

ANNUAL REPORT

JACKSTÄDT CENTER
2020/21



jackstädt center
of entrepreneurship and
innovation research



BERGISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
WUPPERTAL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dear Reader,

The Jackstädt Center has developed into a successful research center at the University of Wuppertal since its foundation in 2011, which, in addition to research excellence in the fields of entrepreneurship and innovation, strives to establish itself as part of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region. For the Jackstädt Center the years 2020 and 2021 were challenging due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite these challenges, a new research area on scaling of social innovation was established, existing event formats for teaching and third mission were successfully transferred to the digital sphere, and transfer activities were further expanded.

The team of the Jackstädt Center continued their successful research work in 2020 and 2021. Members of the Jackstädt Center were able to publish their research results in renowned international journals and co-organized own events that attracted renowned scientists for presentations and discussions of scientific papers.

In 2020, the team of the Jackstädt Center started to establish a new research area on the scaling of social innovation. Social innovations contribute to solving fundamental social and ecological problems, but are often strongly anchored in the local or regional context in which they were developed. The objective of the

research area is to explore the scaling of social innovations so that they can generate impact beyond their local region. The research area is integrated into an international research project, which is carried out in cooperation with the University of Groningen (Netherlands) and Queen's University (Canada). The project team at the Jackstädt Center receives funding from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) for three years. The project team includes two research assistant, Ms. Jana Coenen and Mr. Markus Thomanek, who started their work in 2020. First results have already been presented at international conferences and are being prepared for submission to conferences in 2022.

Members of the Jackstädt Center continued to co-organize a series of workshops on Qualitative Comparative Analysis in 2020 and 2021. The workshops took place at the ETH Zurich and received financial support from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) and organizational support from the COMPASSS network. The workshops were offered in an online or hybrid format. The organization of sessions at international conferences was also continued successfully. These activities fostered the close connection of the Jackstädt Center with the national and international research community.

In 2020 and 2021, the Jackstädt Center expanded its practice and transfer activities. The focus here was on promoting start-up activities in the region. The "Freiraum", the innovation lab of the University of Wuppertal, became a permanent venue of the newly founded Start-up Center of the University of Wuppertal. The Start-up Center receives funding from the support program "EXIST Potentials" by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and has the goal to develop innovative start-up potential and increase the number of university start-ups. Another project, "Women Entrepreneurs in Science", which is funded by the Excellence Start-up Center.NRW initiative of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, aims to support female founders and women interested in starting a business. Since the end of 2020, support services, events, and workshops have been offered as part of this project. The two new projects will expand start-up support within the region.

The Covid-19 pandemic challenged established teaching formats and student mobility but also offered opportunities. In addition to a general transition to online teaching in 2020, the Jackstädt Center created new course formats and content. One example is a hybrid doctoral seminar on qualitative comparative analysis, which was attended on-site by doctoral students from the University of Wuppertal and online by doctoral students from Cranfield University (UK) and Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), and enabled

an exchange among participants on the application of methods and the development of research designs. Another example is a seminar on circular economy that was offered in cooperation with the "Circular Valley", a Wuppertal-based circular economy accelerator, and thereby combines high topical and practical relevance with local anchoring. Students and doctoral candidates from the Universidad del Norte (Barranquilla, Colombia) were able to spend their exchange semester at the University of Wuppertal online or, to a limited extent, in person. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) funded their stays with scholarships and some students had the opportunity to complete a research internship at the Jackstädt Center and contributed to current research activities. The examples show a close link between the research and transfer activities with the courses offered by the members of the Jackstädt Center.

With this brief overview of the activities at the Jackstädt Center in 2020 and 2021, we are pleased to present our report and are wishing an inspiring read.



Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann
Chairwoman of the Board of the
Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship
and Innovation Research —

MISSION AND VISION

The goal of the Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research is to conduct excellent interdisciplinary research in the areas of entrepreneurship and innovation at an international level. An important aim is to foster and accompany the transfer of relevant practical questions into business- and economics-related research. Both priorities will help the Jackstädt Center to become regionally embedded and internationally visible.

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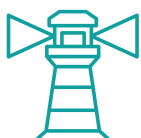
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TEAM

The Jackstädt Center is led by an executive committee who, together with a team of assistant professors, research assistants, doctoral students, and student assistants, is engaged in numerous research and transfer projects.

With their individual fields of research and experience, each team member contributes to the center's interdisciplinary research.

In particular, the combination of different approaches, theories, and methods enables us to explore new perspectives when addressing open questions in entrepreneurship and innovation research.

An advisory board complements the Jackstädt Center.

ADVISORY BOARD

The development of the Jackstädt Center is supported by an advisory board. The advisory board consists of the following representatives from science and practice:

Prof. Dr. h.c. mult. David B. Audretsch

Distinguished Professor and the Ameritech Chair of Economic Development at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs and director of the Institute for Development Strategies at Indiana University, Bloomington, USA



Markus von Blomberg

Founder, business angel and managing director of Mello GmbH Wuppertal



Dr. Marc Kanzler

Consultant and board member of the Dr. Werner Jackstädt Foundation



Prof. Dr. Dr. Holger Patzelt

Chair of Entrepreneurship at Technical University of Munich



Prof. Dr. Andreas Pinkwart

Minister of Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalization and Energy of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, former Dean of HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management



Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Christoph M. Schmidt

President of the RWI Essen, Chair of Economic Policy and Applied Econometrics at Ruhr-University Bochum. Former chairman of the German Council of Economic Experts



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann

Chairwoman of the Jackstädt Center

University of Wuppertal

Schumpeter School of Business and Economics

Chair of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development & UNESCO-

Chair of Entrepreneurship and Intercultural Management



Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte

Deputy Chairman of the Jackstädt Center

University of Wuppertal

Schumpeter School of Business and Economics

Chair of Industrial Organization and Innovation



Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter

Director of the Jackstädt Center

University of Wuppertal

Schumpeter School of Business and Economics

Chair of Human Resource Management and Organisation



Prof. Dr. Peter Witt

Director of the Jackstädt Center

University of Wuppertal

Schumpeter School of Business and Economics

Chair of Technology and Innovation Management



ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta

Assistant Professor for Business Administration and Innovation

Current research topics:
Innovation and economics of education, Organizational innovation, Set-theoretic methods



RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Faisal Saeed Malik, M.Sc.

DAAD scholarship holder at the chair of Prof. Dr. Bönnte and at the Jackstädt Center from October 2014 to January 2021

Current research topics:
Impact of terrorism on business performance in emerging markets



Tobias Rabenau, M.Sc.

At the chair of Prof. Dr. Volkmann and the Jackstädt Center since August 2017

Involved in the Sparkassen project and the "Freiraum" project.

Current research topics:
Research and Development in family business, Entrepreneurial Ecosystems



Jana Coenen, M.Sc.

At the Jackstädt Center since July 2020

Current research topics:
Social Innovation, Organizational Learning



Markus Thomanek, M.Sc.

At the Jackstädt Center since September 2020

Current research topics:
Sustainability, Artificial Intelligence



Julian Lauten-Weiss, M.Sc.

At the Jackstädt Center since December 2021

Current research topics:
Circular Economy, Sustainable Business Models



Philipp Pasing, M.Sc.

At the Jackstädt Center since December 2021

Current research topics:
Social Entrepreneurship, Sustainable Entrepreneurship



STUDENT ASSISTANTS

Julia Burgart, B.Sc

At the Jackstädt Center since February 2019

Course of studies: Entrepreneurship and Innovation (M.Sc.)



Victoria Gomez

At the Jackstädt Center from October 2019 to December 2021

Course of studies: Business and Economics (B.Sc.)



ENTRY OF NEW RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

2020

COMMENCEMENT OF MS. JANA COENEN, M.SC.

In July 2020, Jana Coenen joined the Jackstädt Center as a doctoral student and research associate. Jana Coenen is a psychologist (M.Sc.) and graduated from RFH Cologne and the University of Osnabrück. In both degrees she focused on the application of psychology in economic contexts and consequently wrote her master's thesis in the field of work and organizational psychology. In addition to her studies, Jana Coenen worked as a student assistant for several years. Moreover, she gained work experience as a research assistant during her research stay at ECU in Perth, Australia. In the course of her doctoral studies, Jana Coenen will research the determinants of successfully scaling social innovations.

COMMENCEMENT OF MR. MARKUS THOMANEK, M.SC.

Markus Thomanek also joined the Jackstädt Center team as a research associate and doctoral student in 2020. After completing his bachelor's degree in a dual program in cooperation with a multinational company, Markus Thomanek completed his M.Sc. with distinction at the University of Wuppertal. During his studies, he started a business and has since been self-employed on a part-time basis. Moreover, he worked as a research assistant at the chair of Prof. Dr. Bönnte,

where he wrote his master's thesis about the effects of using artificial intelligence on market structures.

Mr. Thomanek gained intensive theoretical as well as practical insights into the field of social entrepreneurship during his study exchange in Melbourne, Australia, which he is putting to work in his dissertation. He is also involved in the research project on Artificial Intelligence Startups at the chair of Prof. Dr. Bönnte.

2021

COMMENCEMENT OF MR. JULIAN LAUTEN-WEISS, M.SC.

In December 2021 Julian Lauten-Weiss took up his position as scholarship holder of the Dorothee Hannes-schläger Foundation. After completing a bachelor's degree in business management at the ISM in Cologne with a semester abroad in Rome, Julian Lauten-Weiss studied in Wuppertal and Taipei for an M.Sc. in Entrepreneurship and Innovation. Upon graduation, he worked as a founder and management consultant in the field of sustainable innovation, e.g., employing data analytics and machine learning to improve the sustainability performance of small and medium-sized enterprises. The implementation of circular and sustainable business models is also at the heart of Julian Lauten-Weiss' research for his doctorate degree.

COMMENCEMENT OF MR. PHILIPP PASING, M.SC.

Philipp Pasing also joined the Jackstädt Center in December 2021 as a doctoral student through a scholarship from the Dorothee Hannessschläger Foundation. As part of his academic career, he first completed a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and, subsequently, a consecutive Master's in Entrepreneurship & SME Management (M.Sc.) at the University of Siegen. During his studies, he worked at the Institute for SME Research Bonn (IfM

Bonn) as a student research assistant and, after completing his master's degree in 2021, initially gained professional experience as a research assistant at the Chair of Service Development in SMEs and Crafts at the University of Siegen. As part of his dissertation project, Philipp Pasing is working on sustainable business models, particularly in the context of social innovations. ■

We wish Ms. Coenen, Mr. Thomanek, Mr. Lauten-Weiss and Mr. Pasing a successful and fruitful time at the Jackstädt Center!

FAREWELL OF DR. FAISAL SAAED MALIK

Dr. Faisal Saeed Malik was a stipendiary of the DAAD and doctoral researcher based at the Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research. In 2021, he finished his dissertation with distinction. Here, he writes about his time at the Jackstädt Center and his past and current research:

In 2021, I finished my dissertation at the University of Wuppertal with distinction (*summa cum laude*). Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte and Prof. Dr. Vivien Procher supervised my dissertation titled “Terrorism, Corporate Performance and Business Strategies: Presence, Impact, and Future” while I was a stipendiary at the Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research. My broad research interests lie in the areas of family enterprises, strategic behavior of SMEs, and international business, with a focus on understanding how firms (SMEs & large firms) respond to exogenous shocks in their business environment. I am particularly engaged in firms’ managerial decision-making under the context of extreme uncertainty driven by external shocks.

During my doctoral journey, I further expanded my research network. Thus, I collaborated with Prof. Dr. Rocki-Lee DeWitt at the Grossman School of Business, University of Vermont, USA to work on a research project titled “Sustaining Competitive Advantage in the Context of Uncertainties: A Study of Export-oriented Pakistani Textile Family Businesses”. Also, seasoned scholar of International Business Prof. Dr. Michael Czinkota from Georgetown University, USA, was part of the project. I am very grateful to every one of them! The Jackstädt Center promotes the

international engagements of its members. Therefore, I was glad to present my research at important international research conferences, e.g. at the Academy of International Business, Academy of Management, European International Business Academy and many more.

After finishing my dissertation in the fall of 2021, I am now a postdoctoral researcher under the mentorship of Prof. Dr. Friederike Welter at the chair of Business Administration, in particular of SME Management and Entrepreneurship at the University of Siegen. Besides this, I am also affiliated with the Institute for Research on Mittelstand (IfM) Bonn as a Research Fellow on the Projects “Resilience of Internationally Engaged Small Businesses amid COVID-19 in Germany” and “Development Trends of Global Value Chains (GVC) from the Perspective of Medium-sized Enterprises”. Currently, I am preparing an application for the research project on the internationalization of German medium-sized companies for the research project titled “Mittelstand, Context, and Resourcefulness” with Prof. Dr. Friederike Welter.

