



# The Graduate School of Life Sciences

Structured Doctoral Training at the University of Würzburg

<https://www.graduateschools.uni-wuerzburg.de/life-sciences/>



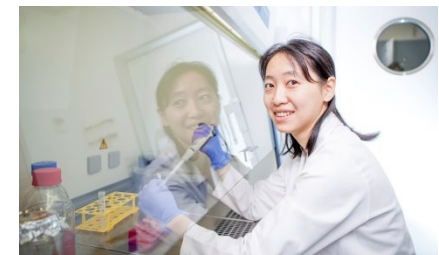
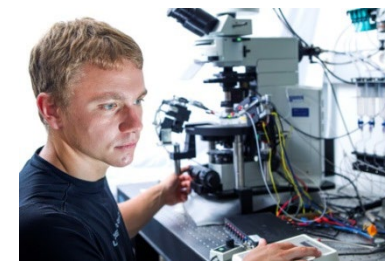
@gslsuniwue.bsky.social



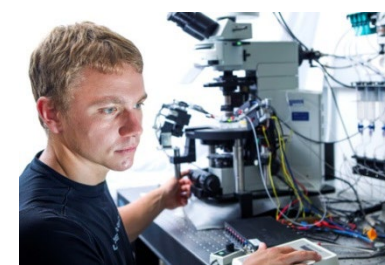


# Outline

- Structure of the GSLS
- Regulations of the GSLS
  - Path to graduation
  - Admission vs. enrollment
  - Thesis committee
  - Idea behind the GSLS training program
- Graduation requirements – the GSLS study book
- Conflict management
- Scientific and transferable skills courses
- Activities and events



# The GSLS - Structure



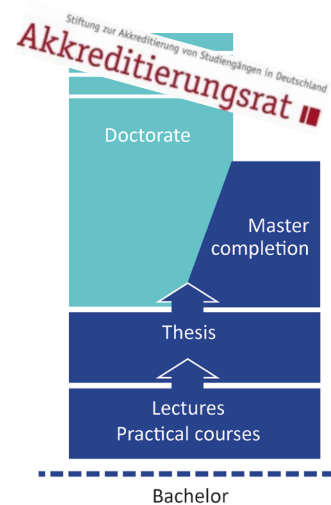
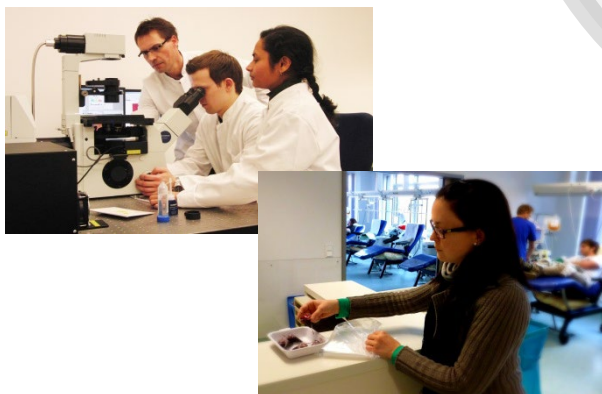


# Why Graduate Schools ?

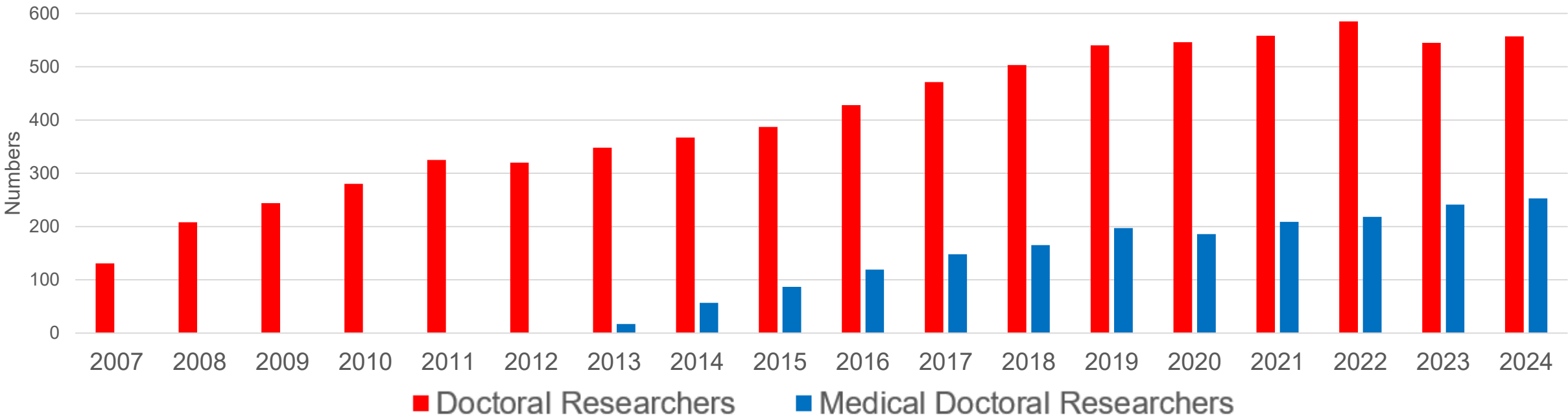
## The Würzburg Model



- Platform for interdisciplinary approach
- Same criteria for all departments/faculties
- Thesis committee
- Structured training program
- Junior group leaders can be PIs

**Doctoral phase****GSLS****Master phase****Postdoc phase****MD phase**

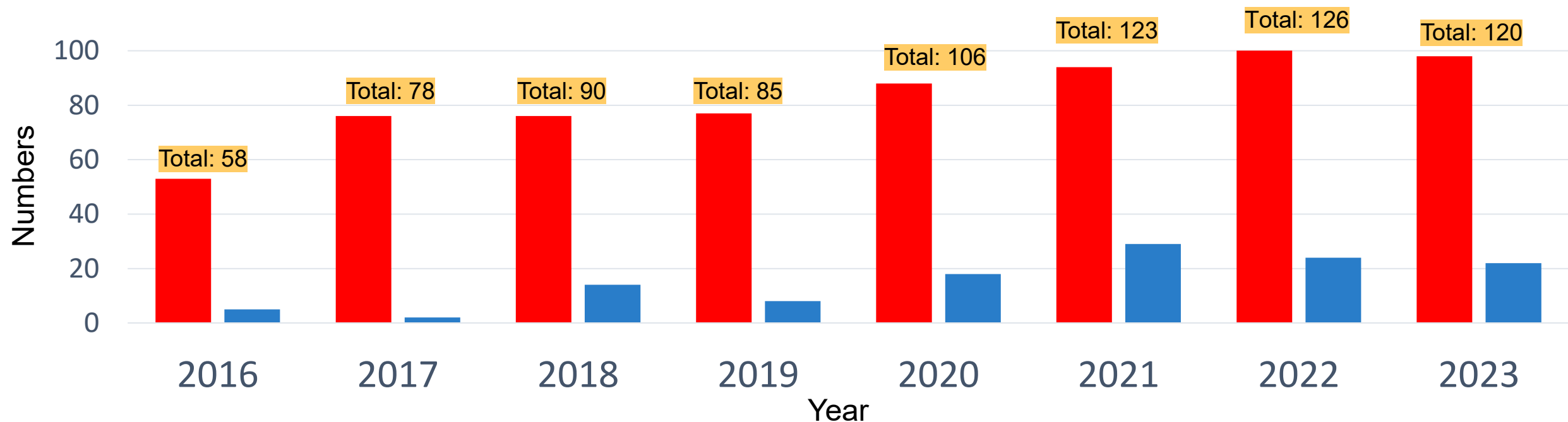
Principal Investigators	345 (285 w/o time limited)
Doctoral Researchers (Internationals ~ 41 %) (Females ~ 62 %)	557
Medical Doctoral Researchers (Internationals ~ 6 %) (Females ~ 59 %)	253





