

THE MICROVERSE

Vol. 01

www.microverse-cluster.de

Jena | 08/2019

NEW BUILDING FOR THE MICROVERSE CLUSTER



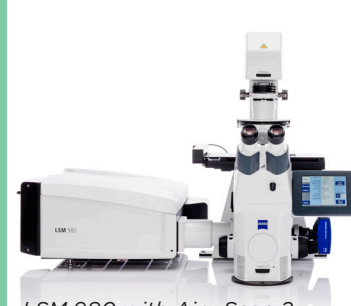
The Joint Science Conference (GWK) announced its final decision on the financing of our Microverse Center on July 5th. The 4,900 square meter research center will become the core premises of our Cluster. It will provide the research infrastructure for the new Cluster research groups and the Microverse Imaging Center. These new laboratories and networking spaces at the southern side of the Beutenberg Campus will promote the interdisciplinary collaboration and support intensive intellectual exchange. Construction will start in 2021 and is planned to be completed in 2024.

LENSES TO VIEW THE MICROVERSE

The first two microscopes for our Microverse Imaging Center will arrive at the end of September. Funded by the Free State of Thuringia, we receive a confocal laser scanning microscope and a multimodal high resolution fluorescence microscope. They will be located at the FSU Center for Applied Research (ZAF) until the new Microverse Center is finished and will be accessible to Microverse members. For more information contact Dr. Aurélie Jost, Head of the Microverse Imaging Center (aurelie.jost@uni-jena.de).



Elyra 7



LSM 980 with Airy Scan 2

FOUR NEW PROFESSORSHIPS

The Professorships *Biostructural Interactions*, *Microbiome Dynamics*, *Viral Ecology* and *Theoretical Microbial Ecology* are now being advertised (Deadline for applications 23rd Sept). **Save the date:** The candidate lectures will be grouped in a public Microverse Symposium from December 9-12, 2019. For more information on the professorship vacancies visit microverse-cluster.de/professorships.

WE ARE EXPANDING



The Cluster is further looking for a junior group leader to head a group on Causal Inference (microverse-cluster.de/jobs, Deadline 23rd Sept).

Since the beginning of the year, seven Postdocs and twelve doctoral researchers have been recruited for Microverse projects. **A warm welcome to all new early career researchers!**

The second Microverse recruitment call has just been closed with 460 applications for 11 open positions. The next joint recruitment meetings of the Microverse Cluster and the JSMC will take place on 27th August and 12th-13th September.

LEGAL ENLIGHTENMENT

The cooperation agreement was signed by all ten research institutions participating in the Cluster. The forwarding agreement is currently being signed to enable parts of the Cluster funding to be passed on from the FSU to non-university institutes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019

4th September

Representatives of the DFG visit our Microverse Cluster

TBD - September

Microverse Research Data Stewardship Workshop

5th November

Microverse Kick-off Meeting

22th November

Long Night of Sciences in Jena with participation of the Microverse Cluster

9th-12th December

Microverse Symposium with lectures by the professorship candidates

2020

31st August - 3rd September

Microverse I - Microbial and Biomolecular Interactions: Joint International Symposium of the Microverse Cluster and the CRC ChemBioSys in Jena

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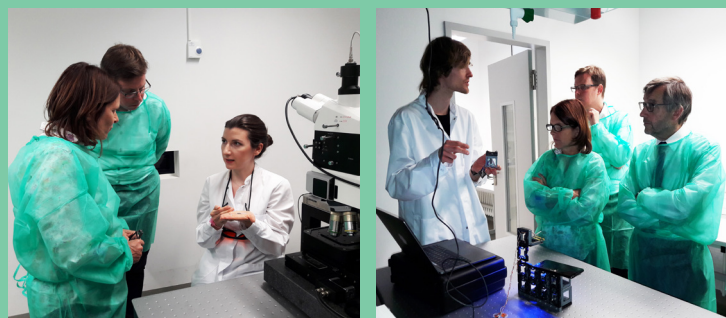
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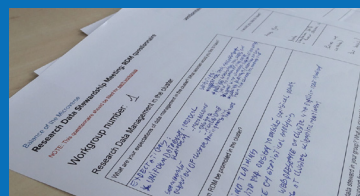
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FIRST VISIT BY THE DFG

Dr. Regina Nickel and Uwe David from the DFG visited our Microverse Cluster on September 4th. The executive board presented research highlights and milestones during the launch of our Cluster. We visited biophotonics laboratories at the ZAF, where the two new microscopes of the Microverse Imaging Center are being installed. This was followed by discussions with president Prof. Rosenthal, the Cluster management and representatives of the JSMC.