My stay at the Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research was fantastic. I am highly indebted to the Directors of the Jackstädt Center, Prof. Dr. Bönte and Prof. Dr. Volkmann, for providing resources for my scientific activities. I furthermore want to thank Prof. Dr. Diemo Urbig for teaching networking skills and the art of asking questions. Thanks to Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta for providing great support through innovative research methods. I highly regard him for my career development. —

RESEARCH

The research activities of the Jackstädt Center can be divided into five principal areas, each presented in the following section.

1. THE PSYCHOLOGY AND DECISION-MAKING OF ENTREPRENEURS

We investigate whether entrepreneurs differ from other people, either because specific types of people choose such careers, or because they develop an entrepreneurial mindset based on the experiences they have gained during their careers. We analyze personality traits, specific patterns of perception and decision-making, as well as the learning, group, and social behaviors

of entrepreneurs, self-employed and innovative people, and traditionally oriented business people, as well as bankers, managers, social activists, and company founders with a strong profit orientation or those with a strong social motivation. An important question is which of these characteristics makes it more difficult or seemingly easier for a person to become a successful entrepreneur. —

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND WORK IN PROGRESS:

Bönte, W., Procher, V.D. & Urbig, D. (2016). Biology and selection into entrepreneurship: The relevance of prenatal testosterone exposure. *Entrepreneurship, Theory & Practice*, 40(5), 1121-1148.

Bönte, W., Procher, V.D. Urbig, D. & Voracek, M. (2017). Digit ratio (2D:4D) predicts self-reported measures of general competitiveness, but not behavior in economic experiments. *Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience*, 11.

Geenen, N., Urbig, D., Muehlfeld, K., van Witteloostuijn, A. & Gargalianou, V. (2016). BIS and BAS: Biobehaviorally rooted drivers of entrepreneurial intent. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 95, 204-213.

Muehlfeld, K., Urbig, D. & Weitzel, U. (2017). Entrepreneurs' exploratory perseverance in learning settings. *Entrepreneurship, Theory & Practice*, 41(4), 533-565.

Schulz, M., Urbig, D. & Procher, V.D. (2017). The role of hybrid entrepreneurship in explaining multiple job holders' earnings structure. *Journal of Business Venturing Insights*, 7, 9-14.

Urbig, D., Bönte, W., Procher, V.D. & Lombardo, S. (2020). Entrepreneurs embrace competition: Evidence from a lab-in-the-field study. *Small Business Economics*, 55(1), 193-214.

2. INTERNATIONALIZATION OF COMPANIES AND BUSINESS PROCESSES

Corporate change in our modern, global environment is frequently embedded in an international context. Internationalization includes the expansion as well as the shifting and repositioning of business processes. In a current research project, we investigate the link between companies' investments and divestments.

Moreover, in international contexts, managers and employees often communicate and make decisions in a foreign language rather than in their mother tongue. Thus, in several joint research studies, members of the Jackstädt Center, together with national and international partners, are investigating how people behave in foreign language contexts. An important finding is that changing the language causally affects cooperation behavior along two paths. On the one hand, engagement via a foreign language generates a subjectively felt, and possibly realistic, lack of

comprehension, which subsequently affects both decision-making and behavior. On the other hand, languages establish a certain cultural background and, thus, may indirectly influence a person's relevant values and norms.

In another project, members of the Jackstädt Center are studying the effects of terrorist attacks on the export performance of companies in developing countries. In 2018, we conducted three surveys in Germany and Pakistan that provided further insights into how companies deal with the threat of terrorism. Working papers that use this new data source are currently in progress and have been presented at international conferences, such as the annual meetings of the Academy of International Business, the Academy of Management, and the European International Business Academy. These papers will be prepared for submission to international journals. —

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND WORK IN PROGRESS:

Bönte, W., Procher, V.D. & Malik, F. (2017). *The impact of terrorist attacks on the export performance of firms in emerging economies – Empirical evidence from Pakistan* [Working Paper, University of Wuppertal].

Bönte, W. Procher, V.D., Rupietta, C. & Malik, F. (2019). *Which Management Practices Do Exporting firms in Pakistan Apply to Deal with the Threats of Terrorism* [Working Paper, University of Wuppertal].

Gargalianou, V., Urbig, D. & van Witteloostuijn, A. (2017). Cooperating or competing in three languages: Cultural accommodation or alienation? *Cross-Cultural & Strategic Management*, 24(1), 167-191.

Malik, F. (2021). *Terrorism, Corporate Performance and Business Strategies: Presence, Impact, and Future* [Doctoral Dissertation, University of Wuppertal].

Malik, F. (2019). *Exploring the effects of Terrorism on Business Operations in Pakistan and Firms' Responses* [Working Paper, University of Wuppertal].

Procher, V.D. & Engel, D. (2018). The investment-divestment relationship: Resource shifts and inter-subsidiary competition within MNEs. *International Business Review*, 27, 528-542.

Urbig, D., Terjesen, P., Procher, V. D., Muehlfeld, K. & van Witteloostuijn, A. (2016). Come on and take a free ride: Contributing to public goods in native and foreign language settings. *Academy of Management Learning & Education*, 15(2), 268-286.

3. VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND INNOVATION

The impact of vocational education on the capability of firms to innovate is a controversial topic in the scientific literature. Various studies have described vocational education as firm-specific and strongly focused on established technologies. Thus, researchers typically do not expect vocational education to have a positive impact on innovation. These studies see vocational education as an obstacle to the development of new and improved products and processes. However, certain kinds of vocational education, for example, vocational

education and training (VET) in Germany and Switzerland, cover general knowledge and regularly include new technologies. This type of vocational education supports the generation of innovation in firms.

The focal points of this research include the analysis of vocational education systems in general and the analysis of firms as providers of vocational education specifically. Thereby the focus is on the inclusion of vocational education in the innovation processes of firms. ■

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND WORK IN PROGRESS:

Backes-Gellner, U., Rupietta, C., & Tuor, S. (2017). Reverse educational spillovers at the firm-level. *Evidence-based HRM*, 5(1), 80-106.

Backes-Gellner, U., Rupietta, C. & Tuor S. (2020). University Graduates Profit from Working Together with VET Graduates. In U. Backes-Gellner, S. Wolter & U. Renold (Eds.), *Economics and Governance of Vocational and Professional Education and Training (including Apprenticeship)* (pp. 232-234). Bern: hep Verlag.

Rupietta, C. & Backes-Gellner, U. (2019). How firms' participation in apprenticeship training fosters knowledge diffusion and innovation, *Journal of Business Economics*, 89(5), 569-597.

Rupietta, C. & Backes-Gellner, U. (2019). Combining knowledge stock and knowledge flow to generate superior incremental innovation performance - Evidence from Swiss manufacturing. *Journal of Business Research*, 94, 209-222.

Rupietta, C. & Backes-Gellner, U. (2020). How Firms' Participation in Apprenticeship Training Contributes to Innovation. In U. Backes-Gellner, S. Wolter & U. Renold (Eds.), *Economics and Governance of Vocational and Professional Education and Training (including Apprenticeship)* (pp. 280-282). Bern: hep Verlag.

Rupietta, C., Meuer, J. & Backes-Geller, U. (2021). How do apprentices moderate the influence of organizational innovation on the technological innovation process?, *Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training* 13(1), 1-25.

Rupietta, C., Pfeifer, H., & Backes-Gellner, U. (2017). *Firms' Knowledge Acquisition During Dual-Track VET: Which Sources are Important for Innovation* [Swiss Leading House Working Paper No. 131].

4. INNOVATION STRATEGIES AND PRACTICES

This research area includes projects that deal with the influence of innovation management practices on the innovative behavior of employees and a company's ability to innovate. One example for such a practice that companies currently use widely is an innovation contest. In these contests, employees lead an innovation project over a short period of time. This research project analyzes which types of motivation contribute to ongoing participation by employees in the innovation competitions and thus contributes to the explanation of persistent, innovative behavior by employees. Researchers presented the first results of this project at several international conferences. A manuscript for submission to an international journal is currently under preparation.

Further early-stage projects are currently in the development process, such as a project that analyzes innovation management practices in Colombia. This project receives financial support from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). In 2019 Prof. Dr. Bönte and Prof. Dr. Rupietta spent research stays in Colombia to collaborate with their colleagues from the Universidad del Norte on the design of the interview guides and questionnaires for data collection.

This project area involves project partners from science and practice. We are currently collaborating with partners from the University of Zurich in Switzerland and the Universidad del Norte in Colombia. —

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND WORK IN PROGRESS:

Schulze, A. & Rupietta, C. (2021). *What motivates employees to engage in innovative behavior? A set theoretic approach* [Working Paper, University of Zurich].

5. SOCIAL INNOVATION

Since 2020, the research area “Social Innovation” has complemented the other research areas of the Jackstädt Center and is currently under development. Social innovations are intended to solve fundamental social and ecological problems. Social innovations are often developed and disseminated by different partners with strong local or regional roots. The subject of this research project is how can such solution ideas and their effects be successfully disseminated and thus benefit many people.

The research project is part of an international joint project involving the University of Groningen (Netherlands), Queen's University

(Canada), the University of Wuppertal, and Oxfam (UK). The funding was obtained within the framework of the call for proposals "Social Innovation" of the "Trans-Atlantic Platform". The project team at the Jackstädt Center receives funding for this research project from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) for three years.

After the successful start in September 2020, first research projects were presented at international conferences in 2021. More information on the content of the project can be found in section 06 – Financial Sustainability on page 70. —

PUBLICATIONS

FORTHCOMING AND PUBLISHED IN 2021

Bafera, J. (2021). *Signaling Theory in Entrepreneurship – Essays on its Scientific Application and Receiver Relevance* [Doctoral Dissertation, University of Wuppertal]. Göttingen, Cuvillier.

Kleinert, S., Bafera, J., Urbig, D., & Volkmann, C. K. (2021). Access Denied: How Equity Crowdfunding Platforms Use Quality Signals to Select New Ventures. *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*.

Kleinert, S., & Mochkabadi, K. (2021). Gender stereotypes in equity crowdfunding: the effect of gender bias on the interpretation of quality signals. *The Journal of Technology Transfer*, 1-22.

Krebs, K., Volkmann, C. & Grünhagen, M. (in press). Cultivating the impact of sustainable entrepreneurship – a discussion of upscaling approaches in entrepreneurial ecosystems. In R. Adams et al. (Eds.), *Artificiality and Sustainability in Entrepreneurship. Exploring the unforeseen and paving the way to the sustainable future*.

Lilischkis, S., Tammerbakke, J., Melleri, M. Volkmann, C. & Grünhagen, M. (2021). A Guide to fostering entrepreneurship education. Five key actions towards a digital, green and resilient Europe, Report to the European Commission [Technical Report].

Rettberg, F & Witt, P. (2021). Access to government support for innovation - Empirical evidence from the Ruhr area in Germany. *Journal of Enterprising Culture* 29(2), 1-22.

Rupietta, C., Meuer, J. & Backes-Geller, U. (2021). How do apprentices moderate the influence of organizational innovation on the technological innovation process? *Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training* 13(1), 1-25.

Shephard, D., Ellersiek, A., Meuer, J., Rupietta, C., Mayne, R., & Cairney, P. (2021). Kingdon's Multiple Streams Approach in new political contexts: Consolidation, configuration, and new findings. *Governance* 34(2), 523-543.

Urbig, D., Bönte, W., Schmutzler, J., Curcio, A. F. Z. & Andonova, V. (2021). Diverging associations of dimensions of competitiveness with gender and personality. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 176.

Volkmann, C. & Grünhagen, M. (forthcoming). The Covid-19 Pandemic as a Catalyst for Digital Entrepreneurship Education: Reflections on a Rapid Transformation of an Educational Ecosystem. In D. Audretsch & I. Kunadt (Eds.), *International Studies in Entrepreneurship, Vol. 54: The COVID-19 Crisis and Entrepreneurship*.

PUBLISHED IN 2020

Backes-Gellner, U., Rupietta, C. & Tuor Sartore, S. N. (2020). University Graduates Profit from Working Together with VET Graduates. In U. Backes-Gellner, S. Wolter & U. Renold (Eds.), *Economics and Governance of Vocational and Professional Education and Training (including Apprenticeship)* (S. 232-234). Bern: hep Verlag.