# Number of Graduations in the GSLS (until 2023)

	PhD/Dr. rer. nat.	Dr. med.
Graduations in the GSLS since 2008	953	122
<i>summa cum laude</i>	168 (18%)	21 (17%)
<i>magna cum laude</i>	707 (75%)	95 (78%)
<i>cum laude</i>	63 (7%)	6 (5%)
<i>rite</i>	3 (0,3%)	0

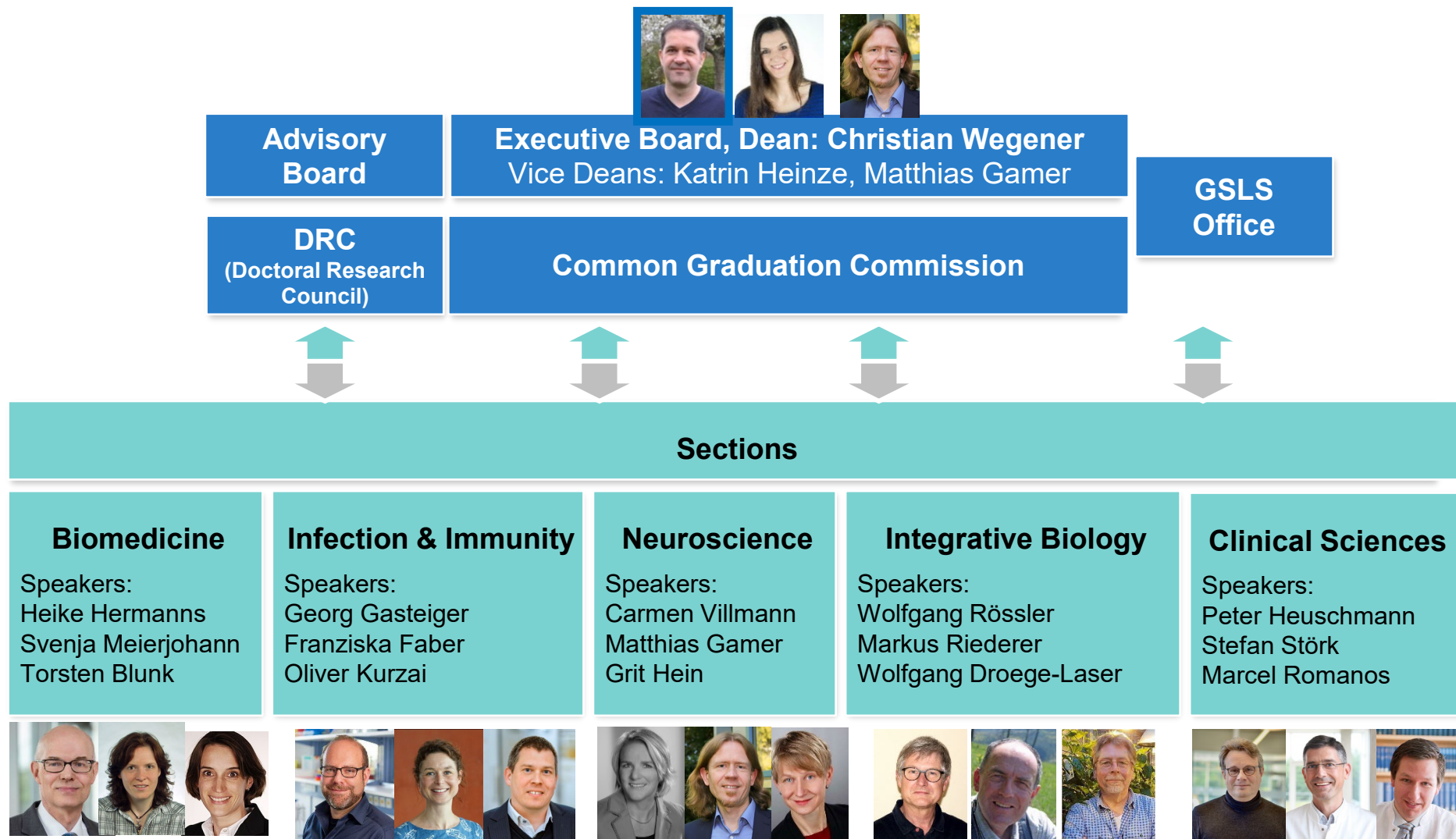


On April 12, 2024  
Federico Ronchetti  
(PI Prof. Thomas Schmitt) submitted  
the 1000th dissertation, focusing on  
the ecological and evolutionary  
biology of interactions between  
Hymenoptera insects and bacteria.