RESEARCH DATA STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP



Data management is crucial to gain synoptic insights into the Microverse from the highly diverse data sets generated within our Cluster. Members of the different research groups came together with data management and analysis experts from the Cluster and the university computing center on September 25th to discuss the management and sharing of data beyond institutional boundaries. Results from this brainstorming will be jointly discussed at the kick-off meeting.

COMING UP: MICROVERSE KICK-OFF MEETING ON NOVEMBER 5th

We cordially invite the Microverse faculty, together with the new postdoctoral and doctoral researchers of the Cluster, to a full-day project meeting on November 5th. We will discuss current affairs in the Cluster and give an overview of the planned projects. The afternoon is reserved for discussions among individual project groups to organize forthcoming collaborations. Please save the date, we will circulate a program shortly.

THE MICROVERSE AND JSMC MANAGEMENT OFFICE INTRODUCES ITSELF

Feel free to contact us in all administrative matters regarding your Cluster research projects, our Microverse early career program and international scientists exchange program. We also invite you to inform us about your research highlights and are happy to support you with news articles and outreach activities. We would like to introduce Roman Witt, who joined our Cluster management team in October as scientific coordinator.



Dr. Angela Köhler
Microverse Manager
angela.koehler@microverse-cluster.de
03641 532-1320



Dr. Roman Witt
Scientific Coordinator
roman.witt@microverse-cluster.de
03641 532-1245



Alena Gold
Communication
alena.gold@microverse-cluster.de
03641 532-1317



Dr. Hendrik Huthoff
JSMC Manager
hendrik.huthoff@uni-jena.de
New phone number:
03641 9-49 540



Katja Präfcke
Administrative Manager
katja.praefcke@jsmc.info
New phone number:
03641 9-49 541

ANNOUNCEMENTS IN A NUTSHELL

Please acknowledge funding in your Microverse Cluster publications as follows: Funded by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) under Germany's Excellence Strategy - EXC 2051 - Project-ID 390713860.

Microverse intranet is under development: In the intranet you will soon be able to find the templates, bylaws and information for Cluster members, amongst other things.

Microverse Symposium: The lectures by the candidates for the new Microverse professorships will take place on December 9th-12th.

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NETWORKING AT THE MICROVERSE KICK-OFF DAY

On November 5, we had our Cluster kick-off meeting with the PIs and the new postdoctoral and doctoral researchers who have started their work on the Microverse projects. After a project overview presented by the Research Area coordinators, a speed dating session facilitated the introduction of new members and first networking. The organization in project subgroups and a strategy for research data management in the Cluster were jointly discussed. In the afternoon, the different project subgroups brainstormed ideas and discussed the forthcoming collaborations. We thank all 79 participants who contributed to this successful kick-off event!



WELCOME TO THE MICROVERSE INTRANET

All Microverse members are now warmly welcome to register and visit the intranet at www.microverse-cluster.de. In the intranet you will find Microverse-relevant files, including a member contact list, bylaws, research data management guidelines, information on the Microverse Imaging Center and our Early Career Program, as well as publications, templates and photos. The Microverse management team will regularly update the content and is happy to assist if you have any questions or would like to share files via the intranet.

SYMPOSIUM WITH PROFESSORSHIP CANDIDATES



Eleven candidates for the three new professorships Biostructural Interactions, Viral Ecology and Theoretical Microbial Ecology were invited to a Microverse Symposium from December 9-11. They presented their latest research and gave public trial lectures. In addition to the candidate presentations, we were fortunate to have Prof Matthew Sullivan (Ohio State University) and Microverse guest professor Leo Eberl (University of Zurich) as invited guest lecturers at the symposium.

MICROVERSE 2019 - AN EVENTFUL FIRST YEAR

An exciting first year is coming to an end. We have achieved important milestones in implementing our new Cluster: We have grown a lot by recruiting 33 doctoral and postdoctoral researchers and we have started the Microverse projects. We were also pleased to obtain funding for a new research building for the Cluster. The Microverse Imaging Center has acquired the first microscopes. Last but not least, we have initiated the appointment procedure for the new professorships to be established in the heart of Microverse.

We thank you all for your engagement and valuable contributions!

It was an eventful year and we are already looking forward to the next one. In 2020, we will host our first international conference: Microverse I - Microbial and Biomolecular Interactions. Please save the date: September 1-3, 2020, in Jena.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