Bafera, J., Kleinert, S., & Volkmann, C. K. (2020). The Role of Equity Crowdfunding Platforms for New Venture Financing. *Academy of Management Proceedings* 2020(1), No. 12826.

Bix, S. & Witt, P. (2020). Introducing Constraints to improve New Product Development Performance. *Research-Technology Management* 63(5), 29-37.

Bürger, T., Volkmann, C.K. (2020). Mapping and thematic analysis of cultural entrepreneurship research. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business*, 40(2), 192-229.

Döring, H. & Witt, P. (2020). Knowledge management in family businesses - Empirical evidence from Germany. *Knowledge management Research & Practice* 18(2), 175-187.

Fallgatter, M. J. (2020). *Management und Managementenerfolg*. Wiesbaden: Springer Fachmedien Wiesbaden.

Mochkabadi, K. (2020). *Equity Crowdfunding – Essays about the Scientific Development and the Investor Perspective* [Doctoral Dissertation, University of Wuppertal]. Springer: Wiesbaden.

Mochkabadi, K., Kleinert, S., Urbig, D., & Volkmann, C. K. (2020). Innovativeness and Legitimacy in Equity Crowdfunding. *Academy of Management Proceedings* 2020(1), No. 17184.

Mochkabadi, K. & Volkmann, C. K. (2020). Equity crowdfunding. A systematic review of the literature. *Small Business Economics*, 54(1), 75-118.

Rupietta, C. & Backes-Gellner, U. (2020). How Firms' Participation in Apprenticeship Training Contributes to Innovation. In U. Backes-Gellner, S. Wolter & U. Renold (Eds.), *Economics and Governance of Vocational and Professional Education and Training (including Apprenticeship)* (S. 280-282). Bern: hep Verlag.

Urbig, D., Bönnte, W., Procher, V. & Lombardo, S. (2020). Entrepreneurs embrace competition: Evidence from a lab-in-the-field study. *Small Business Economics*, 55, 193-214.

Valitov, N. & Maier, A. (2020). Asymmetric information in the German intraday electricity market. *Energy Economics*, 89.

Witt, P. (2020). Mitarbeiter als Mitunternehmer - Instrumente zur Förderung des Intrapreneurship. *PERSONALquarterly* 72(4), 16-21.

PRESENTATIONS 2020

JULY

Rupietta, C., & Meuer, J. (2020). Comparative configurational process analysis – A new set-theoretic technique for longitudinal case analysis. EGOS Colloquium, 2.-4. Juli 2020, Hamburg, Germany.

Mohrenweiser, J., & Rupietta, C. (2020). The role of works councils in the productivity enhancing effect of HR practices. 32. Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE), 18.-20. Juli 2020, University of Amsterdam, Niederlande.

AUGUST

Mochkabadi, K., Kleinert, S., Urbig, D. & Volkmann, C. K. (2020). Innovativeness and Legitimacy in Equity Crowdfunding. 80th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management, August 7th - 11th 2020, virtual event.

PRESENTATIONS 2021

JUNE

Shephard, D., Ellersiek, A., Meuer, M., & Rupietta, C. (2021). Methodologically rigorous, Theory-driven, and Impactful Evaluation? Kingdon's multiple streams approach in new political contexts. Tilburg Public Governance Department Lunch Seminar, 9. Juni 2021, Tilburg University, Niederlande.

SEPTEMBER

Coenen, J., Collaboratively scaling social innovations: A capabilities framework. International Social Innovation Research Conference (ISIRC) 2021, 8.-10. September, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Mailand, Italien.

Thomanek, M. The Distinction between Business and Social Innovations: Allowing for research with impact on innovations with impact. International Social Innovation Research Conference (ISIRC) 2021, 8.-10. September, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Mailand, Italien.

DISSERTATIONS

2020

Dana Denzer: Heritage Entrepreneurship in Theory and Practice: Evidence from UNESCO World Heritage Sites

Felix Schweder: Direktorenwahlen – ein Vertrauensvotum: Einfluss wahrnehmbarer Gesichtsmerkmale auf die Wahl von Direktoren der Boards großer US-amerikanischer börsennotierter Kapitalgesellschaften

Karsten Bolz: Responsible Innovation & Entrepreneurship – The Role of Stakeholders & Uncertainty in Disruptive Technology Development

Kazem Mochkabadi: Equity Crowdfunding: Essays about the Scientific Development and the Investor Perspective

2021

Faisal Malik: Terrorism, Corporate Performance and Business Strategies: Presence, Impact, and Future

Julian Bafera: Signaling Theory in Entrepreneurship: Essays on its Scientific Application and Receiver Relevance

Kathrin Kuttig: Vorwissen und Gründungsmotivation als Determinanten für die Ideenherkunft von unternehmerischen Gelegenheiten – Eine qualitativ-explorative Studie zu Unterschieden zwischen einmaligen und habituellen Gründern

Lorenzo Conti: IoT-Geschäftsmodelle im deutschen Mittelstand – Eine Einflussfaktorenanalyse zu Barrieren und Treibern im digitalen Transformationsprozess

Patrick Kletzka: Inside Barefoot Economics

AWARDS

Best Paper bei den Academy of Management Proceedings:

Mochkabadi, K., Kleinert, S., Urbig, D., & Volkmann, C. K. (2020). Innovativeness and Legitimacy in Equity Crowdfunding. In Academy of Management Proceedings (Vol. 2020, No. 1, p. 17184). Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510: Academy of Management.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STARTUPS

As part of the newly launched research project on Artificial Intelligence (AI) start-ups at the Chair of Industrial Economics and Innovation, the team led by Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte has initiated the first sub-projects in 2020. First results can already be presented.

For instance, Markus Thomanek has been working on the topic of Data Network Effects. Network Effects exist when the utility of a product depends (among other things) on the number of users. One hypothesis that is currently being explored in the scientific community is the existence of such effects through the analysis of large amounts of data, for example through Machine Learning. If the amount of data is related to the number of users, it is argued that Data Network Effects can be present. Markus Thomanek investigated this question in an exploratory study for his master's thesis and discussed with entrepreneurs and industry experts

which factors favor the existence of such Data Network Effects. In the fall of 2020, he was able to complete his thesis with distinction.

Furthermore, preparatory measures for a quantitative study on AI start-ups are currently undertaken, in which, in addition to Data Network Effects, general conditions of these start-ups and more questions will be further investigated. As there is little condensed knowledge on this industry, primary data will be collected. This survey is to be conducted in 2022 in collaboration with industry associations. In addition to the research interest, business and politics should also be informed and be able to derive areas for action from these findings. The research team consists of Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte, Adrian Eckstein (M.Sc.), Markus Thomanek (M.Sc.) and Klaudia Sofia Mustafa (B.Sc.). —

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC INVOLVEMENT

In the context of their scientific activities, not only are members of the Jackstädt Center embedded in research collaborations, but they also hold positions of responsibility within national and international research networks.

FUNCTIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

PROF. DR. CHRISTINE VOLKMANN

Jury Chairwoman of the Gründerpreis NRW (Entrepreneurship award of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia)

Board member of the Center for Transformation, Research and Sustainability (TransZent) of the University of Wuppertal

Jury member of the EY (Ernst & Young) "Entrepreneur of the Year" Award

Member of the selection committee of the Hans-Weisser program by the German Economy Foundation (Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft) in cooperation with the Hans-Weisser-Foundation

Member of the Advisory Board Digital Economy NRW

Jury member of the DIGIYOU competition in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia

Expert for the funding program "Promotion of Impact-oriented Entrepreneurship Qualification" of the Bavarian State Ministry of Science and Art

Member of the Advisory Board of the Swiss-African Science and Business Innovators' (SASBI) Steering Group (within SARECO)

PROF. DR. WERNER BÖNTE

Editor of Small Business Economics Journal

Research fellow at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at the Indiana University Bloomington, USA

PROF. DR. PETER WITT

Chairman of the scientific committee of the Erich Gutenberg Arbeitsgemeinschaft, which aims to maintain relationships between science and entrepreneurial reality in the field of business administration

Department editor for the fields of entrepreneurship and innovation management of the Journal of Business Economics

Adjunct professor at the WHU-Otto Beisheim School of Management

Member of the Schumpeter School foundation's board of trustees

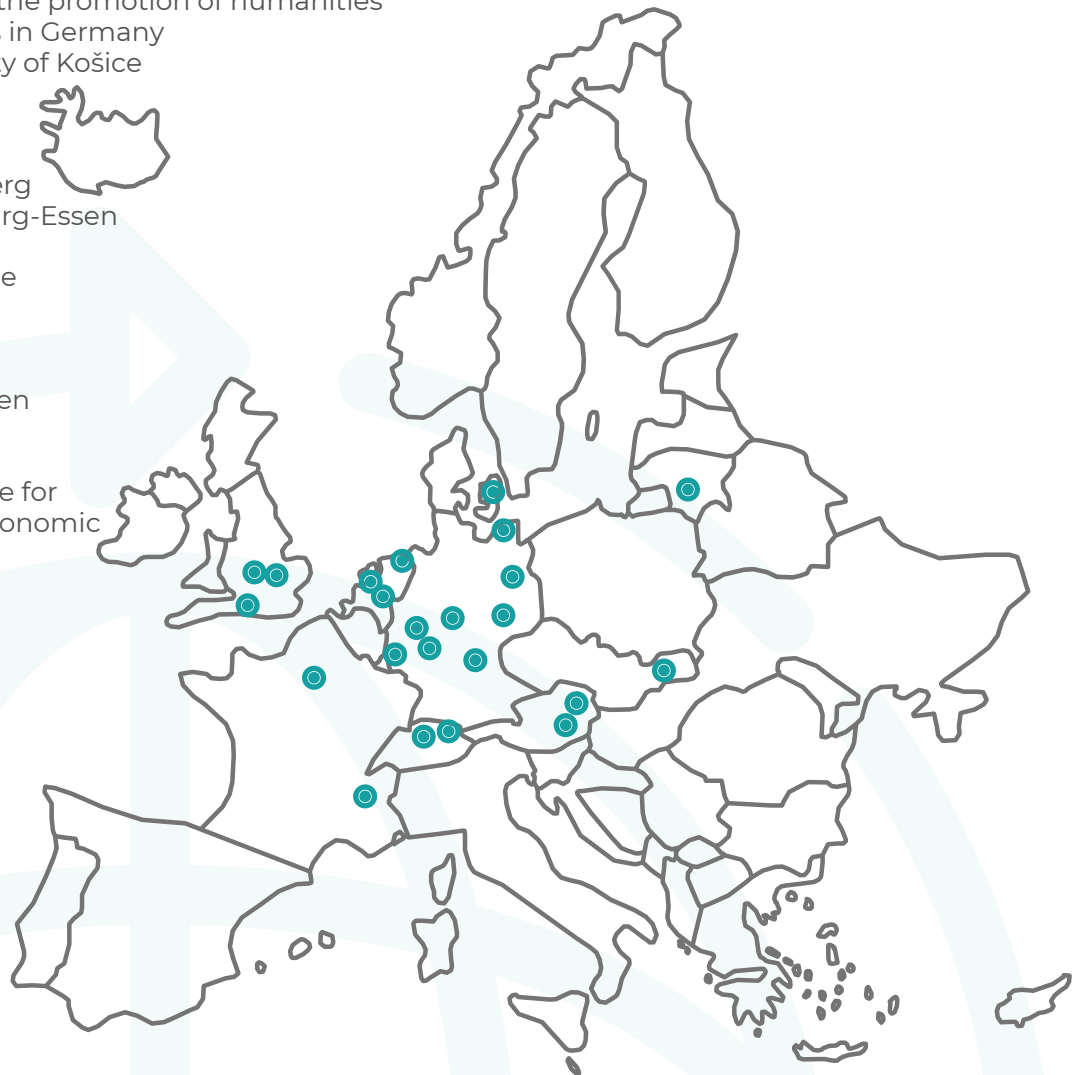
PROF. DR. CHRISTIAN RUPIETTA

Member of the Advisory Board of COMPASSS (Comparative Methods of Systematic Cross-Case Analysis)

Lecturer for Innovation management at the Swiss Distance University of Applied Sciences

NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN COOPERATION PARTNERS

Bournemouth University
Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training
Copenhagen Business School
Cranfield University
DIW Berlin
EAWAG
EBS University of Business and Law
ETH Zürich
Hochschule Stralsund
Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy (IMW)
Grenoble Ecole de Management
HEC Paris
Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf
Kaunas University of Technology
Oxfam GB
Radboud University
RUG Groningen
RWI – Leibniz Institute for Economic Research
“Stifterverband” for the promotion of humanities
and sciences in Germany
Technical University of Košice
Tilburg University
TU Denmark
TU Eindhoven
University of Bamberg
University of Duisburg-Essen
University of Kassel
University of Cologne
Trier University
University of Zurich
University of Graz
University of St. Gallen
University of Vienna
VU Amsterdam
ZEW - Leibniz Centre for
European Economic
Research



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PARTNERS

American University Washington
George Washington University
Indiana University Bloomington
Queen's University
University of Connecticut
Universidad del Norte
University of Illinois



APPOINTMENT OF RESEARCH FELLOWS OF THE JACKSTÄDT CENTER

In 2021 it was decided to appoint certain researchers with a strong connection to the Jackstädt Center as Research Fellows of the Jackstädt Center. With these colleagues, who work at scientific institutions around the world, the Jackstädt Center seeks to intensify the international collaboration. We are delighted to welcome the following researchers as Research Fellows:

- Prof. Dr. Jana Schmutzler
- Prof. Dr. Diemo Urbig
- Prof. Dr. Vivien Procher
- Prof. Dr. Philip Steinberg
- Dr. Matthias Schulz
- Dr. Faisal Malik

On the following pages, we would like to introduce Prof. Dr. Jana Schmutzler and Prof. Dr. Diemo Urbig and their research areas. Over the course of the next years, this space will be provided to further Research Fellows to introduce themselves.