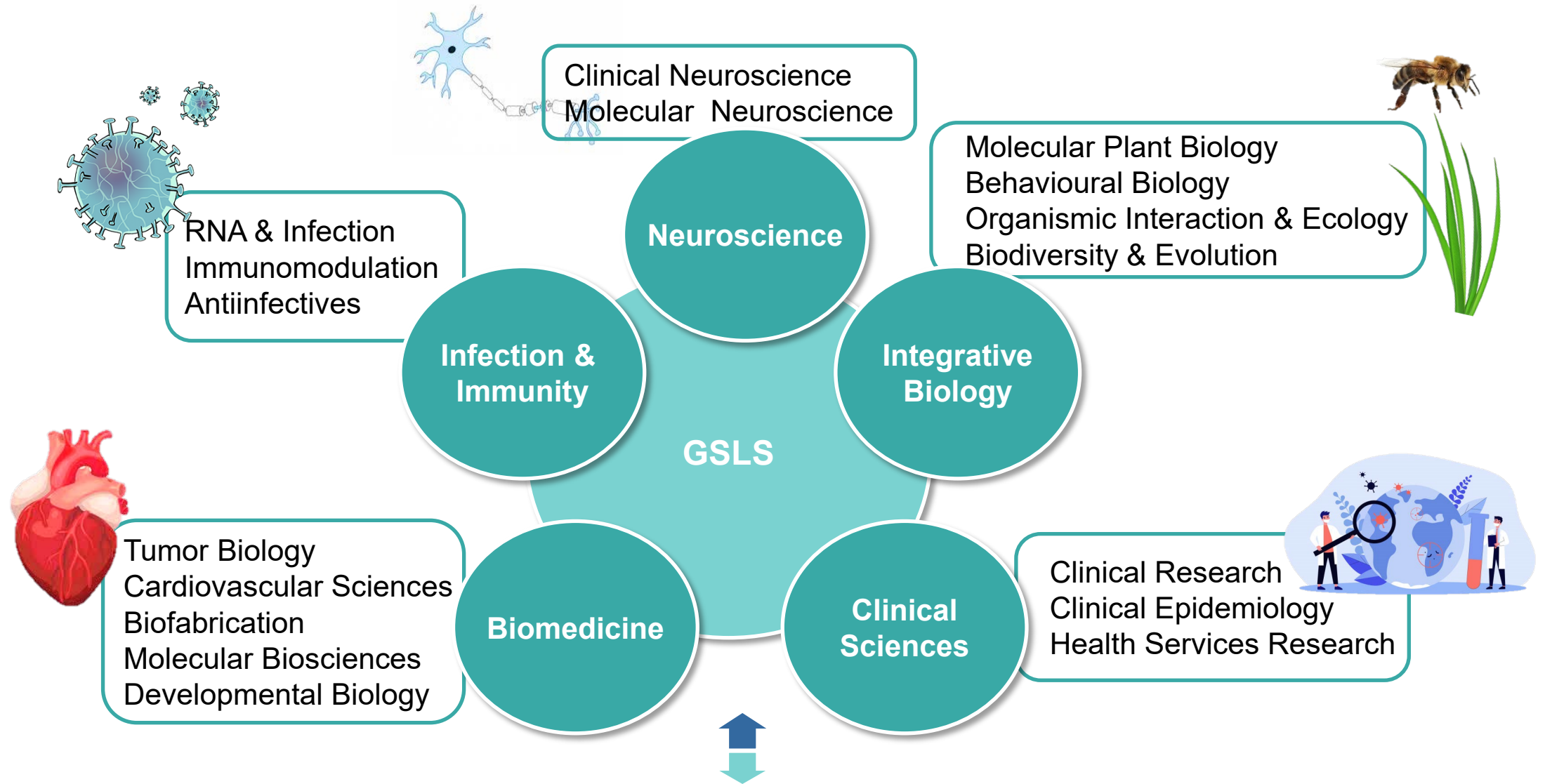
Federico Ronchetti (2nd from left) during the handover of his dissertation to the GSLs administrator, Eva Dallmann (left). Congratulating him are (from left) Dr. Stephan Schröder-Köhne (Managing Director of the Graduate Schools at the University of Würzburg), Dr. Jennifer Ritzer (Managing Director of the GSLs), and Professor Christian Wegener (Director of the GSLs).

# Organization of the GSLS





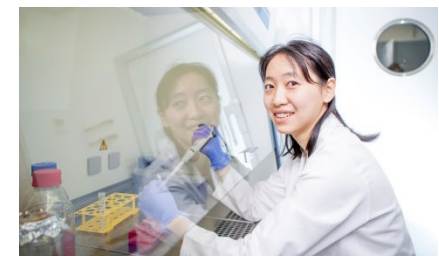
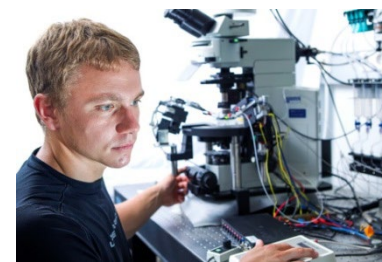
# GSLS sections and programs



Faculties : Biology, Medicine, Chemistry & Pharmacy, Psychology, Physics

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Your PhD SCICOMM-ITTEE

**Take advantage of your  
committee meetings !**

Double-check your thesis  
committee with the GSLS  
(contact: Katharina Bötsch)



- At least three supervisors
  - Primary and secondary supervisors have to be **GSLS members from different departments**
  - Third supervisor may come from another university, also from abroad (input from extern)
  - A minimum of three different departments should be represented
- 
- Prerequisite (first or second supervisor) :
    - ❖ First or second GSLS supervisor must be a **Faculty member of one of the Natural Science Faculties** of the University of Würzburg (Biology, Chemistry & Pharmacy, Physics, Mathematics & Computer Sciences )  
[OR be appointed as an examiner by one of those faculties]
    - ❖ One GSLS member supervisor has to be **habilitated or hold a permanent professorship**



**Take advantage of your committee meetings !**

Double-check your thesis committee with the GSLS (contact: Katharina Bötsch)

## German Master degree

Application for admission  
(Open Campus)



Check by  
GSLS Office



Admission meeting GSLS

Admission Letter



Enrollment at  
„Studierendenkanzlei“

## International Master degree

Application for admission  
(Open Campus)



Check by  
GSLS Office



Admission meeting GSLS

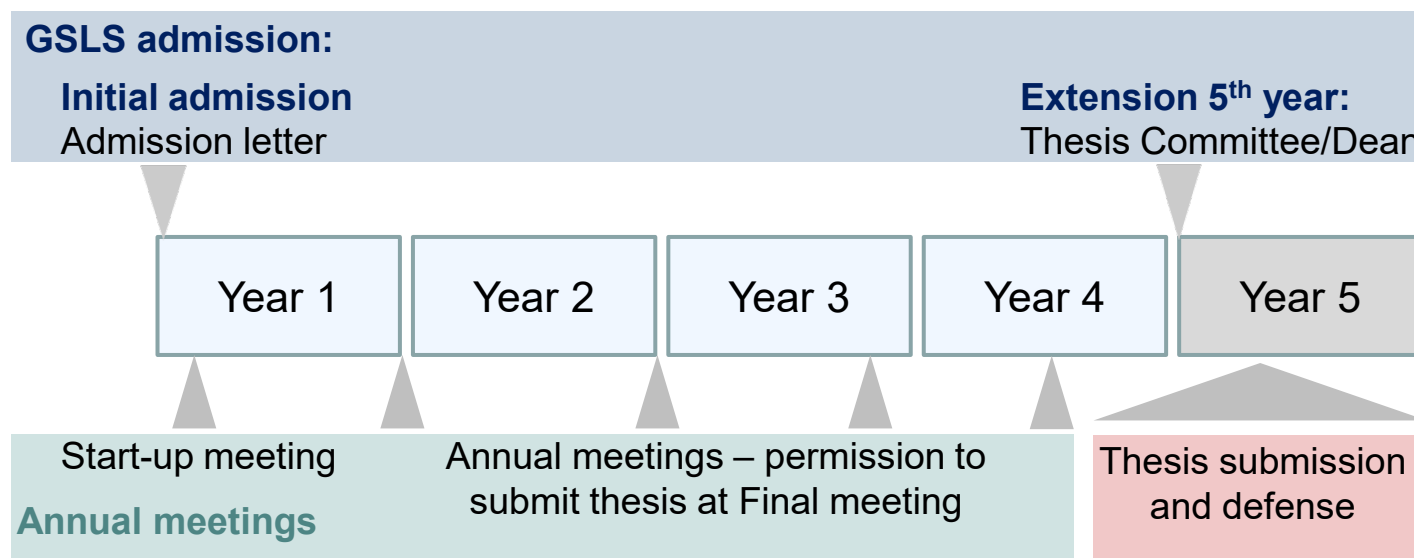
Admission Letter



Enrollment at  
„Studierendenkanzlei“

## Admission to the GSLS

- Initial admission letter admits you for 4 years (= 8 semesters of enrollment)
- From the 5<sup>th</sup> year: extension of admission requires approval of Dean, as well thesis committee members



