



Zukunftskolleg Symposium

After-conference Symposium

2 July 2022, Konstanz Spiegelhalle

Did you ever wonder what it is like to do top-notch research in your discipline, but also being part of an interdisciplinary community? Ever thought that for doing your research you would need access to seed-funding for experiments beyond your project? When do you consider making your move into building your own independent research profile, and where would be the best place to go?

In this after-conference symposium, we welcome a small group of outstanding researchers from across the world to

get to know the Department of Chemistry of the University of Konstanz, in Southern Germany, and the Zukunftskolleg: an Institute for Advanced Studies that opens calls for Post-doctoral Fellows (2-years) and Research Fellows (5-years) every summer.

Do apply and join us for an exciting work group and symposium. As the director of the Zukunftskolleg, it will be my honour to welcome you to Konstanz!

Prof. Dr. Giovanni Galizia

(Chair of Zoology and Neurobiology at the University of Konstanz,
Director of the Zukunftskolleg at the University of Konstanz)





Prof. Dr. Andreas Marx

Full professor at the University of Konstanz since 2004, Chair of Organic Chemistry/ Cellular Chemistry.

He studied chemistry at the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (DE), University of Sussex (UK) and at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum. He received his doctorate from the University of Basel and was a post-doc at the University of Nagoya (Japan).

Andreas Marx' research is located at the interfaces of biology, chemistry and applied, molecular biological applications. In short, he deals with the synthesis of functional biomolecules, such as nucleotides, oligonucleotides, proteins and enzymes. In particular, his research results on modified

nucleotides, directed evolution of DNA-polymerases, poly(ADP-ribose), adenylation and epigenetics should be mentioned here. His lively research activities are reflected in a large number of publications and successful collaborations. His research also resulted in numerous patent applications and the founding of a company in 2014 myPOLS Biotec GmbH that specializes in DNA polymerases and their applications in biotechnology.

Prof. Marx has received numerous important awards, including twice the ERC Advanced Grant, which is one of the most prestigious and most valuable European research awards.

– chemie.uni.kn/marx



Prof. Dr. Stefan Mecking

Full professor at the University of Konstanz since 2004, Chair of Chemical Material Science.

Stefan Mecking received his undergraduate and graduate education at RWTH Aachen, where he was awarded a Ph.D. degree with Willi Keim for work on catalytic carbonylations in 1994. After a postdoctoral stay with Maurice Brookhart in Chapel Hill, North Carolina he joined the Hoechst Company in Frankfurt as a project leader. He later moved to the University of Freiburg, and since 2004 has been a full professor at the University of

Konstanz. Honors and awards include the Otto-Roelen Medal, the BASF Catalysis Award, and more recently a six-month stay as an elected visiting fellow of Trinity College at the University of Oxford in 2019.

His research on catalytic methods to generate degradable polyolefin materials is supported by an ERC Advanced Grant.

– chemie.uni.kn/mecking



Prof. Dr. Miriam M. Unterlass

Full Professor of solid state chemistry at the University of Konstanz since June 2021.

Miriam M. Unterlass studied chemistry, process engineering and Materials Science in Würzburg (DE), Southampton (UK) and Lyon (FR). She pursued her PhD at the Max Planck Institut of Colloids and Interfaces in Potsdam (DE), and performed her postdoc at the Ecole Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielles ESPCI in Paris (FR). In 2013 she joined the Technische Universität Wien (AT) as independent group leader, received her habilitation in materials chemistry in 2018, and became tenured assistant professor in 2019.

Since 2018, Miriam M. Unterlass is an Adjunct Principal Investigator at the Centre for Molecular Medicine of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Her

research interest revolve around compounds rich in aromatic and heterocyclic functions for either materials or biological applications, or both. A particular focus in the Unterlass Lab are non-classical sustainable synthetic approaches, especially involving crystalline starting compounds and products, and automation.

Foundation of her own start-up in 2019 with a clean process for the production of plastics (only with hot water, instead of toxic solvents). For the associated patent she and her team from the Technical University of Vienna won the Austrian State Prize Patent 2020.

<https://unterlasslab.com>



Dr. Cristina Ruiz Agudo

Zukunftskolleg Research Fellow and Post-Doctoral Researcher in the Physical Chemistry Department at the University of Konstanz

Cristina Ruiz Agudo studied Civil Engineering at the University of Granada (ES). She pursued her PhD at the Westfälische Wilhelms University of Münster (DE) at the Institute of Mineralogy. She was an early researcher within the Marie Curie Initial Training Network MINSC Mineral Scale Formation: from the atomic to the field scale.

In 2021, Cristina Ruiz Agudo was awarded the Science Prize of the Werner and Erika Messmer Foundation for her research into the development of more sustainable cement.

– chemie.uni.kn/ruiz-agudo



Programme 2 July 2022

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| 8:00 | Departure in Lindau and transfer to Konstanz | Miriam M. Unterlass, Professor of Solid State Chemistry |
| 9:30 | Arrival in Konstanz – meet & greet with coffee Location: Spiegelhalle at the port of Konstanz | |
| 10:00 | Welcome Giovanni Galizia, Director Zukunftskolleg (Institute for Advanced Studies) | 14:00 Discussion / Q & A |
| 10:15 | Chemistry and the information beyond the genome sequence Andreas Marx, Professor of Organic Chemistry/ Cellular Chemistry | 14:15 The Zukunftskolleg as an interdisciplinary scientific community Cristina Ruiz Agudo, Research Fellow Zukunftskolleg |
| 10:45 | Discussion / Q & A | 14:45 Discussion / Q & A |
| 11:00 | Closed loop recyclable and non-persistent plastics enabled by catalysis Stefan Mecking, Professor of Chemical Material Science. | 15:00 Coffee break |
| 11:30 | Discussion / Q & A | 15:15 Early independence: Constraints and chances in academic career paths within chemistry Open Space (discussion forum) |
| 11:45 | Poster session | 16:30 Summary and closing remarks |
| 12:30 | Lunch | 17:00 End |
| 13:30 | Making and breaking bonds with hot water | |

If you need to book your return flight home from this symposium, please note that the best airport for Konstanz is Zurich (CH) – 1 hour by direct train connection from Konstanz.

Registration

Up to 50 participants can register. Online registration is possible from **15. March until 5 April 2022.**

– stellen.uni.kn/jobposting/5ffc897891e7d1849e85f-be8c004586ae1f5c7c30



Zukunftskolleg

The Zukunftskolleg is an **Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of Konstanz** and a **talent factory for early career researchers**. With its 2-year and 5-year Fellowships as well as an international network of Senior Fellows and Mentors, the Zukunftskolleg creates a vibrant intergenerational community of researchers which is more than the sum of its individuals.

The Zukunftskolleg is not only an institute that provides freedom to perform first-class research to postdoctoral researchers. It is a best-practice place for fostering

early academic careers, also because the fellows themselves are the main driving force for developing new instruments to foster the scholarly excellence and to boost the individual career profiles. In a unique manner, five elected fellow-representatives build together with the Director the main decision body – the Executive Committee. In this way, the Zukunftskolleg plays the role of a seismograph identifying the needs of the researchers at this challenging step in their career and flexibly reacts by generating novel ideas.

Contact

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