PROF. DR. JANA SCHMUTZLER

Prof. Dr. Jana Schmutzler is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla, Colombia. She holds a PhD in economics from the Schumpeter School of Business and Economics at the University of Wuppertal, Germany.

Her research interests center on understanding innovation and entrepreneurial processes, focusing specifically on lesser-studied contexts, such as developing countries, and low or non-R&D sectors like the creative industries or the informal economy. This interest derives from the potential of both of these processes to drive economic growth. Prof. Schmutzler views innovation and entrepreneurial processes from a systemic point of view; that is, as collective processes, which evolve through the interaction between various economic agents and where the environment explains differential economic outcomes. Specifically, she explores the role a context plays in fostering (or hindering) these vital economic behaviors. She has published in internationally recognized journals in the field of entrepreneurship and innovation, such as *Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice* and *Industrial and Corporate Change*. In addition, she has co-edited two books published by Edward Elgar Publishing.

She is currently a Scientific Board Member of the Global Network for Economics of Learning, Innovation, and Competence Building Systems (Globelics), and her work focuses mainly on the promotion of Early Career Researchers in the Global South. As such, she is a member of a group that initiated the Online Lecture Series in honor of Chris Freeman (www.cris-is.org) during the COVID-19 induced lockdowns. The group promotes the diffusion of theoretical foundations and practical applications of the concept Innovation Systems



Photo: Private

mainly for the benefit of students and early career researchers from developing countries. She is also a Board Member of the Latin American Division of Regional Studies. In June 2021, she was named a member of the Young Chapter of the Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Science.

Prof. Dr. Schmutzler's cooperation with the Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research builds on a long-standing relationship that began with her PhD studies, which she undertook at the University of Wuppertal. Through various visits financed through research projects funded by the DAAD and the Colombian Ministry of Science (formerly Colciencias), the research collaboration currently focuses on two main areas: management practices for innovation, and personality traits and their relationship with entrepreneurial behavior. Based on the first research focus, Prof. Schmutzler was invited to participate in the commission of the National Planning Department, which inserted into the Colombian Innovation Survey (similar to the Community Innovation Survey) a new module measuring Management Practices. This new module was

launched during last year's 9th wave and the quantitative data is currently being analyzed. In this respect, the collaboration with Prof. Dr. Bönnte has initiated a data collection process of both qualitative and quantitative data on specific management practices for innovation, which is an ongoing research project. Along these lines, Prof. Schmutzler is collaborating with Prof. Dr. Rupietta – building on Prof. Dr. Rupietta's expertise on Qualitative Comparative Analysis – to evaluate

whether specific sets of management practices enhance a company's productivity. In terms of personality traits, Prof. Dr. Schmutzler has collaborated with Prof. Dr. Bönnte and Prof. Dr. Urbig to conduct a large-scale survey in Colombia and Germany, which was followed by economic experiments in Colombia. The first results of this study were published in *Personality and Individual Differences* (see below).

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Pugh, Rh., Schmutzler, J. & Tsvetkova, A. (2021). Taking the systems approaches out of their comfort zones: perspectives from under explored contexts. *Growth and Change*, 52(2), 608-620. <https://doi.org/10.1111/grow.12510>

Porras-Paez, A. & Schmutzler, J. (2019). Orchestrating Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in an emerging country: The lead actor's role from a social capital perspective. *Local Economy. The Journal of the Local Economy Policy Unit*, 38(8), 767-786. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0269094219896269>

Schmutzler, J., Andonova, V. & Perez-Lopez, J. (2021). The role of diaspora in opportunity-driven entrepreneurial ecosystems: A mixed-methods study of Balkan economies. *International Entrepreneurship and Management Journal*, 17(2), 693-729. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11365-020-00708-4>

Schmutzler, J., Pugh, Rh. & Tsvetkova, A. (2021) Contextual and evolutionary perspectives on entrepreneurial ecosystems. Insights from Chris Freeman's thinking. *Innovation and Development*. Ahead of print. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2157930X.2021.1931742>

Tordecilla Avila, Y., Schmutzler, J., Rodriguez, P. B. M. & Araujo, E. G. (2021). The relationship between innovation and informal entrepreneurship: evidence from a developing country. *Academia Revista Latinoamericana de Administración*, 34(3), 343-367. <https://doi.org/10.1108/ARLA-07-2020-0170>

Urbig, D., Bönnte, W., Schmutzler, J., Curcio, A. F. Z. & Andonova, V. (2021). Diverging associations of dimensions of competitiveness with gender and personality. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 176, 110775. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2021.110775>

PROF. DR. DIEMO URBIG

Prof. Dr. Diemo Urbig holds the chair for “Empirical Business and Economics Research and Transformation” at Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg. He holds master-level degrees in management (2001) and computer science (2003) from the Humboldt University Berlin and a PhD in Management Science from Radboud University, Nijmegen (NL). Diemo Urbig is a research fellow at the Institute for Development Strategies, Indiana University Bloomington. He has worked at the Max Planck Institute of Economics in Jena, Antwerp University, the University of Wuppertal, Eindhoven University of Technology, and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. His work on cognition and decision-making and strategy and organization in the context of entrepreneurship and innovation has been published, among other places, in the Journal of Management, Journal of Business Venturing, and Research Policy. He was an editor for the Small Business Economics Journal and guest editor for the Journal of Business Venturing, and serves on the editorial review boards of the Journal of Business Venturing and the Academy of Management Perspectives.

Since his time in Wuppertal, Diemo Urbig has continued to collaborate with researchers who have worked in Wuppertal. The topics cover, for instance, individuals’ competitive orientation and the entrepreneurial



Photo: PicturePeople

orientation of start-ups (with Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte) and equity crowdfunding (with Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann and Dr. Kazem Mochkabadi). Other topics, such as second-job and hybrid entrepreneurship and employers’ reactions to such enterprising employees, are still focal points of his work. His teaching focuses on methods and currently he is establishing a new course on Causal Data Science in Business and Economics. —

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Kleinert, S., Bafera, J., Urbig, D. & Volkmann, C. K. (2021). Access denied: How equity crowdfunding platforms use quality signals to select new ventures. *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*. doi: 10.1177/10422587211011945. (open access)

Steinberg, P. J., Urbig, D., Procher, V. D. & Volkmann, C. (2021). Knowledge transfer and home-market innovativeness: A comparison of emerging and advanced economy multinationals. *Journal of International Management*, 27(4),100873. doi:10.1016/j.intman.2021.100873. (open access)

Urbig, D., Bönnte, W., Schmutzler, J., Curcio, A. F. Z. & Andonova, V. (2021). Diverging associations of dimensions of competitiveness with gender and personality. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 176, 110775. doi: 10.1016/j.paid.2021.110775

Urbig, D., Muehlfeld, K., Procher, V. & van Witteloostuijn, A. (2020). Strategic decision-making in a global context: The comprehension effect of foreign language use on cooperation. *Management International Review*, 60, 351-385. doi: 10.1007/s11575-020-00412-z (open access)

Urbig, D., Reif, K., Lengsfeld, S. & Procher, V. D. (2021). Promoting or Preventing Entrepreneurship? Employers' perceptions of and reactions to employees' entrepreneurial side jobs. *Technological Forecasting & Social Change*, 172, 121032. doi: 10.1016/j.techfore.2021.121032

ICSB SPECIAL CERTIFICATE FOR THE SDGS

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) invited Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann to the first cohort of the ICSB (International Council for Small Business) Special Certificate for the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). The conference was subdivided into three virtual modules, which took place from May 7th – 9th, 2020. In the first session, the organizers explained the creation and purpose of the SDGs, both from the perspective of their creator, the United Nations, and from

academia. The second session showed how to integrate the SDGs into the classroom and discussed the multidisciplinary role that educators can learn to uphold when integrating the SDGs into a syllabus. It discussed questions such as: How do we build successful, yet sustainable businesses, leveraging consumer social responsibility? And: What role can digital technologies play? The third session focused on small businesses, women entrepreneurs, the youth, and humane enterprises. —

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION & SWISS-AFRICAN RESEARCH COOPERATION

In June 2021, Erich Thaler (University of Basel, Switzerland) invited Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann to present selected findings on Entrepreneurship Education at Higher Educational institutions in Europe at a Coffee & Content format organized by the European Association for International Education (EAIE). The EAIE initiates debates around current issues in higher education management and development. It has set up expert groups to prepare its debates, workshops, and conferences. One of these groups is dedicated to the topic of Cooperation for Development. This expert group invited colleagues of the association to a Coffee & Content Session on July 6th on the topic of Business Education and Capacity Building in the Global North-South Framework. The networking session explored how North-South

collaboration can enrich entrepreneurship education, foster global entrepreneurial mindsets, and contribute toward achieving the SDGs.

As coordinator at the University of Basel for the federally funded Swiss-African Research Cooperation, Erich Thaler asked Prof. Dr. Volkmann to join the Swiss African Science and Business Innovators' (SASBI) Steering Group as an advisory board member for the cooperation period 2021 to 2024. The SASBI Steering Group is dedicated to Entrepreneurship Education with a special focus on the transfer from the first business idea to the first validated projects. —

<https://www.eaie.org/community/expert-communities.html>

<http://www.sareco.org>



WEBINAR SERIES EUROPEAN ENCOUNTERS

In 2021 Prof. Dr. David Audretsch invited Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann to two panel discussions within the webinar series European Encounters sponsored by Indiana University Global Gateway Berlin. The first panel discussion had the theme "Democracy and Entrepreneurship in Europe and the United States" and took place on April 27th. The second one focused on the topic "Policy & Education for Emotional Skills for Entrepreneurial Success" and was held on September 16th. —

SASE SESSIONS 2020 & 2021

At the 32nd annual conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) in 2020, Prof. Uschi Backes-Gellner (University of Zurich) and Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta organized two conference sessions. The sessions had the theme "Hiring and Occupational Choice: Employers' and Employees' Perspectives on Skill Demand and Supply" and "Professional and Vocational Education and Training: Recent Challenges and Solutions at the Regional and National Level" and consisted of a total of 10 contributions. The Sessions included contributions from researchers from the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB), ETH Zurich, the Institute for Employment Research (IAB), Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, Maastricht University, and the University of Zurich. The session followed the format of the conference and took place as online presentations

with subsequent discussions.

