmit.wordpress.com](#)



Find our [Liaison Office in North America](#)

# Humboldt Foundation brings together experts for research alumni activities

Berlin 27 - 29 Nov., 2013

[permalink](#)

**Alexander von Humboldt**  
Stiftung/Foundation



Albert's Global Researcher Network Team went to the [Research Alumni Conference](#) of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Berlin to keep on improving our researcher alumni work.

»The conference brought together around 120 international guest scientists and representatives from German universities for the first time to exchange on experiences and ideas for future collaboration. The event was facilitated by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research within the scope of its "International Research Marketing" collaborative project.« [more](#)

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# 1st Global Partner Network Conference

At the University of Cologne 9 - 12 October, 2013

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The UoC held its [first Global Partner Network Conference](#). The [Global Network Partnership](#) is the most advanced level of international cooperation offered by the University of Cologne: A comprehensive and intensive form of cooperation in research and teaching - university-wide, establishing innovative structures and oriented towards institutional sustainability.

Exchange activities cover all levels: research and teaching, students, faculty and staff.

The Global Partners:



## Global Partner Network Forum

On Friday, 11th October, 2013 besides the scientific workshops the 5 Global partners of the UoC presented themselves to students and scholars at the Global Partner Network Forum

click to enlarge the  
event poster



click to enlarge the  
schedule poster



# Research News from the UoC

## Physicist Andreas Ludwig Chosen for Alexander von Humboldt Professorship



Alexander von Humboldt-  
Professur

Prize winner may be researching at the University of Cologne in the future

[permalink](#)

Physicist Prof. Dr. Andreas Ludwig has been chosen for an Alexander von Humboldt Professorship, the highest international research prize in Germany. Professor Ludwig, who is currently at the University of California, Santa Barbara, USA may be researching at the University of Cologne in the future. The awards ceremony is taking place in Berlin on 7 May, 2014.

further information [here](#)

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## Dr. Eva Hoppe-Fischer awarded Modigliani Research Grant

10,000 Euro for Cologne Junior Researcher



[permalink](#)

Physicist Prof. Dr. Andreas Ludwig has been chosen for an Alexander von Humboldt Professorship, the highest international research prize in Germany. Professor Ludwig, who is currently at the University of California, Santa Barbara, USA may be researching at the University of Cologne in the future. The awards ceremony is taking place in Berlin on 7 May, 2014.

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## New Study shows: Large Landmasses existed 2.7 billion years ago



Photo: NASA

Hafnium and Neodymium in ancient seawater

[permalink](#)

71% of the Earth's surface is covered by oceans and 29% by land. The question of when large landmasses emerged from the oceans has always been hotly debated by scientists. New investigations by geoscientists of the University of Cologne in cooperation with the University of Bonn and the Jacobs University Bremen have shown that large land masses did indeed exist on the earth 2,700 million years ago. The findings have been published in the renowned journal *Geology* (DOI: 10.1130/G35014.1).

further information [here](#)

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# Cologne Scientist Discovers Water Plumes on Jupiter's Moon Europa



Plumes reach heights of 200 km

[permalink](#)

A Cologne scientist has, together with American colleagues, discovered huge active plumes containing water vapour being released from the surface of Jupiter's moon Europa. This sensational find was made using the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope. Joachim Saur, professor at the Institute for Geophysics and Meteorology of the University of Cologne was principal investigator of the Hubble observing campaign. The discovery of the water vapour plumes was announced at a NASA press conference in San Francisco and online in the journal Science.

further information [here](#)

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## A Predictive Fitness Model for Influenza

The evolution of the flu is a complex process

[permalink](#)

Researchers at Columbia University and the University of Cologne have created a new model to successfully predict the evolution of the influenza virus from one year to the next. This advance in our understanding of influenza suggests a new, systematic way to select influenza vaccine strains.

further information [here](#)

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## German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases and UoC Strengthen Their Cooperation

Joint appointment by University of Cologne and DZNE strengthens neurological research in the Cologne/Bonn region

[permalink](#)

Cologne/Bonn, October 2, 2013. Professor Dirk Isbrandt has been appointed W3-Professor for Experimental Neurophysiology. His research focuses on the molecular causes and mechanisms leading to changes in brain activity in neurological diseases such as epilepsy and Parkinson's disease. With this joint appointment, the German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE) and the University of Cologne strengthen their existing cooperation. Joint appointments are facilitated by a cooperative agreement that was signed last year, which provides the basis for a long-term scientific partnership.

further information [here](#)

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## New Insights into Aging associated Diseases

ERC Consolidator Grant awarded to Cologne

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ERC Consolidator Grant awarded to Cologne: New insights into aging associated diseases Cologne,