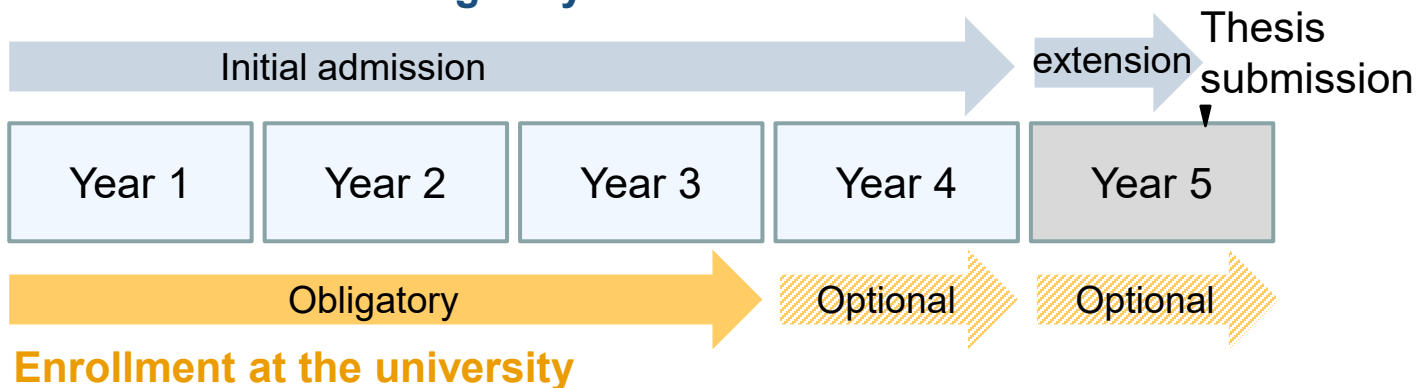
## Regular meetings with the thesis committee

- Start-up and annual meetings are mandatory for the first 6 semesters of the PhD and additionally a final meeting before submission



# The difference between “GSLS admission” and “enrollment at the university”

## GSLS admission: obligatory until thesis submission



## Years 1-4 of your PhD:

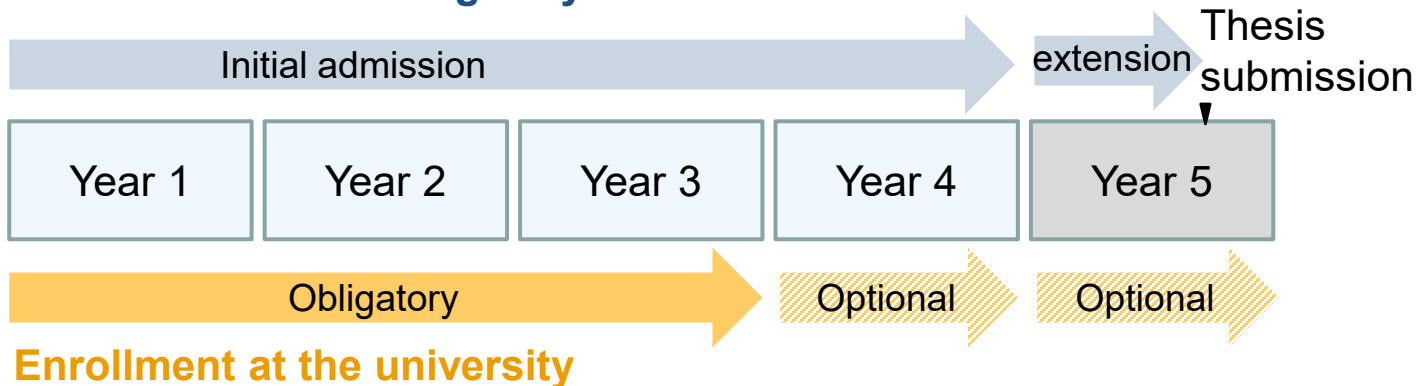
- Your initial GSLS admission is valid for 4 years corresponding to 8 semesters
- You don't need to extend your GSLS admission during the first 4 years of your PhD
- **BUT** remember to renew your enrollment at the JMU each semester (“Rückmeldung“)

## From the 5<sup>th</sup> year of your PhD:

- GSLS admission: extension required every year
- Your GSLS admission must be valid when you submit your thesis
- Renewal of enrollment: **NOT** mandatory after the 6<sup>th</sup> semester

# The difference between “GSLS admission” and “enrollment at the university”

## GSLS admission: obligatory until thesis submission



## 1. Admission to the GSLS

→ Admission to pursue the structured PhD within the GSLS (thesis committee, training...)



- **Prerequisite:** Initial GSLS „Admission Letter“ or approved extension of GSLS admission (from 5<sup>th</sup> year)
- Responsible: initially GSLS Office; after the first 4 years: **YOU!**
- Important date: **Start of thesis project** (as indicated in admission letter/in OpenCampus)


## 2. Enrollment at the JMU


„Student status“ (student ID, semester ticket etc.)


- **Prerequisite:** valid GSLS admission
- Important dates: Deadlines for renewal of enrolment („Rückmeldung“)
  - **YOU** are responsible to pay the semester fee and enroll + re-enroll on time **each semester !**
  - Consider a direct debit („Lastschrift“)


<https://gsls.cloud.opencampus.net/>


 **GSLS Main Menu**
 **Testix**


 My Messages **17**


 **My Overview Data**


 My Progress


 Book course


 My Courses


 My Schedule

 My Reports

 My Extension Requests

 My Study Book Requests

 My Study Break Requests



Julius-Maximilians-  
**UNIVERSITÄT  
WÜRZBURG**

[My account](#) | [Switch back](#) | [Logout](#)

## My Overview Data

**Doctoral Researcher:**

**Process Testix Birth Name:**

**Active Semester :**  
 Enrolled in Active Semester : Enrolled FS : **FS 5** Project FS :

**Project Overview**

Start Date of Thesis Project : 01.10.2021 | Admission for Research Project is valid until: 30.09.2025  
 Enrollment is valid until end of:  
**SS 2023**

**Thesis Committee**

Prof. Dr. med. Supervisor Primary	Jun.-Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Supervisor Second	Supervisor Third	Supervisor Fourth