In 2021 the annual conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics again took place as an online conference, and Prof. Dr. Uschi Backes-Gellner and Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta contributed to the conference again by organizing of a conference session. The session "Recent Challenges for Continuing Education and Vocational Education and Training" combined 5 presentations. These challenges include the influence of the Covid-19 pandemic on the demand for apprentices and the content and provision of continuing training in the light of technological change and an ageing workforce. The session organizers will continue to contribute to the annual SASE meeting by organizing sessions in 2022. —

QCA ONLINE WORKSHOPS

ETH zürich



Schumpeter School
of Business and Economics



eawag
aquatic research

FNS NF
FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE
SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS
FONDO NAZIONALE SVIZZERO
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The Jackstädt Center traditionally co-organizes and co-hosts the International Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) Workshop Series together with partners from the University of Bamberg, the EAWAG in Zurich, and the ETH Zurich. In 2020, the 8th edition of the International QCA Expert Workshop and the 4th edition of the International QCA Paper Development Workshop took place. These two workshops provide a platform for scientific exchange and community building for experienced and junior researchers who develop and apply QCA. While Zurich had become a home for these workshops in the past years, and our colleagues and friends were looking forward to meeting again in person, the workshops took place as online events due to the COVID-19 pandemic from November 23rd to November 26th. We extended the overall duration of the workshop but limited the program to 4-5 hours a day. This had the advantage of accommodating the different time zones of the participants. In total, more than 80 researchers participated in the two workshops.

The Expert Workshop took place from November 23rd to November 24th and brought more than 30 scholars with longstanding experience in applying and developing QCA and other configurational comparative methods together. The workshop program contained four presentation sessions, opportunities to socialize, and an open COMPASSS Advisory Board Meeting. The presentation session covered topics such as the development of theories with QCA as a research approach, generalization of QCA results, robustness of QCA results, and empirical applications of coincidence analysis. A virtual socializing event at the end of the first day gave participants the opportunity to

continue the scientific exchange and to (re-)connect with workshop participants.

The Paper Development Workshop (November 25th – 26th) was supported by several leading scholars. Junior researchers or first-time users of QCA received feedback on their research papers in online-round table sessions. These round table sessions provided junior researchers with the opportunity to discuss their work with senior scholars. For specific questions we designed topic-specific “Face your QCA challenges” groups that were moderated by senior scholars. To facilitate the interaction between participants and to give junior scholars an overview of the QCA community, we introduced an interactive “Map the QCA community” session. In this session different groups of junior scholars were to draw a network map of the QCA and met different senior scholars in Zoom breakout rooms. This session gave junior scholars the opportunity to get to know the workshop faculty, their research fields, and their research journey with QCA.

For the second time, we awarded the best submissions to the workshop with a best paper award and a runner up prize. The winners of the best paper award were: Cheng Chen (Sun Yat-sen University) and Bin Chen (The City University of New York) for their paper “To Reverse or To Continue Contracting-Out? A Configurational Approach to Political Transaction Costs in the Institutional Choice of Public Service Delivery”. The runner up prize went to Robin Chang (Technical University of Dortmund) and Lasse Gerrits (Erasmus University Rotterdam) for their paper “What stabilizes temporary use? A qualitative comparative analysis of 40 temporary use cases”.

The workshop ended with a panel debate “QCA & me: The added value of QCA in my research field and in my professional life” in which Dr. Giulia Bazzan, Katrin Paziker and Prof. Dr. Ryan Rumble reflected on using QCA in their PhD dissertations and on their experience with publishing QCA papers.

The International QCA Paper Development Workshop and the Expert Workshop also took place at the ETH Zurich in 2021. Both workshops were co-organized by the Jackstädt Center and took place from December 13th – 15th. The organizing team was extended by two junior researchers. The following institutions co-organized the workshops: EAWAG, ETH Zurich, Jönköping University,

University of Bamberg, University of Potsdam, and University of Wuppertal. The COVID-19 pandemic also influenced the workshop organization and large parts of the workshops took place in online formats. The Paper Development workshop took place from December 13th – 14th as a purely online event and thereby followed the format of the previous year. The Expert Workshop (December 14th – 15th) followed a hybrid format with some participants meeting onsite in Zurich while others joined online via Zoom. The organizing team received much positive feedback for these two workshops as well as for the workshops from the previous years, and the team plans to organize the workshops again in 2022. —

ISIRC CONFERENCE 2021

From September 8 to 10, 2021, the doctoral students Jana Coenen and Markus Thomanek participated in the International Social Innovation Research Conference (ISIRC). The Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, Italy, organized this conference in a hybrid format. Due to the ongoing pandemic, both Ms. Coenen and Mr. Thomanek decided to participate remotely rather than in person. The theme of this year’s conference was “Enabling the change! Social innovation and enterprises for a better future”. Ms. Coenen and Mr. Thomanek presented their work titled respectively “Collaboratively scaling social innovations: A capabilities

framework” and “The Distinction between Business and Social Innovations: Allowing for research with impact on innovations with impact”. In individual sessions, they had the opportunity to receive valuable feedback, discuss open questions, and connect with fellow academics from the same field. Since the ISIRC, possibilities for collaboration in research projects have been followed up on. Ms. Coenen and Mr. Thomanek were grateful for the chance to participate in this conference and to discuss ideas with scholars from all over the world.

COLLABORATION WITH THE UNIVERSIDAD DEL NORTE, COLOMBIA



RESEARCH COLLOMBIAN DOCTORAL STUDENT AT THE JACKSTÄDT CENTER OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION RESEARCH

DAAD

In February 2020, Juan Carlos Martínez Torres took the opportunity to participate in a research exchange at the Jackstädt Center in order to advance his doctoral thesis. The doctoral student from the partner university Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla, Colombia, writes the following about his experience:

I am Juan Carlos Martínez Torres, a doctoral student in Management at



Juan Carlos Martínez Torres (Photo: Private)

the Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla, Colombia. My exchange was supported by an existing cooperation agreement between the Schumpeter School of Business and Economics of the University of Wuppertal and the Escuela de Negocios at the Universidad del Norte.

The cooperation is funded by the DAAD and the Colombian Ministry of Science and Technology within the project "Cooperation in research and teaching in the areas of entrepreneurship and innovation".

In my internship I had the opportunity to learn from Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta, Assistant Professor at the Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research. He helped me to develop a deeper understanding of the QCA methodology (Qualitative Comparative Analysis).

QCA is a methodology that uses Boolean algebra to identify configurations of conditions that explain the occurrence of a previously defined outcome. This methodology turned out to be a great alternative to advance the development of my doctoral thesis, which focuses on analyzing business cooperation processes that are aimed at developing innovation, and also understanding how firm capabilities and the use of intermediary institutions can facilitate or favor such cooperation processes.

The opportunity to strengthen my skills in the use of QCA proved to be crucial for my doctoral thesis while I was confined in Colombia due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which had started to intensify during the last days of my internship. For that reason, I am very grateful to Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta for accompanying me during my internship, to Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte, and to the Universidad del Norte, which facilitated my stay at the Jackstädt Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation Research at the University of Wuppertal. —

STUDENT EXCHANGES WITH THE UNIVERSIDAD DEL NORTE

In spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, we sought to continue the student exchange between the University of Wuppertal and the Universidad del Norte in Colombia. Due to the difficulty to plan the semester during the pandemic and the possibility for online courses, the exchange did not take place in person – nevertheless, some students were eager to take part in the exchange and to follow the lectures online from across the Atlantic. Adán Lopez, a student from Colombia, writes about his experience:

I am Adán Lopez, a student of Mathematics and Economics. Currently, I am 21 years old, and I live in Colombia. In 2020, I was a recipient of a DAAD scholarship to take part in an exchange with the University of Wuppertal, which due to the pandemic took place virtually for two semesters. Most of the courses I took were offered by the Schumpeter School of Business and Economics. In contrast to my home university, some courses in Germany have two separate components: one theoretical and one for practicing exercises, which was very useful to really make sure I learned everything well. The course contents were well organized, and it was interesting to see a new approach to learning about economics. The negative side about remote classes is the lower interaction with peers, and more opportunities to meet German people would have been great. Nevertheless, I am delighted about this opportunity and certain that I



Adán Lopez (Photo: Private)

benefitted from it a lot! In addition to my academic courses, the German language course allowed me to learn more about the German culture and traditions and left me with the desire to visit this amazing country one day. I am thinking about doing my master's degree in Germany and hope to get to know the people I met during my online lectures and seminars!

The following year, in 2021, we were delighted to welcome students from Colombia once again in person and to continue the successful exchange. Lina Botero was one of the students. In the final year of her bachelor's program, she came to Wuppertal to take courses and receive the final credits towards her degree. She

eventually decided to stay in Wuppertal after her initial exchange semester and successfully applied for a research internship at the Jackstädt Center. Here, she supported the research of Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta, gained insights into methodological work, and additionally supported the administrative tasks of the Center. Read her report on her time in Wuppertal:

I am Lina Botero, a student from Barranquilla, Colombia. I just finished my degree in Economics at the Universidad del Norte and had the privilege to do a research internship at the Jackstädt Center of the University of Wuppertal, which was also a big step towards acquiring my degree at my home university. Before the internship, I spent one semester at the University of Wuppertal with the help of the ISAP-DAAD Scholarship. The internship then consisted of a 4-month program in which my main project was conducting research on Management Practices, a current research project at the University of Wuppertal and the Universidad del Norte.



Lina Botero (Photo: Markus Thomanek)

The purpose of the research project, which was initiated by Prof. Jana Schmutzler and Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta in 2021, is to identify configurations of management practices and analyze the effect these configurations have on firm performance. As different combinations of practices are thought to lead to good firm performance, we used the QCA (Qualitative Comparative Analysis) method. Prof. Dr. Rupietta from the Jackstädt Center is highly recognized for his knowledge on the QCA method. Thus, this knowledge was very beneficial for the project. The use of this relatively new methodology lets us analyze complex causal relationships, which yielded very interesting methodological and practical insights for me.

My internship assignments, as well as my experience in Germany, helped me improve my professional skills, learn in-depth about different topics and, most importantly, learn how to develop research through synthesizing literature, preparing data, and coming up with new research ideas. I also learned about the use of statistical software packages, which will be very valuable for my career. In addition, the structure of the internship and the support I received now allows me to link concepts learned in the bachelor's degree with practical and scientific insights.

The time I spent in Germany, thanks to the exchange program and the internship, opened my eyes to another culture, new experiences, and expanded my scientific thinking, which I will always be grateful for. —

TEACHING

The Jackstädt Center supports the teaching activities of the Schumpeter School of Business and Economics and regularly offers lectures and seminars within the bachelor's and master's programs.

COURSES

The Jackstädt Center mainly offers research-based seminars. These give students the opportunity to apply their methodological knowledge, to collect data independently, and to create their own empirical work.

Moreover, since the winter term 2013/2014, the Schumpeter School of Business and Economics offers a specialized master's program in "Entrepreneurship and Innovation."

The directors of the Jackstädt Center, namely Christine Volkmann, Werner Bönte, Peter Witt, and Michael Fallgatter, offer several modules, lectures, and seminars in this and related bachelor's and master's programs. Thus, the large variety of courses taught in the area of "Entrepreneurship and Innovation" strengthens and complements the research orientation of the Jackstädt Center. —

LECTURES

BACHELOR

Entrepreneurship, Business Formation and Growth
(Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Case studies on Start-up Management
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Fundamentals of Start-up Management
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Legal Aspects of Business Formation I: Introduction
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Legal Aspects of Business Formation II: Corporate and Employment Laws for Start-Ups
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Legal Aspects of Business Formation III: Industrial Property Rights
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Industrial Organization
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Organization
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Organization and Business Management
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Introduction to Business Administration and Economics
(Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

MASTER

Competitive Globalization
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Entrepreneurship and Market Development
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Economics of Innovation
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Game Theory and Experimental Economics
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Management
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Energy and Project Management
(Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

Innovation and Technology Management
(Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

SEMINARS

BACHELOR

Entrepreneurial Marketing
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Entrepreneurial Finance
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Entrepreneurial Thinking: Effectuation
- how successful entrepreneurs think,
decide and act
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

First steps to your start-up
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Kickstart Sustainable Businesses:
Challenge Ghana
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Tax Aspects of Entrepreneurship
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Economics of Innovation and
Education
(Prof. Dr. Christian Rupiotta)

Project Management in Energy
Industry and Information Technology
(Prof. Dr. Christian Rupiotta)

Competition, Competitiveness and
Unethical Behavior
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Experimental Economics
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

High-tech Start-ups
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

The effects of COVID-19 on business
activities in Colombia and Germany
(Joint seminar: Universidad del Norte
– University of Wuppertal)
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

„Do your best“ Management by
objectives
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Fundamentals of Management
Research
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Organizational changes and their
implementation
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Innovation Management
(Chair Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

MASTER

Business model development and
business plan preparation for
innovative business ideas
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Entrepreneurial Ecosystems
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Entrepreneurial Finance
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

