Agreement signed with the rectorate

The Graduate School BuildMoNa was founded more than ten years ago as part of the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal and State Governments and was funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). From November 2017 on BuildMoNa has been permanently established as “Graduate School” within the Research Academy Leipzig. The agreement (“Zielvereinbarung”) between BuildMoNa, the rectorate of Universität Leipzig and the three main faculties forming BuildMoNa was signed beginning of March 2019. The agreement and the new regulations of the Graduate School can be found in the intranet of the BuildMoNa webpage. 55 doctoral students are presently conducting their doctoral studies within the graduate school. According to the new regulations, the supervisors of the doctoral candidates accepted in the Graduate School are automatically members of BuildMoNa; these are 16 professors presently.

Election of Speaker/Vice-Speaker and Board of the Graduate School

During the meeting of the Principal Investigators of BuildMoNa on 20 June 2019, the coordinator and speaker, Prof. Dr. Marius Grundmann, and deputy speaker, Prof. Dr. Evamarie Hey-Hawkins, were elected for the period 1/11/2019 – 31/10/2021. Prof. Grundmann is on sabbatical for the winter semester 2019/20 and Prof. Hey-Hawkins will represent the Graduate School during this time. The new Board of the Graduate School was also elected during the meeting. The members of the Board are: Prof. Dr. R. Gläser (Faculty of Chemistry and Mineralogy), Prof. Dr. F. Cichos (Faculty of Physics and Earth Sciences), Prof. Dr. A. Beck-Sickinger (Faculty of Life Sciences), Prof. Dr. D. Huster (Medical Faculty), Prof. Dr. B. Abel (Leibniz Institute of Surface Engineering, IOM), Prof. Dr. A. Schmid (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, UFZ), Prof. Dr. F. Otto (Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences, MPI MIS).

12th Annual BuildMoNa Conference

This year’s Annual BuildMoNa Conference took place on 18/19 March providing a platform for interdisciplinary exchange and discussion (https://www.buildmona.de/events/past/).

Inspiring presentations were given by external speakers as well as BuildMoNa members selected and invited by the doctoral researchers of the Graduate School. The topics ranged from spectroscopic techniques, organic electrochemistry, multicatalytic transformations, genetically encoded chemical tools to single-molecule sensing. The BuildMoNa Awards were given to doctoral candidates to recognise their outstanding scientific achievements: Max Kneiß (Felix Bloch Institute for Solid State Physics), Marta Gozzi and Benedikt Schwarze (Institute of Inorganic Chemistry). During the meeting of the doctoral candidates that took place at the end of the conference the representatives of the doctoral candidates in the Board of BuildMoNa were elected: Astrid Weidt (Leibniz Institute of Surface Engineering, IOM) and Florian Scheffler (Faculty of Physics and Earth Sciences).
The major objective of the scientific and methods modules offered by BuildMoNa is interdisciplinary knowledge transfer in important fields of materials science including essential related methods. In 2019, 5 modules are offered:

2019-T1 Smart Molecules – Light-Controlled Chemistry of Metal Complexes

2019-A3 Transparent Conductive Oxides – Fundamentals and Applications

2019-A2 Chemical Biology and Biophysics of Cancer

2019-T4 From Molecules to Materials – Quantum Mechanics at Work: Quantum Systems for Applications

2019-B2 Basic Concepts in Biochemistry

The module Transparent Conductive Oxides – Fundamentals and Applications will be organised by the research group of Prof. Dr. M. Grundmann as the tenth BuildMoNa symposium. It will bring together researchers from the worldwide pioneering groups focused on modern transparent functional materials, from fabrication through material physics to applications (https://research.uni-leipzig.de/hlp/TCO2019/).

The registration for the modules T1, A2 and A3 is open. More information on the graduate school training programme and registration can be found here: https://www.buildmona.de/training/modules/.

Several doctoral candidates defended their dissertations and completed their doctoral studies in the past three months:

**Susann Liedke-Grüner**, 1 March 2019, “Sculptured metal films” (Prof. Dr. B. Rauschenbach)

**Marta Gozzi**, 21 March 2019, “Nido-carbaborate complexes as cytotoxic agents” (Prof. Dr. E. Hey-Hawkins)

**Peter Coburger**, 25 April 2019, “1,2-Dicarba-closo-dodecaborane(12) as scaffold for the development of new ligands with application in homogeneous catalysis” (Prof. Dr. E. Hey-Hawkins)

**Research Academy Leipzig**

**Competence School Workshops in English in July 2019:**

- Thesis Defense Training – 01/02 July
- Finish it! How to finalise your dissertation – 02 July
- How to write a competitive DFG-proposal – 03 July
- How to become a professor - How to structure your postdoc – 05 July
- Managing your PHD project – 05/12 July
- Good Scientific Practice – 09 July

**Coffee Conversations – 13 July**

**Doctorate’s Day – 26 September**


**Important dates**

**BuildMoNa report 2017**

The BuildMoNa annual report 2017 is in press. The electronic version of the report can be downloaded using the following link:

https://www.buildmona.de/researchprofile/reports/

**ProRat Sommergrillen (summer barbecue)**

25 July, garden of Villa Tilmanns (Wächterstraße 30): https://www.prorat.uni-leipzig.de/blog/2017/05/05/prorat-sommergrillen/. All PhD students are welcome.

**ABC 2019**

The next Annual BuildMoNa Conference is taking place at the Faculty of Chemistry and Mineralogy on 23/24 March 2019.

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