➡ Check the status of admission and enrollment

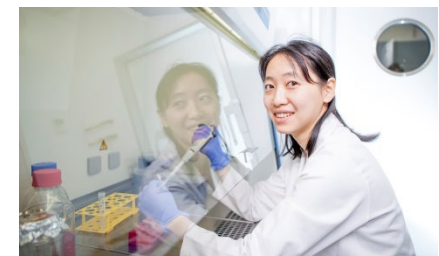
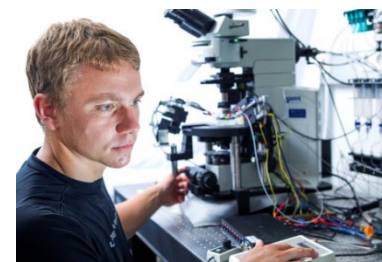
## Regulations of the GSLS

**Do you have any  
questions?**



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# Challenges of Pursuing a PhD

## Promotion: Durchschnittliche Dauer in der Physik

Dauer der Promotion	Anzahl der Promovierten in Prozent (gerundet)
etwa 3 Jahre	5,85 %
etwa 3,5 Jahre	21,97 %
etwa 4 Jahre	32,05 %
etwa 4,5 Jahre	20,88 %
etwa 5 Jahre	12,79 %
mehr als 5,5 Jahre	6,47 %

Ergebnisse der Promovierendenumfrage: Übliche Promotionsdauer von Physikern in der Arbeitsgruppe oder im Institut. Es wurden 1917 Antworten abgegeben.

Quelle: Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft; © academics

[https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Challenges-and-achievements-during-the-PhD-journey\\_tbl2\\_51215169](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Challenges-and-achievements-during-the-PhD-journey_tbl2_51215169)

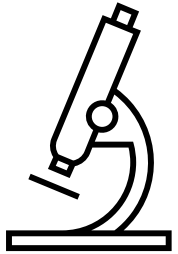
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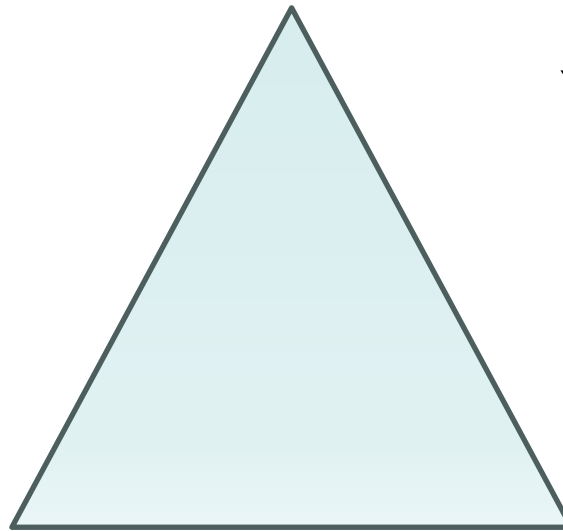
- Self-doubt
- Homesickness
- Suffering
- Financial difficulties
- Family pressure
- New ways of thinking
- Increased self-esteem
- Independence
- New friends
- New knowledge and skills
- Transformation of self

# Pursuing a PhD/Dr. rer. nat.: Structured Program vs. Individual Research

<b><u>Aspect</u></b>	<b><u>Structured Program</u></b>	<b><u>Individual Research</u></b>
<b>Curriculum</b>	Defined courses and seminars	Flexible, customized research plan
<b>Timeline</b>	Fixed, with regular milestones	Flexible, self-paced
<b>Supervision</b>	Frequent interactions with your mentors	Less frequent, focused guidance
<b>Skill Development</b>	Broad, interdisciplinary training	In-depth, specialized focus
<b>Networking</b>	High, through organized events and projects	Variable, depends on personal initiatives and your lab

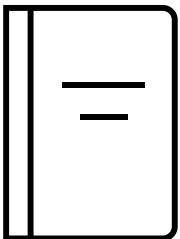


Scientific Work (Advancement of Knowledge, Skill Development, Critical Thinking, Problem-Solving)



YOUR Responsibility:

- Commitment and Dedication
- Active Participation in Research
- Seeking Mentorship and Feedback
- Continuous Learning and Development



GSLS - Structured Training Program (Guidance, Skill Enhancement, Balance, Flexibility)



## General idea

- Individual research and training plan (“prescription”), adapted in discussion with the thesis committee
- Scientific and Transferable Skills Training

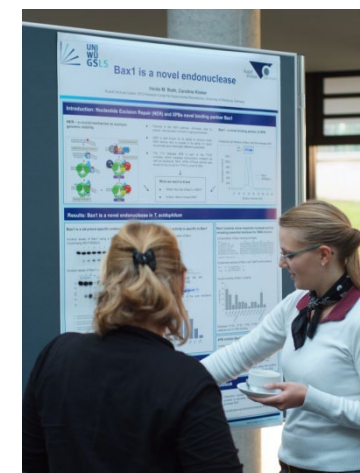
## Mentoring

- Female GSLS doctoral researchers: MENTORING life sciences (Mentee-mentor relationship, Workshop series, Network meetings)  
→ now in cooperation with the Gender Equality Academy

- Carrer center office of the JMU



- University Hospital: Mentoring-Med





## SCIENTIA

- **Mentoring:** for female doctoral students, mentoring, training, networking (duration one year, call for applications in autumn; participants must be fluent in German)
- **Postdoc & International:** qualification during postdoc phase or habilitation, workshops, coaching, networking (duration one year, call for applications in autumn)

**Women's Leadership Program**

for female (junior) professors and experienced working group leaders: Workshops on leadership, chair management, conflicts, positioning in power arenas, media and interview training, individual coaching, networking with alumnae, fireside chats

**Gender Consulting Service for DFG-funded programs**

primarily aimed at young female researchers who are actively involved in a DFG-funded collaborative project: workshops and training sessions on career development; for researchers of all genders: joint training courses, which address gender aspects



# Mentoring – get inspired!

## **If you ask yourself**

- .. where your studies might lead you professionally
- .. how to lay the groundwork for career success

then you are invited to join Mentoring Program!

## **In a nutshell:**

- alumni of the University of Würzburg pass on their practical professional experience
- geared to students, graduates, and doctoral candidates
- You have two different options:
  - a one-time consultation
  - a one-year “relay” program with a personal mentor

..in both cases you will have a specialist mentor at your side who will advise and accompany you - you create the exchange together and individually!

## **Contact and registration possibility**

[alumni@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:alumni@uni-wuerzburg.de), Phone: 0931-31-83150  
<https://go.uniwue.de/registrierung>



# Graduation requirements - The Study Book -



- Will be delivered as part of the “Welcome Pack”
- Electronic pages for the study book are available on the GSLS Website

<https://www.graduateschools.uni-wuerzburg.de/life-sciences/doctoral-researchers/forms-downloads/>

## Open Campus



# Forms & Downloads at the GSLS website

Who we are and what we do...

## GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES

🏠 > UWGS > LIFE SCIENCES > DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS > FORMS & DOWNLOADS

About us >

Join us >

Doctoral Researchers ▾

Study Program >

Training >

Activities & Events >

Thesis Regulations and Submission >

Funding >

Family Support >

Doctoral Researchers Council >

Medical Doctoral Researchers >

**Forms & Downloads**

Principal Investigators >

PostDocs >

Research >

### Forms & Downloads

▶ General Forms and Downloads

▶ Forms and Downloads for Doctoral Candidates (Dr. rer. nat./PhD)

▶ Forms and Downloads for Medical Doctoral Candidates (Dr. med./Dr. med. dent.) in receipt of a GSLS or Medical Faculty stipend

<https://www.graduateschools.uni-wuerzburg.de/life-sciences/doctoral-researchers/forms-downloads/>

# Forms & Downloads at the GSLS website

## GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES

🏠 > UWGS > LIFE SCIENCES > DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS > FORMS & DOWNLOADS

About us	>
Join us	>
Doctoral Researchers	▼
Mandatory Study Program	
Training offers	
Activities & Events	
Thesis Regulations and Submission	>
Funding	
Family Support	
Doctoral Researchers Council	
Medical Doctoral Researchers	
<b>Forms &amp; Downloads</b>	
Principal Investigators	>
Research	>

### Forms & Downloads

▼ General Forms and Downloads

- Welcome\_Days\_Spring 2025 📄
- Doctoral Graduation Regulations (in German)
- Doctoral Study Program "Life Sciences" (in German)
- Good Scientific Practice
- Acknowledgement Text; Template for Publications
- Request for reimbursement

▼ Forms and Downloads for Doctoral Candidates (Dr. rer. nat./PhD)

**Welcome Pack Forms:**

**An Introduction to the GSLS: Structure, Study Program, and More for PhD and Dr. rer. nat. students** 📄

**Pages for the Study Book**

**Supervision Agreement**  
The supervision agreement can also be used for the hiring process with University of Würzburg Human Resources (Personalabteilung).

**Report forms:**

**Start-Up Report** (this form is for PhD students, for MD students please see below)

**Annual Report** (this form is for PhD students, for MD students please see below)

Once completed and **signed by all people** attending the meeting, please upload a scan to **your account in Open Campus** (GSLS Main Menu ⇒ My Reports) and keep the original for your records.

Module	Regulations for Dr. med./Dr. med. dent.	Regulations for Dr. rer. nat./PhD
Progress Meetings	Start-up and 1 or 2 bi-annual meeting(s)	Start-up meeting & at least 3 annual progress meetings
Lab Meeting	1 hour per week, organized by the working group	1 hour per week, organized by the working group
Literature Seminar	1 hour per week, organized by the working group	1 hour per week, organized by the working group
Program or Section Seminar (Jour Fixe)	1 - 2 times per month	1 - 2 times per month
Retreat or Summer School	At least one	Annually (in total $\geq 3$ )
International Meetings/Symposia	<u>At least one</u> with active scientific contribution	<u>In total <math>\geq 3</math> with</u> active scientific contribution
Scientific Publication	<u>Co-Author</u> publication	<u>First-Author</u> publication
Elective Activity	One Elective Activities <u>in total</u> (Scientific course or Transferable skill course or Research Stay)	One Elective Activity <u>per semester</u> (Scientific course (in total $\geq 3$ ) and Transferable skill course (in total $\geq 3$ ))
Good scientific practice course	mandatory	Mandatory
Intercultural communication course	-	Mandatory for PhD
Interdisciplinary seminar	in total $\geq 9$ participations including introductory and final talk	-

# Graduation requirements

## - Overview -

# Open Campus

- ✓ **Annual progress reports** (start-up meeting, annual committee meetings)
- ✓ **Research seminars** (lab meeting, literature seminar, research training group)
- ✓ **Annual retreat / Summer School**
- ✓ **One elective per term:** Choice from large program of

- Lectures and methods courses
- Transferable skills courses
- Research stays abroad etc.

**Mandatory workshops** (normally offered at the GSLs Welcome Days)

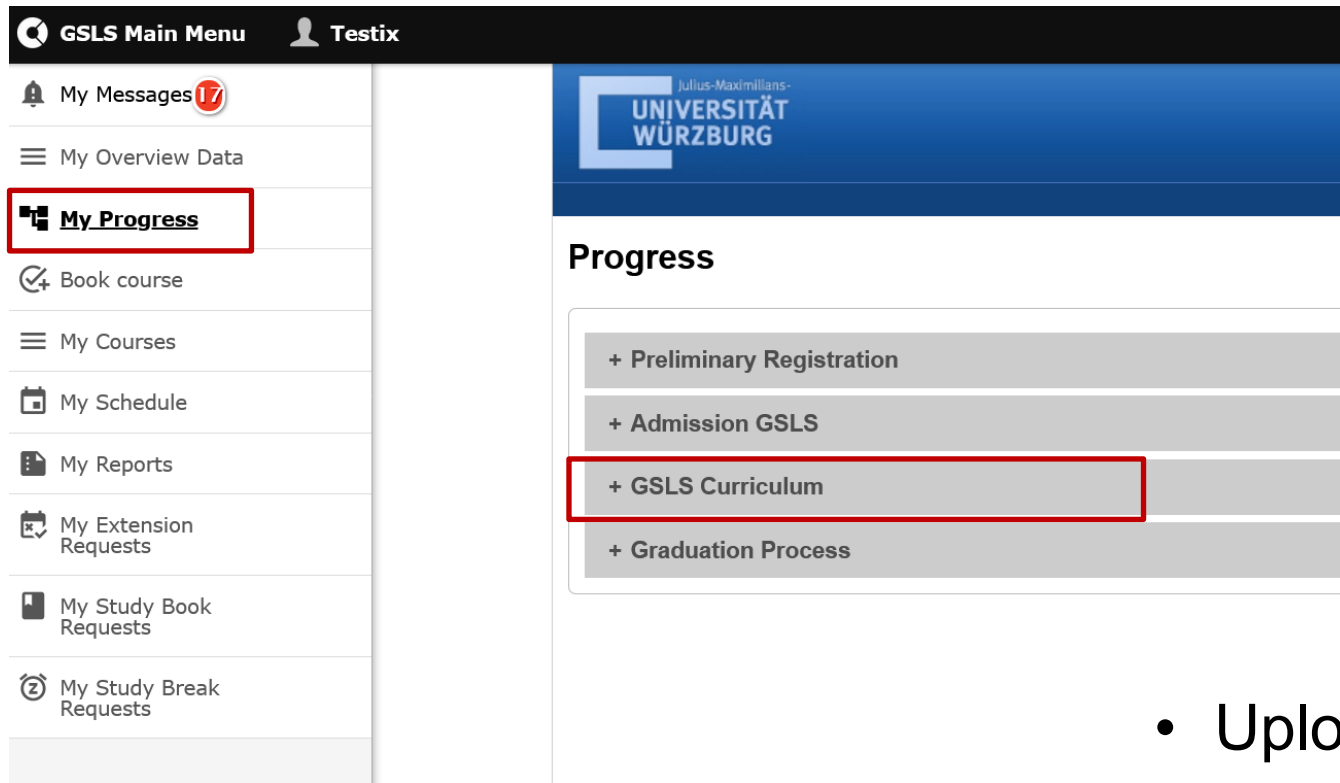
- Good Scientific Practice (everybody)
- Intercultural Communication (for those going for the “Ph.D.” degree)

- ✓ Active participation in **at least three international meetings**
- ✓ At least **one first author publication** in international peer reviewed journal (shared first authorship is accepted as well)








































<https://gsls.cloud.opencampus.net/>


















- Upload annual reports
- Automatic transfer of GSLS workshop certificates into your curriculum tree
- Fill in information on meetings, other workshops, research stays etc.