First steps to your start-up
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Business Ethics
(Chair Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Current Topics in Economics of
Innovation and Education
(Prof. Dr. Christian Rupiotta)

Economics and Management of
Innovation
(Prof. Dr. Christian Rupiotta)

Applied Strategic Thinking: An
Introduction to Game Theory
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Competition, Competitiveness and
Unethical Behavior
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Experimental Economics
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Experimental Design and Critical
Evaluation
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

High-tech Start-ups
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Innovation in Colombia and Germany
(Joint Seminar: Universidad del Norte-
Berg. Universität Wuppertal)
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

The effects of COVID-19 on business
activities in Colombia and Germany
(Joint seminar: Universidad del Norte
– University of Wuppertal)
(Prof. Dr. Werner Bönte)

Leadership as Social Exchange
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Leadership in Organizational
Processes, Digital Business Research
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Digitalization (Industry 4.0)
(Chair Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

Innovation Management /
Entrepreneurship
(Chair Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

Innovation and Technology
Management
(Chair Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

DOCTORAL STUDIES

Recent Advances in Entrepreneurship
Research
(Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann)

Idea and Paper Development
Workshop in Entrepreneurship and
Innovation Research
(Prof. Dr. Christian Rupiotta)

Qualitative Comparative Analysis
(QCA) in Entrepreneurship and
Innovation Research
(Prof. Dr. Christian Rupiotta)

Recent Advances in Management
Research
(Prof. Dr. Michael Fallgatter)

Empirical Methods of Innovation and
Start-up Research
(Prof. Dr. Peter Witt)

ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS

SEMINAR 2020

Each winter semester Professor Christine Volkmann offers the master's seminar "Entrepreneurial Ecosystem" with a different focal point. The aim of the seminar is to holistically investigate how different factors, or rather bundles of factors, influence entrepreneurial activity in a region and why. For a better understanding of entrepreneurial ecosystems, thematic excursions have become an integral part of the seminar. The format is very popular among students and was awarded the "Lehrlöwe" in the category "innovation" in 2018. With this, each year the University of Wuppertal awards excellent and innovative teaching formats.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the seminar format in 2020 did not include excursions, but presented a new and intriguing focus: circular economy. Prof. Dr. Volkmann introduced the students to the Wuppertal pilot project Circular Valley. This project aims to balance economic growth and environmental protection by recruiting start-ups and researchers

from all over the world to develop new concepts and to test innovative business models as part of the new Circular Economy Accelerator. Pursuing a key theme of the EU's "Green Deal", it strives to become a global project for a genuine resource-saving circular economy. Its overall aim is the reduction or elimination of pollution of all kinds with a negative impact on the environment.

Prof. Dr. Volkmann started the seminar by giving insights into the concepts "entrepreneurial ecosystems" as well as "circular economy". Dr. Carsten Gerhardt, initiator of the Circular Valley project, discussed the topic of circular economy and introduced the project in another session. Other guest lectures by Dr. Holger Berg (Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy) and Michael Kuhndt (Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production) followed. The students subsequently worked on their seminar papers and presented and discussed their learnings in the final sessions. —

OVERVIEW OF BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S THESES

A selection of theses is presented, highlighting the range of topics supervised by the directors and assistant professor at the Jackstädt Center.

PROF. DR. CHRISTINE VOLKMANN

Eine Befragung zum Deutschen Gründerpreis

Make Marketing Great Again: Entrepreneurial Marketing Tools unter Millennials – Ausgesuchte Fallanalysen

Gründungsbarriere Geschlecht? – Eine qualitative Untersuchung von Gründungsprozessen weiblich geführter Unternehmen

3D-Druck: Ein Trend auf dem Weg zum Megatrend?

Employer Branding für Startups: Der Einfluss von New Work auf die Employer Brand unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Generation Y

Employer Branding bei Startups – Analyse möglicher Einflussfaktoren der Employer Attractiveness in Stellenanzeigen bei der Akquise von Fachkräften

Herausforderungen nachhaltiger Unternehmensgründungen und mögliche Lösungswege

Finanzierung nachhaltiger Unternehmensgründungen

Social Entrepreneurship – Schaffung von Berufschancen für Menschen mit Behinderung durch Gründungen

Women Entrepreneurship: Chancen und Hemmnisse für Gründerinnen mit marokkanischer Zuwanderungsgeschichte in Deutschland

Quartiersentwicklungsvereine und ihre Kommunikation: Können Quartiere vom Entrepreneurial Marketing lernen? Eine Analyse der Onlinekommunikation am Beispiel Wuppertaler Quartiersentwicklung

Coronabedingte Krisen: Eine Fallanalyse am Beispiel von Unternehmen aus dem Bergischen Städtedreieck im Buchmarkt

Evaluation der Gründungsförderung in Hagen: eine empirische Analyse mit kommunenübergreifender Betrachtung

Entrepreneurial Storytelling: Unternehmenskommunikation als Erfolgsfaktor von nachhaltigen Startups

Entrepreneurial Marketing: Eine qualitative Analyse der Markt-orientierung von Gründungsunternehmen

Auswirkungen der COVID-19-Pandemie auf das Marketing von jungen Unternehmen

Non-intrusive Load Monitoring als Dienstleistung – Konzipierung eines service-orientierten Geschäftsmodells für die fertigende Industrie

Potentielle Steigerung der Wirtschaftlichkeit von nachhaltigen ÖPNV-Systemen durch Geschäftsmodellinnovation und Sektorkoppelung – Das Beispiel von Multi-Use-Batteriespeichern als Second-Life-Anwendung im Rahmen des Projektes „Batterie-Oberleitungsbus Solingen“

PROF. DR. WERNER BÖNTE

The Relevance of Data Network Effects for Firms using AI Technologies – A qualitative Analysis

Siemens-Alstom-Fusion: Eine Analyse aus volkswirtschaftlicher Perspektive

Entrepreneurship policy in the Republic of Korea: an economic analysis

The Role of Beliefs about Others' Preferences in Decision-Making: A Model-Based and Experimental Analysis

Analyse der Standortbedingungen für KI-Startups in den USA, China und der EU

PROF. DR. MICHAEL FALLGATTER

Pfadabhängigkeit im Wandel - Umgang mit Widerständen im 8-Stufen Modell nach Kotter

Servant Leadership und die Auswirkungen auf Motivation

Der Einfluss von Unternehmenskultur auf das Commitment von Mitarbeitern

Mögliche intrinsische Motivationspotenziale im Einzelhandel anhand des Job-Characteristics-Modell

Der mögliche Einfluss von Homeoffice auf die Arbeits-Motivation auf Basis des Erwartungs-Valenz-Modells

Der Einfluss der wahrgenommenen Work-Life-Balance auf das organisationale Commitment

Einfluss der Arbeitgeberattraktivität auf die Bereitschaft der Teilnahme des Bewerbers an eignungsdiagnostischen Auswahlmethoden im Bewerbungsprozess

Der Einfluss einer Arbeitszeitverkürzung auf die Arbeitgeberattraktivität aus Sicht potenzieller Mitarbeiter

Transaktionale und transformationale Führung von Gruppen – Die Wirkung wahrgenommener Führungssituationen auf das Organizational Citizenship Behaviour

Auswirkungen von Konfundierungsvariablen im Prozess der ethischen Entscheidungsfindung

Der Einfluss von Führungsstilen bei digitalen Arbeitsanforderungen

Zusammenhänge der Tätigkeitsmerkmale mit dem affektiven Commitment - Eine empirische Analyse bei Berufseinsteiger:innen

Mögliche intrinsische Motivationspotenziale im Einzelhandel anhand des Job-Characteristics-Modell

Betriebssport und Work-Life-Balance – Die vermittelnde Funktion der Gruppenkohäsion

Einfluss der Intensität von Telearbeit auf die Mitarbeiterperformanz

Flexible Arbeitszeit - formale und informale Vereinbarungen im Zusammenhang mit Arbeitszufriedenheit

Der Einfluss von Scrum auf die Arbeitgeberattraktivität

PROF. DR. PETER WITT

Herausforderungen nachhaltiger Innovationen in der Wirtschaft

Open Innovation: Kunden in der Neuproduktentwicklung

Open Innovation - Kundenintegration in den Innovationsprozess

Crowdfinanzierung als eine Alternative zu den klassischen Finanzierungsmöglichkeiten

Plattform-Geschäftsmodelle im Zeitalter der digitalen Transformation

Energetisches Quartiersmanagement auf Basis einer Smart City Plattform

Das Potenzial disruptiver Technologien im Bereich Smart Grid

Businessplan eines Start-ups im Bereich Medien und Marketing

Innovationsmanagement in Familienunternehmen

Möglichkeiten der Energiespeicherung von Strom aus Erneuerbaren Energien

Digitale Sprachassistenten – Akzeptierte Alleskönner oder gefürchtete Mithörer

Open Innovation: Kunden in der Neuproduktentwicklung

Die Anwendung von Open Innovation in der Automobilindustrie

Risikocontrolling im Projektmanagement – Welche Tools und Techniken unterstützen den Projektmanager bei der Identifikation, Analyse, Steuerung und Überwachung von Risiken?

Die Implementierung von CSR-Maßnahmen in Unternehmen

Die Wirksamkeit internationaler Klimaschutzmaßnahmen und ihr Einfluss auf die inländische Wirtschaft

Open Innovation: Die Rolle der Kunden in der Neuproduktentwicklung und ihre Wirkung auf Erfolg und Scheitern eines Innovationsprozesses

Eine Analyse von Chancen und Risiken der Kundenintegration in den frühen Phasen des Innovationsprozesses

Nachhaltigkeit in der Wertschöpfungskette von Erstversicherungsunternehmen – Eine Zukunftsperspektive für die ARAG SE

PROF. DR. CHRISTIAN RUPIETTA

Der Einfluss von unternehmerischen Ökosystemen auf die Gründung von Sozialunternehmen

Innovation modes and the internationalization of innovation activities

THESES IN COOPERATION WITH COMPANIES

PROF. DR. CHRISTINE VOLKMANN

Sind alternative Stadionnutzungskonzepte ökonomisch sinnvoll? Eine Machbarkeitsstudie am Beispiel des Wuppertaler Sportvereins (Wuppertaler SV)

Schülerfirmen: Unterstützungsinstrument einer Entrepreneurship Education in deutschen Schulen (OIDR eSG, Opinion Institute de Recherche)

Lean Startup im Cultural Entrepreneurship: Eine Fallstudie zum Tanzstudio Bhavad Dance Academy

Entrepreneurship Education im Bereich moderne Bewegungskunst – Entwicklung eines Förderkonzepts für den Open Space e.V.

Open Government: Eine Studie zur Erwartungshaltung der Bürgerschaft im Hinblick auf die Einführung des Bürgerportals in Wuppertal (Stadt Wuppertal)

Gründung im Kontext strategischer und inkrementeller Planungs- und Steuerungsinstrumente – Über die Kombination von Businessplan und Lean Startup bei der Gründung eines Schulungsunternehmens (Schulungsunternehmen i.G.)

Partielle Digitalisierung als Alternative zu Mittelstand 4.0 – Ein Fallbeispiel anhand der Bergchemie J.C. Bröcking und Co. GmbH

The economic impacts of mobile communication technologies and innovative service evolution in European countries (Vodafone)

Potentiale einer offenen und kollaborativen Kommunikationskultur durch den Aufbau einer (digital gestützten) Kommunikationsinfrastruktur

Kommunikationsinstitutionen in Zusammenarbeit mit der Reflex Winkelmann GmbH

Anwendung von Methoden des Lean Managements und des agilen Projektmanagements auf Kleinstunternehmen am Beispiel OVERVIEW Event Service

Wie reagieren die Crowdfunding-Plattformen auf die pandemiebedingte Krise? Ein Vergleich der Internetauftritte von Crowdfunding-Plattformen seit Beginn der Corona-Krise (SeedMatch)

Entwicklung eines Nachhaltigkeitsrahmens für den Wupperverband: eine empirische Studie (Wupperverband)

Nachhaltigkeitstransformation – Wege in die Zukunft für den Chemikaliengroßhandel (Bergchemie J.C.Bröcking + Co. GmbH)

PROF. DR. PETER WITT

Identifikation von Herausforderungen im Projektmanagement in Kleinunternehmen - Eine Analyse am Beispiel der Hagemann Systems GmbH

Synergieeffekte zwischen Digitalen Out-of-Home und Mobile Advertising am Beispiel der Kinetic Worldwide Germany GmbH.