16/12/2013. A great honour for the [CECAD](#) Excellence Cluster in Cologne: Prof. Dr. Thorsten Hoppe received one of the highly prestigious and competitive ERC Consolidator Grants worth up to 2.75 million euros for his exceptional research on cellular quality control. The European Research Council's (ERC) programme supports scientists in the EU by funding risky research concepts. The ERC's objective is to support scientific excellence through competitive funding strategies: only the best 10% of all proposed projects were selected.

further information [here](#)

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## New Perspectives for Patients Suffering from Brain Injury



Cologne [CECAD](#) researchers investigate metabolic processes in inflamed nerve tissue

[permalink](#)

Cologne, December 03, 2013. The new findings from research on metabolic activities in inflamed nerve tissue carried out by Dr Matteo Bergami from the CECAD Excellence Cluster at the University of Cologne in collaboration with an international team of scientists generate new perspectives for many patients suffering from traumatic brain injury. Their results open the path to a deeper understanding of the processes that take place in damaged nerve cells, particularly in astrocytes. These cells play fundamental roles in supporting neuronal functioning and in regulating brain energy balance. This study now shows that inflammation can lead to changes in astrocyte mitochondria, causing them to fragment. The researchers identified key regulators that allow astrocytes to keep functional their mitochondrial network during neuroinflammation, a condition commonly associated to brain injury as well as to a variety of other brain diseases.

further information [here](#)

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## Excessive hospital occupancy levels result in avoidable mortality

Cologne-based researchers identify a safety 'tipping point' at which hospitals fail

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Once a hospital reaches a certain occupancy level, the quality of care it provides deteriorates, increasing the risk of mortality of critically ill patients. What is worrying is that this safety 'tipping point' is reached at occupancy levels that are below 100%. The findings are reported by a team of researchers led by Ludwig Kuntz, Professor of Health Management at the University of Cologne. Their paper (Stress on the Ward: Evidence of Safety Tipping Points in Hospitals) is to appear shortly in the international journal Management Science.

further information [here](#)

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## Cologne Scientist Sequences Genome of Giant Freshwater Unicellular Organism

Reticulomyxa filosa



[permalink](#)

Most creatures familiar to us consist of many cells with one nucleus per cell: plants, animals and fungi.

However, there are organisms that consist of one cell only. Such giant unicellular organisms can reach a diameter of more than 10 cm. Dr. Gernot Glöckner from the University of Cologne and the Leibniz-Institut für Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries in Berlin has, together with an international research team, successfully sequenced and analysed the genome of the giant unicellular organism *Reticulomyxa filosa*.



further information [here](#)

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## Sex Determiner Gene of Honey Bee More Complicated than Previously Assumed



Cologne Biologist recognizes huge Significance for Bee Keeping

[permalink](#)

Bee colonies consist of a queen bee, lots of female worker bees and some male drones. The gene that determines the sex of the bees is much more complex than has been assumed up until now and has developed over the course of evolution very quickly. This is the finding of an international team of scientists under the direction of Dr. Martin Hasselmann of the Institute for Genetics of the University of Cologne. The study has been published in the renowned Oxford journal *Molecular Biology and Evolution*.

further information [here](#)

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## Washing Your Hands Makes You Optimistic

Cologne Academic has examined the Psychology of Physical Cleansing

[permalink](#)

Washing our hands influences how we think, judge and decide. This is what researchers were able to confirm through experiments over the last few years. The Junior Professor for Social and Media Psychology Dr. Kai Kaspar from the University of Cologne has examined how physical cleansing affects us after failure. The result: test subjects who washed their hands after a task were more optimistic than those who did not wash their hands, but it hampered their future performance in the same task domain. The findings of the study were published in the renowned journal *Social Psychological and Personality Science*.

further information [here](#)

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## Popcorn in the Cinema: Oral Interference Sabotages Advertising Effects

Sascha Topolinski, Sandy Linder, and Anna Freudenberg



[permalink](#)

Advertising uses repetition to increase consumers' preference for brands. Initially, novel brands gain in popularity due to repetition, which increases the likelihood that consumers later buy the brands. Particularly for novel brands, excessive exposure and repetition is necessary to establish the brand name in the

first place. [...] During inner speech, the brain attempts to utter the novel name. When names are presented repeatedly, this articulation simulation is trained and thus runs more easily for repeated compared to novel names. Crucially, if this inner speech is disturbed, for instance during chewing gum or whispering another word, the articulation of words cannot be trained and the repetition effect vanishes. People who are chewing something are immune to word repetition, they do not prefer familiar words over novel ones.

further information [here](#)

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## Conferences, Seminars and Events at the UoC