

NEWSLETTER MARCH, 2022

LSM RETREAT 2021

“Job applications and interviews in and outside academia : Understanding standards - developing a personal approach”

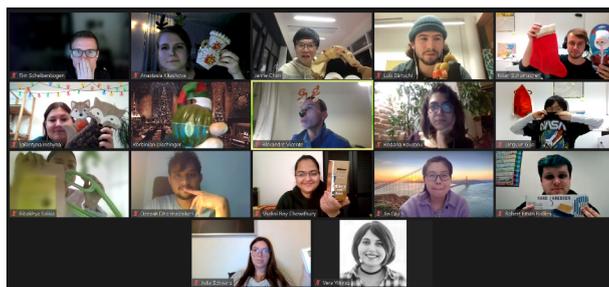
Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this year's retreat took place online via Zoom. Together with the two invited speakers Dr. Simon Golin and M.Sc Viola Kraus, we discussed and learned more about job applications and interviews in and outside academia. Helpful advises of how to prepare competitive curriculum vitae and how to deal with questions during the challenging time of interviews were included in the workshop. We thank both speakers for the nice learning atmosphere and all helpful discussion.

Additionally, we all had the chance to exchange our scientific achievements in form of short talks and poster sections.



It was a nice opportunity to get new ideas and feedback from the others. Last but not least, the social committee prepared several activities to make things more fun and pleasant. We played Picture Me, Gartic Phone, pictictionary and different quizzes. In the end, keeping up with the COVID-19 rules of hygiene, we gathered in a Biergarten to celebrate a successful retreat. We would like to thank all the organizers and Korbinian for the great retreat and the fun time together via Zoom.

LSM CHRISTMAS PARTY 2021



The LSM Christmas Party of 2021 was a fun event that was held online and organized by Korbinian and the members of the Council. The students of LSM got a chance to participate in "Schrottwichteln"- a special German Secret Santa tradition, where you exchange gifts that are 'out of the ordinary'. This was accompanied with exciting games and people learning about interesting traditions from various countries. A true integration of the international community, this event indeed was a jolly celebration of togetherness.

BEST TALK PRIZE



Alexandre Vicente
(AG Leister)



Felix Thoma
(AG Osman)



Tim Scheibenbogen
(AG Schwenkert)

BEST POSTER PRIZE



Simon Ullrich
(AG Solovei)



Klara Hinrichsmeyer and Lena Zobel
(AG Biel, AG Michalakakis)



Kilian Schumacher
(AG Jung)

THE 2021 PUBLICATION PRIZE

Florian Dunker won the Publication Prize for his scientific work: "Oomycete small RNAs bind to the plant RNA-induced silencing complex for virulence". eLife. 2020
doi: 10.7554/eLife.56096

Upcoming LSM Courses:

All courses are online!

18-19 January

Conflict Management by
Sabine Lerch

7-9 February and 14-5 February

Statistics in R

7-11 March

Good Manufacturing Practice
(GMP in English)

15-16 March

Job applications in & outside
academia by Golin
Wissenschaftsmanagement

28-29 April

Affinity Designer with Andreas
Binder

19-20 May

Scientific Writing by Brian
Cusack

7-10 June

Python with Nick del Grosso

ALUMNI INTERVIEW

Dr. Annabel Dischinger

Where are you working now? Could you please shortly describe your current position?

I currently work as the biotech team lead in research and development at Urganow. Urganow is a biotechnological Startup in the field of urban gardening based in Leipzig that aims to bring the experience of growing and harvesting your own plants directly to your home - fully automated and sustainable. At Urganow I investigate and develop the technical and conceptual periphery of urban gardening with a focus on sustainable hydroponics.

In addition, I freelance as a workshop leader and educator at BIOTOPIA Lab in Munich. BIOTOPIA Lab is a dynamic exhibition space and event platform for experimental workshops for kids as well as adults at the interface of science, art, design and culture.

In my free time, I pursue social and innovative projects with the goal to start a social enterprise myself to eventually become my own boss.

LSM council is looking for new members!

The LSM student council represents all graduate students within the LSM. In our monthly meetings we discuss news concerning the LSM curriculum, organize social activities and keep you all updated with this newsletter. New members are always welcome to the student council any time!

For more information contact:
A.Kitashova@campus.lmu.de

Call for publications

On the LSM website you can find a list of all publications of LSM students. In case your publication is not listed yet, please send it to:
Kilian.Schumacher@lmu.de

How did being part of the LSM help you find or adjust to your current position? How can you apply the experiences gained throughout your doctoral studies?

I have always enjoyed the community of LSM students the most. Building a network of friends and colleagues during the PhD is incredibly valuable. Of course, the diverse courses at LSM have also helped. Especially social and soft skills are more and more in demand in industry if you want to lead teams yourself.

What is your general advice for current LSM students?

I would advise all PhD students to share more and help each other more. I know that during your PhD you often have very little time and can lose sight of not only your colleagues but also yourself. Nevertheless, I think there is a lot within the academic structure that should change. And this change can only be achieved as a community.

And have fun with your work. If you don't have it, then you'd better do something else. Time is limited and we should not waste it with stuff we don't really like. Just because you have a degree in a certain subject doesn't mean you can't be successful in other areas. I think very few people today will work the same job their whole life.



What is your motto of life?

This is a very difficult question. Even more so, I'm not really a fan of mottos. However, I like the adventurer Rüdiger Nehberg's sentence that "no one is too small or worthless to change the world". For me, that starts in small ways, with oneself. We as humanity are facing great challenges to which current structures and ways of life no longer fit. I like the idea that you can constantly change small things. Taken together, it adds up to a new, better version of our world.

Mental Health Support from the LSM

LSM offers support for PhD students who are mentally distressed in their personal and professional lives.

This support involves:

1. Mentoring and Career Guidance
2. Cultural and social change
3. Lack of work-life balance

This support is achieved via our 2 volunteers, **Dr. Annabel Dischinger** and **Dr. Mauricio Toro-Nahuelpan**, who may be able to guide and nudge you in the right direction, and direct you to a professional, if required.

Additionally, we have an Ombudsperson, **Dr. Noemie Becker**, who offers neutral, confidential and independent students' counselling for resolution of sensitive conflicts in the workplace.

For help, email her at nbecker@bio.lmu.de.

For additional information regarding help with mental health issues, email A.Kitashova@campus.lmu.de and lsm@biologie.uni-muenchen.de

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LSM Alumni group

Feel free to join our new LSM Alumni group on LinkedIn! In this group, all LSM students can stay in touch and exchange ideas about career, PhD and other topics. This is not only good for professional networking, but also for our growing LSM community.

If you have any interesting content that you want us to share, please send it to: sharma@bio.lmu.de