Explorative Untersuchung zeitorientierter Innovationsstrategien am Beispiel Aptiv

Verbesserung der Qualitätssteuerung im Lieferanten-Netzwerk der BMW Group durch Optimierung des Datenaustauschs auf Basis einer Big Data Cloud Plattform

Optimierung der Containerauslastung für die Mercedes-Benz Sprinter-Lieferkette VS30 Argentinien

Digitalisierung als Treiber für agile Projektmanagementmethoden am Beispiel der Vorwerk Elektrowerke GmbH & Co. KG

Anforderungsanalyse im Robert Bosch Werk Reutlingen 2 - Konzeption eines Anforderungsprofils für Qualitätsingenieure

Digital Leadership – Führung im Zeitalter der Digitalisierung / Audi AG, Audi Brussels S.A./N.V.

HYBRID QCA WORKSHOP IN THE KEEN PROJECT (BUW / KAUNAS / CRANFIELD)

In 2020, the Jackstädt Center offered a PhD workshop with Prof. Dr. Christian Rupietta entitled “Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) in Management Research”.

The event was open to PhD students from the University of Wuppertal as well as from the two partner universities in the KEEN project, Kaunas Technical University and Cranfield University. However, due to the development of the pandemic, it quickly became clear that a planned in-person event in Wuppertal did not seem feasible for all participants. Therefore, the event took place as a hybrid workshop at the University of Wuppertal from September 23rd-24th. PhD students from the University of Wuppertal attended the workshop in a lecture hall at the University of Wuppertal, while a video transmission with Zoom was set up for the participants from the partner universities. Through the transmission into the lecture hall, all participants were able to interact with each other on site and online.

During the first sessions, the basics of QCA as a method were taught and common software packages were presented with small application

examples. A direct connection to the participants' dissertation projects was also planned and the participants exchanged ideas about possible areas of application of the method in their dissertation projects. They did so partly in group work and partly through short presentations followed by discussions, and they developed research designs with QCA. The elaboration of the final report, in which a research question from the dissertation topic of the participants was to be further developed within the framework of a QCA approach, was started interactively and supported, especially on the second day, by the exchange between the participants and the lecturer.

In total, about 20 people participated in the workshop, which was evaluated very positively. Projects from the workshop were further developed into initial working papers and successful submissions to scientific conferences. Therefore, the seminar was planned again for spring 2021 at Kaunas Technical University. This workshop took place in May 2021 and due to the development of the COVID-19 pandemic was offered as an online event as well. —

TRANSFER

The transfer between science and the local industry in the region “Bergisches Land” is a central effort of the Jackstädt Center. In addition to the cooperation with companies within the scope of research and public events, the Jackstädt Center’s directors aim to actively connect students from the University of Wuppertal and regional companies. This is achieved by formats such as the Climathon, the Gründerstammtisch or by collaborating with the local industry in the context of theses and seminars.

STARTUP ACADEMY AND THE PITCH PARTY

In October 2019, the three-month workshop series "bizeps Startup Academy" started at Freiraum. A total of six teams participated by working on the development and implementation of their start-up ideas. They were supported by Freiraum coaches and experts from the field. During the Academy, the teams worked regularly at Freiraum. The bizeps Startup Academy ended with the so-called "Pitch Party" that took place on January 29, 2020, with around

120 spectators. The Academy participants presented their ideas, which they had developed in the previous three months, in front of a large audience and a jury of experts. After the announcement of the winners, all participants, experts, and people interested in start-ups had the opportunity to get to know the Freiraum better, exchange ideas, and celebrate the Startup Academy teams together. —

DIGITAL FUCKUP NIGHT

On June 10th, 2020, Freiraum was the location of the first Bergische Fuckup Night in cooperation with the Teclab of the Wuppertal Technology Center Wtec GmbH. During the events, founders report on their entrepreneurial failures and the lessons they learned from them. Franziska Altenrath, Carina Frings, and

Pieter Stäblein participated as speakers in this first edition. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was held digitally. The 60 participants were able to connect live via YouTube and ask the founders questions. As soon as the situation allows it, the Bergische Fuckup Night will take place again with an audience in the Freiraum. —

PITCHYOURCITY - THE MAYORAL CANDIDATES PITCH THEIR VISION OF THE CITY

In cooperation with the management & policy consulting company Madani & Morgan, the PitchYourCity event took place at Freiraum on September 3, 2020 in the run-up to the municipal elections. The candidates in the mayoral election presented their visions for the city of Wuppertal in a 180-second pitch. The candidates Andreas Mucke, Prof. Dr. Uwe

Schneidewind, and Marcel Hafke were present. Following their pitches, the candidates received feedback from the experts Dr. Carsten Gerhardt, Selly Birane Wane, Detlef Deisler, and Jutta Weitkamp. The event took place with a few guests at Freiraum and was simultaneously streamed on YouTube. —

PITCH BY THE FOUNDER SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

The pitch by the start-up scholarship holders took place on November 18, 2020, as part of the Germany-wide Start-up Week. In addition to the University's Start-up Center, the event was hosted by the STARTERCENTER NRW Wuppertal-Solingen-Remscheid and the Wuppertal Technology Center W-tec GmbH. 55 people attended the digital event, which was broadcasted live from Freiraum. During the event,

four scholarship holders from the Gründerstipendium.NRW presented their business ideas. The audience was able to ask questions and, in the end, voted for Nina Heyder from Team Zelt Zuhause as the winner. After the awards ceremony, it was possible to exchange ideas among like-minded people and to get to know the Freiraum start-up advisors. —

COOPERATION WITH THE OFFICE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITALIZATION WUPPERTAL

On November 17, 2020, the online workshop Digi:Talk took place in cooperation with the Office for Information Technology and Digitalization of Wuppertal. The goal of the workshop was to find ideas of how the city administration can improve through the use of technology. In an interactive workshop, participants were able to reflect on problems in the city administration from their point of view and subsequently develop solutions for the identified problems with the support of the coaches from Freiraum.

In June 2021, a continuation of the format took place: As part of a virtual workshop, use cases and integration possibilities for the Long Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN) were developed together with the participants. LoRaWAN enables energy-efficient and secure transmission of data over long distances. So far, LoRaWAN and similar technologies are mainly used in Wuppertal for building management and traffic monitoring. In the future, these application areas will be expanded. —

START-UP STORIES: THE STORY BEHIND...

The Start-up Center initiated an event series called "Start-up Stories: The story behind..." in the regional ecosystem in 2021. The series offers insights into the development of successful start-ups from different sectors and encourages an exchange between the audience and the

founders. Six start-ups introduced themselves as part of "Start-up Stories" 2021 and inspired the audience with their stories. Afterwards, the participants had the opportunity to ask the founders questions and exchange ideas. —

MEET, GREET AND BEAT

In September 2021, the roadshow for start-ups "Meet, Greet and Beat" of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalization and Energy of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia took place at Freiraum, the academic co-working space of the University of Wuppertal and home of the Start-up Center. Prof. Dr. Andreas Pinkwart opened the event. Those interested in founding a start-up were able to take

advantage of networking opportunities and listen to expert presentations. In addition, five start-ups, which are supported by the Gründerstipendium.NRW, pitched their start-up ideas in front of an audience of around 150 people with the chance of attractive prizes and a place in the final round in Düsseldorf in September 2022. —

BRUTKASTEN - THE INCUBATOR PROGRAM OF THE START-UP CENTER

The Start-up Center's incubator program Brutkasten, which accompanies prospective start-ups for five months on their way to their spin-off, promotes innovative and sustainable ideas. Together with the Wuppertal Institute and Neue

Effizienz, a special sustainability track was developed to provide optimal support for sustainable start-up ideas. In the first run in October 2021, the Start-up Center team and further experts guided 29 founders in 16 teams through the program. —

SEA:START

In cooperation with the Social Entrepreneurship Academy in Munich, the Start-up Center promotes the development of sustainable start-up ideas at the University of Wuppertal. For this purpose, two workshops on the topic of social and sustainable entrepreneurship were held in which participants developed their own social start-up idea. —

EY ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

For more than 30 years, EY (Ernst & Young) has rewarded selected entrepreneurs from over 60 countries for their outstanding entrepreneurial achievements. In Germany, the "Entrepreneur of the Year" award was presented for the 25th time at the Verti Music Hall in Berlin on 4th November 2021.

Despite the economic challenges, a particularly large number of successful medium-sized companies and start-ups applied for the "Entrepreneur of The Year" award in 2021, all distinguished by their entrepreneurial performance, employee management, innovation, and future potential.

Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann was once again part of the independent jury that evaluated the 75 nominees in the categories of innovation, sustainability, family businesses, and young companies in 2021. Prof. Dr. Volkmann was invited as a guest of honor and a laudatory speaker. She gave the laudatory speech for the award winner in the Family Business category. The award was presented to Dürr Dental, an enterprise which has been developing and producing highly innovative system solutions for the dental market for eight decades. —



Entrepreneur of the Year Award Ceremony (Photo: Matthias Rüby)

GRÜNDERPREIS NRW



Gründerpreis NRW Jury (Foto: NRW.BANK / Udo Geisler)

In 2020, the NRW Business Start-Up Award presented by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and NRW.BANK honored the most creative and successful business ideas in North Rhine-Westphalia for the ninth time. The awards ceremony was held virtually due to the Covid-19 pandemic. An eight-member jury chaired by Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann screened all submissions, nominated ten start-ups from 150 applications, and selected the winners of the GRÜNDERPREIS NRW 2020. The selection criteria include, among others, entrepreneurial success, the number of jobs created, the creativity of the business idea, the compatibility of work and family life, ecological responsibility, and social commitment.

In 2020, Martin Plutz, Dr. Markus Große Böckmann, and Philipp Siebenkotten won the award. Their start-up Oculavis offers B2B augmented reality solutions to support processes in maintenance and repair, customer service or quality assurance. NRW has a unique worldwide start-up potential. The central intention of the NRW Business

Start-Up Award is to tap into this potential and thus make an elementary contribution to the sustainable development of society.

On 29 November 2021, the tenth GRÜNDERPREIS NRW was celebrated with an awards ceremony at the K21 in Düsseldorf's Ständehaus. The awards ceremony was held in a reduced form due to the high number of Covid cases. The laudators, nominees, and initiators were on site, while the event was broadcasted for spectators simultaneously via livestream.

In her role as jury chair, Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann announced: "Founders and successors are the engine for innovation and structural change. In this sense, start-ups as well as successor companies play a central role in the development of North Rhine-Westphalia as a business location. After the takeover, it is important that a breath of fresh air is carried into the companies." She then explicitly encouraged all successors from different economic sectors to

apply for the NRW Business Start-Up Award.

Schüttflix GmbH from Gütersloh took first place, which came with prize money of 30,000 euros. The founders Christian Hülsewig and Thomas Hagedorn convinced the jury with an app that significantly simplifies transport

in the construction industry. Anyone who wants to transport bulk goods can use the digital platform to find partners who can sell and deliver the desired material at the desired time. The systematic networking of supply and demand saves time and costs while simultaneously reducing the emission of climate-damaging CO₂. ■

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

In order to ensure the Jackstädt Center's financial viability in a sustainable way, raising external funding remains a continual concern. By financing an additional assistant professorship, the University of Wuppertal has contributed significantly to the center's sustainability. In the following section, fund-raising activities that provide an insight into the successful work of the past two years are highlighted.



FUNDS BY THE EUROPEAN UNION



KEEN - KNOWLEDGE EMPOWERED ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK

The KEEN project between the Kaunas University of Technology (KTU) in Lithuania and the universities of St. Gallen, Cranfield and Wuppertal started in 2018. After fruitful meetings and first insights generated in 2019, the network built upon these in the years of 2020 and 2021.

In August 2020, the first KEEN PhD seminar was held, where PhD students from fifteen different countries presented their current projects and received feedback from KEEN researchers. Furthermore, the first joint book project was initiated in 2020. In cooperation with the FGF (Förderkreis Gründungs-Forschung e.V.) and the Springer publishing house the book with the title: "Artificiality and sustainability in Entrepreneurship" will be published in the course of this year.

In the year 2021 the 2nd KEEN PhD Colloquium took place with the guiding topic "Relational Strategies for Sustainable Digital Entrepreneurship". The IEEE research conference (International Conference on Technology and Entrepreneurship "Leading Digital Transformation in Business and Society") hosted by KEEN members in August 2021 attracted 226 participants from 38 countries. KEEN partners offered an own track with multiple sessions and a

professional development workshop with the topic „Digital Pedagogy in Entrepreneurship: Implications for the Practice“. The project ended in November 2021.

The network will sustain after the project and focus on building capacities to develop public engagement in entrepreneurship research in low-innovativeness level EU countries such as Lithuania. The network will allow 1) to co-create more socially-relevant research with multiple actors such as policy makers, citizens, industrials or NGOs; 2) improve access by the public to research results; and 3) foster entrepreneurship policy development more in phase with the needs and expectations of the society. The KEEN project and afterward network will implement measures focusing on knowledge and skill development, research collaboration, engagement with stakeholders, and support of entrepreneurial initiative with relevant academic knowledge. Compared with existing entrepreneurship-support initiatives, the innovative aspect of KEEN is to focus on transfer of research knowledge to the society, which in return allows the society to be more involved in research orientation. —

EEWE - PEER-LEARNING ACTIVITIES IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION AND IN WOMAN ENTREPRENEURSHIP



The EEWE project has the main objective of disseminating and transferring best practices and knowledge on entrepreneurship education and women entrepreneurship. The Chair of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development of the University of Wuppertal teamed up with key public and private partners in 2019 and can look back on successful peer-learning workshops. In 2020 and 2021, the consortium under leadership of the empirica GmbH continued with these events.

The second Women's Entrepreneurship Workshop took place in November 2020. In a three-day workshop, 41 experts from 23 European countries worked together on policy recommendations to strengthen female entrepreneurship. The workshop participants developed eight measures, identified supporting factors and obstacles, as well as the most important stakeholders to successfully implement the measures.

The third Peer Learning Workshop in Women's Entrepreneurship (WE3 WS)

was held in March 2021 in a virtual format. The workshop program was designed as a one-day intensive work format with group work, plenary sessions, and panel discussions. In total, the workshop gathered 58 participants from 27 EU countries, representing both ministries and business associations, investors, NGOs, entrepreneurs, and female entrepreneurship experts. Combined with a series of preparatory virtual meetings, a total of 82 participants took part in this series of events.

The third Entrepreneurship Education Workshop was also held in March 2021. The content of the workshop focused on the finalization of the policy recommendation. A total of 160 experts from all EU countries participated in this workshop series, including preparatory virtual meetings.

The EEWE project ended in summer 2021 and various reports on the promotion of entrepreneurship education and women entrepreneurship in Europe were published. —



PROJECT EXIST POTENTIALS

Within the BMWi's university competition "EXIST-Potentiale", the University of Wuppertal was awarded for its introduction of a university-wide start-up center. This makes the University of Wuppertal one of 142 winners funded by the "Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie" (BMWi, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy). In this context, the fact that an entrepreneurial infrastructure had already been established at the University of Wuppertal in the form of the Freiraum was seen very positively. With € 1.9 million in funding, innovative start-up potentials are to be developed and thus the number of university spin-offs will be increased.

Through topic-specific funding, the University of Wuppertal now has the opportunity to further develop its offers and set new impulses for the implementation of start-up-promoting measures on a broad scale. The funding started in June 2020 and will continue until May 2024.

The Start-up Center, which was created as a result of the funding, is considered a central operating unit of the University of Wuppertal and is the central contact point for students, employees and graduates of the university who are interested in starting a business. The center is located in the Freiraum venue. ■

START-UP CONSULTING

The start-up consulting service offers support to members of the university with a concrete idea for a start-up. The counseling normally takes place in the Freiraum. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it had to be conducted digitally in 2020 and most of 2021. During individual consulting, founders are mainly supported in the validation of their business models and in their applications for funding and scholarships. One example is the "Röntgenvideoanalyse" (X-ray video analysis) project: graduates Sercan Atesgolu, Andre Stenzel, and Thorsten Wuthe took advantage of the Start-up Center's consulting service at the Freiraum. The Start-up Center accompanied the three founders and helped them to successfully apply for the "Start-up Transfer.NRW" funding program. During the application process, the three founders used the Freiraum to work on their project. The start-up idea is based on an innovative process that enables the non-destructive testing of movable building components. The process was developed by Sercan Atesoglu as part of his master's thesis at the Institute for Security Systems. The

founders were able to convince supporters of the potential of their project and will be funded with about € 237,000 from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the state of North Rhine-Westphalia for 14 months.

In 2021, the team "Funktion*" received funding of € 130,000 with the support of the Start-up Center. The founders Pascal Stüsser, Maurice Bray, and Pascal Fahrentrapp will receive the EXIST Gründerstipendium (start-up funding) from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy for one year. The aim of the project Funktion* is to develop a technology platform that enables manufacturers to implement smart textiles with little development effort, at low cost, and with high functional added value. The team is currently developing its fourth prototype, approaching manufacturers, and looking for potential investors. The founders can now use the funding from the EXIST program to concentrate fully on their project. The Start-up Center will continue to support the team in their future development. —

PROJECT WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN SCIENCE

As part of the Excellence Start-up Center.NRW initiative of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, the University of Wuppertal will receive funding of around two million euros over the next four years for the "Women Entrepreneurs in Science" (WES) project. The goal of this funding is to advance support for female founders and women interested in founding a company from universities in North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW).

During the project, the university aims to increase the start-up intentions of female students, graduates, and employees of universities in NRW. This also contributes to the goals of the state government's "New Start-up Era", which outlines that the proportion of female founders should be increased to 33 percent by 2025. With a funding volume of around two million euros, the project is the second project acquired for the furtherance of the university's start-up support alongside the EXIST-Potentiale project. The project started in July 2020.

The aim of the project is to establish an NRW-wide network for female founders, women interested in starting a business, mentors, and supporters. The universities in NRW are meant to act as multipliers in order to reach female students, employees,

and graduates of the universities. The WES network already consists of 20 universities in NRW and many female founders who act as role models. Some of them have already spoken openly about their start-up journeys in various event formats (e.g., Women Entrepreneurs in Science Circle, Female Founder Stories, podcasts, etc.) and have subsequently entered into an exchange with participants from the events.

The WES project officially launched at the end of November 2020 with a major kick-off event. Since then, further digital events have taken place, such as the monthly WES Circle, where founders and women interested in starting a business can get in touch. In addition, events and workshops were held in cooperation with universities in North Rhine-Westphalia. These include "YOUR PURPOSE – Gestalte deinen Weg", "NO LIMITS - Du hast das Zeug zum Gründen" and "LET'S START – Erste Schritte einer Gründung!", which are aimed at women who are interested in starting a business. As soon as the situation allows it, the Freiraum will again serve as a location for events and thus bring together many female founders, women interested in starting a company and experts. —

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS IN SCIENCE SUMMIT

Once a year, the University of Wuppertal will invite both female and mixed teams from all NRW universities to the "Women Entrepreneurs in Science Summit". The teams will have the opportunity to present themselves at booths, have personal conversations with entrepreneurs, mentors, investors and supporters and pitch in front of

invited guests. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the first summit took place as a hybrid event for female founders from NRW universities with workshops on the topic of financing in October 2021. —

WES-MENTORING-PROGRAMM

In autumn 2021, the WES Mentor Program kicked off to support female start-up scholars in North Rhine-Westphalia. It consists of a combination of digital and analogue offers that support female founders from their initial idea through building a prototype to acquiring funding and the actual start-up. Each team of female founders is assigned a mentor. —

<https://www.wes.uni-wuppertal.de/>



COLLABORATION FOR SCALING SOCIAL INNOVATION

In the context of the “Social Innovation”-Tender of the Trans-Atlantic Platform (T-AP), the Jackstädt Center joined forces with international project partners from Queen’s University (Canada) and the University of Groningen (Netherlands) in a consortium to research how to better scale social innovations. As a collaborative of transatlantic social and humanitarian scholars, T-AP, in cooperation with national funding organizations, calls for research on societal challenges. The Jackstädt Center was granted approximately € 360,000 over three years by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research for a research project on social innovations. These funds will be deployed to gain insights into possibilities, constraints, and frictions when it comes to the scaling of social innovations. The official start of the project was in September 2020.

The project is divided into three areas: First, the social innovation itself and its components, as well as determining factors that allow scaling. Second, intra-organizational factors, which may hinder or favor scaling. Third,

inter-organizational factors influencing scaling success. The focus is upon the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, especially on the use of “affordable and clean energy”.

In 2020, after a kick-off event in October, literature reviews were conducted on the three research areas mentioned above. In 2021, the research team developed plans for data collection and analysis. The team is also eliciting possibilities for more cooperation with project partners from the industry.

Ms. Coenen and Mr. Thomanek presented their research and first results at the International Social Innovation Research Conference (ISIRC) in September 2021. Read more about this in chapter 03 on page 41. For 2022, the team plans further visits to international research conferences, where current results will be presented and discussed. —

OUTLOOK



CIRCULAR VALLEY

Circular Valley is an initiative in which early-stage circular economy start-ups are taken to the next level within four months. For this purpose, the program establishes contacts with customers, conducts market testing, and establishes contact with potential investors. The Circular Valley Foundation is backing the Circular Valley Accelerator program.

The UNESCO Chair is in close cooperation with the newly founded Circular Valley Accelerator and the Circular Valley Foundation. The UNESCO Chair has already been able to support the initiators of the

Accelerator in the early conception phase. Since then, there has been a regular exchange for the further development of the cooperation. Among other things, Prof. Dr. Volkmann participated in the kick-off event for the first batch, several workshops, and the Demo Day. In the future, it is planned that the companies from the Circular Valley will also exhibit at the "Sustainable Summit" at the Start-up Center and that the Start-up Center will offer workshops for Circular Valley. More extensive accompanying research projects are also currently being planned. —

EVENTS IN THE FREIRAUM

The academic co-working space offers people interested in founding a place to work on their ideas and projects. On more than 450 m², individual and group workstations, conference rooms, an event space and rooms for workshops are available. With a view across the Wupper River, future founders can network, exchange ideas and get inspired. The consultants of the Start-up Center are available to answer questions and provide support. In 2020 and 2021, in addition to the events already mentioned, further

events were held in Freiraum as part of the EXIST project Start-up Center. For example, the "Ideenschmiede" workshop series took place, in which participants were given an insight into the design thinking process and could apply it in interdisciplinary teams to develop initial start-up ideas. In addition, the first edition of the event series "Start-up Stories" took place. In this series, founders report on their start-up process and offer participants the opportunity to ask questions about the start-up. —

COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATION: 200 YEARS IN THE SERVICE OF AN IDEA – STADTSPARKASSE WUPPERTAL

2022 is a year of important anniversaries for Wuppertal. Not only the University of Wuppertal and the Westdeutscher Rundfunk (West German Broadcasting) can celebrate their 50th anniversary, but also the Stadtparkasse Wuppertal (public savings bank of Wuppertal), which was founded 200 years ago. The Stadtparkasse Wuppertal and University of Wuppertal are closely connected by numerous cooperations and support formats, but above all by the fact that both institutions feel particularly committed to the common good of the region.

A few years ago, as the anniversary of the Stadtparkasse Wuppertal approached, a meeting was held under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Christine Volkmann from the University of Wuppertal to explore and plan joint activities. A central idea was born here, namely the development of a festschrift which, among other things, should comprehensively capture the public-good character and the history of the Stadtparkasse Wuppertal. In the course of time, a project team was formed with Tobias Rabenau, Wolfgang Kuhn and Patrick Schneider, which was soon to embark on years of research and authoring.

The resulting and richly illustrated work was completed in 2021. It starts

with a conceptual essay on central questions about the concept of prosperity and what can be specifically understood by the slogan "Good life in Wuppertal". This is followed by a detailed outline of the history of the Stadtparkasse Wuppertal, divided into the epochs "Foundation of the savings banks in Elberfeld and Barmen", "Growth and professionalization", "Modernity and fusion", "National Socialism and post-war period" and "The new era of the savings bank". A further focus is then placed on the so-called spheres of activity of the Stadtparkasse Wuppertal. Within the inner sphere of activity, the organization of the savings bank and its employees is discussed, while the middle sphere of activity focuses on private and corporate customers, and the outer sphere of activity finally focuses on the community. In particular, support activities in the social sphere, education, art and culture, sport, the city and the environment are addressed. Finally, the festschrift is framed by outlining future perspectives and summarizing the impact of Stadtparkasse Wuppertal on the development of prosperity in Wuppertal. —

Source: 200 Jahre im Dienste einer Idee – Stadtparkasse Wuppertal (2022).

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