<https://gsls.cloud.opencampus.net/>

		Documents	Actions
▼  Reports and Extension Requests			
▼  Basic information			
 <b>Reports basic information</b>			
▼  Meeting Reports			
 <b>Meeting Report</b>			
 Extension Requests			
 Study Break Request			
▼  Study Book			
▼  Mandatory Elements			
▶  Lab Meeting / Group Seminar			
▶  Literature Seminar / Journal Club			
▶  Research Training Group Seminar (Jour Fixe)			
▶  International Meetings / Symposia			
▶  Scientific Publications			
▶  Retreat / Summer School			
▶  Good Scientific Practice			
▼  Electives			
▶  Scientific course / Seminar / Lectures			
▶  Transferable Skills Course / Seminar / Workshop			
▶  Research Stay			
▼  Additional			
▶  Additional Activities			

<https://gsls.cloud.opencampus.net/>

		Documents	Actions
▼ Reports and Extension Requests			
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▼ Study Book			
▼ Mandatory Elements			
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Literature Seminar / Journal Club			
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International Meetings / Symposia			
Scientific Publications			
Retreat / Summer School			
Good Scientific Practice			
▼ Electives			
Scientific course / Seminar / Lectures			
Transferable Skills Course / Seminar / Workshop			
Research Stay			
▼ Additional			
Additional Activities			

Study book and certificates of participation - uploaded in Open Campus and approved by GSLS (GSLS study program requirements).

The diploma supplement is **created based on your entries**. Please ensure they are entered carefully and in a consistent format.

# Start-Up and Annual Thesis Committee Meetings

- Form template: Download at GSLS website
- Meetings of your thesis committee **should take place in person**  
possible: by video conference, by phone, during conferences
- Ask your committee members how they would like to structure the meeting  
(e.g. prepare a presentation/report for the meeting and send it to the committee beforehand)
- Establish your training program with your thesis committee
- 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> year (“final”) meeting



**Take advantage of your committee meetings !**



# Start-Up and Annual Thesis Committee Meetings

- Crucial opportunity for **guidance & feedback from your mentor team**
- Aim: Maximize thesis success through open discussion
- Share detailed insights into achievements and plans in advance
- **Provide your progress and successes to the mentor team before the meeting**
- Accepted formats: the official report form including a separate report, or a PowerPoint presentation
- Upload the final version as a single PDF file to accompany your report
- Prioritize in-person meetings for meaningful exchange
- Online meetings: acceptable, but less effective
- Ensure full committee participation
- Arrange supplementary meetings for any absentees





# Start-Up and Annual Thesis Committee Meetings

## ✓ Summary Checklist

1. Write your report carefully before the meeting.
2. Share your materials with all mentors in advance.
3. You're welcome to include a presentation or other supporting materials (optional).
4. We encourage in-person meetings whenever possible.
5. Make sure to fill out every required field on the form.
6. Complete the form together with your committee during the meeting.
7. Submit the fully completed and signed report afterwards.
8. If you need more time, request an extension via the  
GSLs Main Menu.



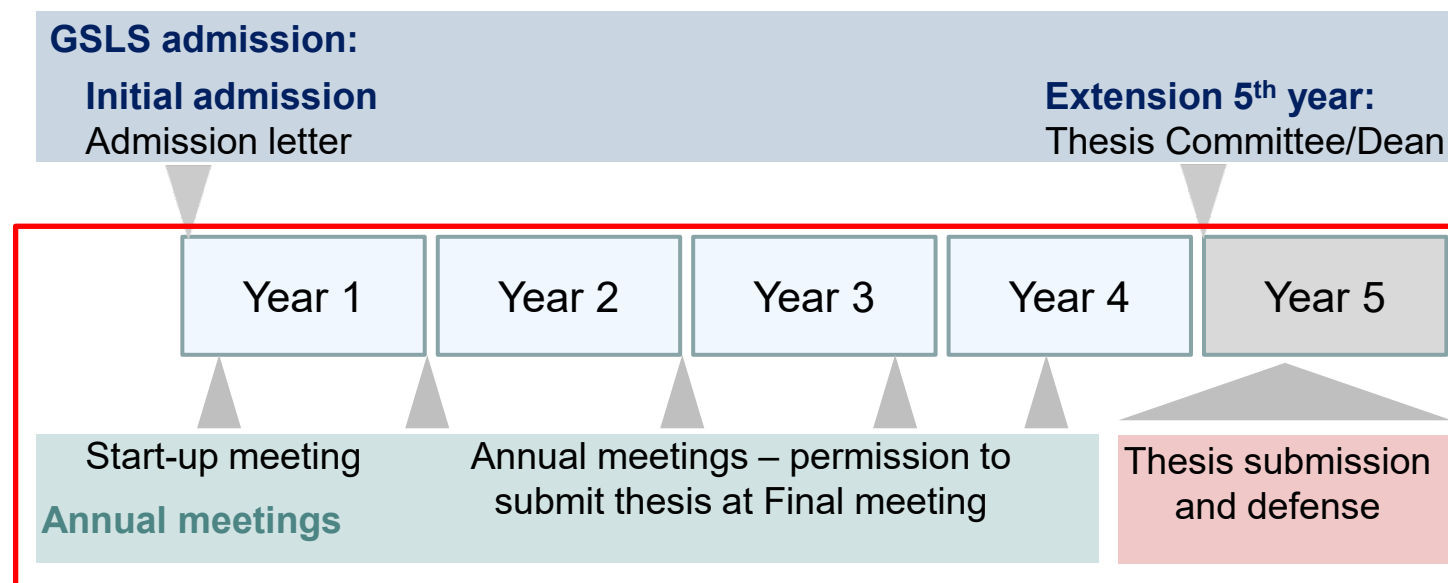
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possible: by video conference, by phone, during conferences
- Ask your committee members how they would like to structure the meeting  
(e.g. prepare a presentation/report for the meeting and send it to the committee beforehand)
- Establish your training program with your thesis committee
- 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> year (“final”) meeting



- ✓ Sign and upload your reports in OpenCampus under „My Reports“ in the GSLS Main Menu
- ✓ Start-up meeting latest 3 months after admission
- ✓ Annual meetings with committee are required for each year of your active research
- ✓ Don't ignore reminder emails from the GSLS. Get in touch with us if there are problems





### Regular meetings with the thesis committee

- Start-up and annual meetings are **mandatory for the first 6 semesters** of the PhD and additionally a final meeting before submission
- Annual Mentor Meetings: Success through insightful discussions and guidance.
- Share **what you've achieved** and **what you plan next**
- Exclusively online meetings may be less effective than in-person ones. In-person meetings are preferred

GSLS Main Menu

My Messages 2

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My Progress

Book course

My Courses

My Schedule

**My Reports**

My Study Book Requests

My Study Break Requests

Julius-Maximilians-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
WÜRZBURG

My account | Switch back | Log out

### My Reports

Type of Report	Status		Confirmation status
Start-Up Meeting (PhD Doctoral Researcher)	UNSUBMITTED REPORT	<a href="#">edit</a>	

Reminder email:

1. If 3 months have passed since the admission letter issue date and no start-up report has been uploaded → to the doctoral candidate.
2. Always: Reminder of an upcoming Thesis Committee Meeting 4 weeks before the planned next meeting → to the doctoral candidate.
3. 2 weeks after the planned next meeting → to the doctoral candidate.
4. 6 weeks after the planned next meeting → to the doctoral candidate and primary supervisor.

## GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES

[🏠](#) > [UWGS](#) > [LIFE SCIENCES](#) > [DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS](#) > [FUNDING](#)[About us](#) >[Join us](#) >[Doctoral Researchers](#) ▾[Mandatory Study Program](#)[Training offers](#)[Activities & Events](#)[Thesis Regulations and Submission](#) >[Funding](#)[Family Support](#)[Doctoral Researchers Council](#)[Medical Doctoral Researchers](#)[Forms & Downloads](#)[Principal Investigators](#) >[Research](#) >

## Funding

### Funding for GSLS PhD & MD students

Money plays a crucial role in science. Everyone who has worked in groups with different level of funding immediately knows the difference. While it is possible to pursue your PhD without spending a thought on budgets and grants, you benefit from securing funds in multiple ways:

1. It enables you to do things previously out of reach (e.g. attend a really nice conference) or makes your research life easier (e.g. through expensive specialized kits for your experiments).
2. It boosts your chances for a scientific career. Funding you secure is a valuable asset for your CV and increases your chances for a good postdoc or group leader position.
3. Writing applications for funding is a key skill for everyone aspiring to a group leader position and this is an area where experience plays a big part.
4. You make your supervisor happy, if you tax his resources less.

In this section of our homepage, we introduce the funding the GSLS provides to all of its doctoral researchers.

[Open Positions](#)[GSLS Travel Fellowships](#)[Additional Funding Sources](#)

Funding for travel fellowships is based on the location of the meeting or activity attended:

Germany: up to 300 EUR

Europe: up to 500 EUR

Overseas: up to 1.000 EUR

In total: up to 2.000 EUR until graduation

Contact the GSLS Office if you have any questions  
([gsls-info@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:gsls-info@uni-wuerzburg.de))

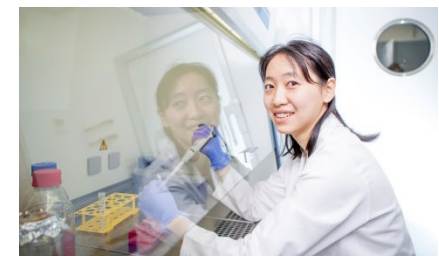
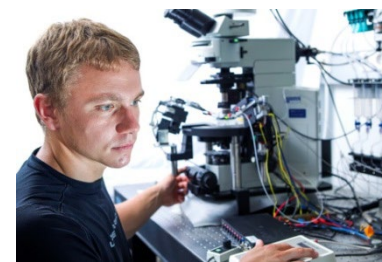


Graduation requirements of the GSLS

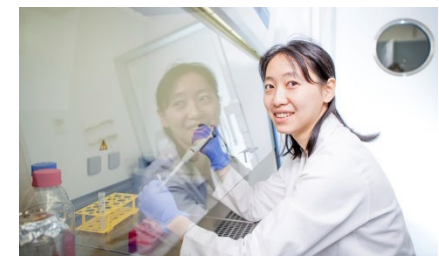
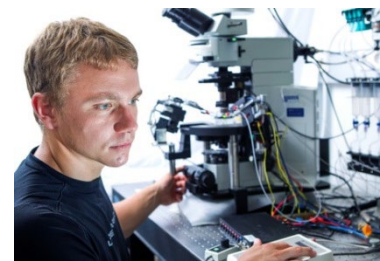
**Do you have any questions?**

# Outline

- Structure of the GSLS
- Regulations of the GSLS
  - Path to graduation
  - Admission vs. enrolment
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- Graduation requirements – the GSLS study book
- Conflict management
- Scientific and transferable skills courses
- Activities and events



# Conflict management in the GSLs





## Supervision Agreement for Doctoral Projects in the Graduate School of Life Sciences

The GSLS provides the framework to conduct a structured doctoral research project (hereafter referred to as 'doctoral project'). The GSLS adheres to the principles of mutual responsibility, transparency, accountability and respect for diversity. Original scientific work is essential for a doctoral project. All rules and regulations are intended to serve this purpose. The doctoral researchers are thus better prepared for their future careers inside and outside academia. Being mutually aware that the doctoral project is to take up a significant part of the working time of the doctoral researcher, the involved parties declare to follow the GSLS principles and to adhere to the mutual obligations described below, which may be updated over the course of the qualification project if the situation demands.

1. Persons involved
2. Research and Training Plan
3. Obligations of Doctoral Researcher
4. Obligations of Supervisors
5. Compatibility of Research Work and Family Life
6. Observing the rules of Good Scientific Practice

# How to proceed in conflict situations ?

1. Resolution of conflicts within your thesis committee
  2. Contact the GSLS (GSLS office, GSLS Dean)
  3. Contact the Doctoral Researchers Council (DRC)
- 
- Mental Health First Aiders (e.g. G. Blum-Oehler, K. Brandl)
  - „Konfliktberatungsstelle“ of the University of Würzburg  
<https://www.uni-wuerzburg.de/beschaefigte/konfliktmanagement/konfliktberatungsstelle/>
  - Hochschulambulanz für Psychotherapie, Marcusstraße 9-11  
<https://www.psychologie.uni-wuerzburg.de/hochschulambulanz/ueber-uns/team/>
  - Psychotherapeutische Hochschulambulanz, Margarete-Höppel-Platz 1  
<https://www.ukw.de/en/psychiatry/outpatient-treatment/>
  - External contact points
    - Telefonseelsorge (phone counseling), Krisennetzwerk Unterfranken
    - Crisis services in emergencies: Rescue service, police

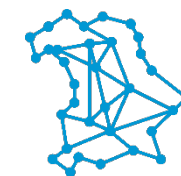
MHFA  
ERSTHELFER





# Doctoral Researchers' Council (DRC)

- Representation of doctoral students in the GSLS
- Elected by doctoral students
- Networking with other doctoral representations across Bavaria and Germany
- Organization of social events
  - Pub Crawl
  - Pub Quiz/ Trivia Night
  - BBQ



Landesnetzwerk der  
**Promovierendenvertretungen in  
Bayern**



@drcwuerzburg.bsky.social



@drcwuerzburg



@DoctoralResearchers Council  
(DRC)  
Universität Würzburg



drc-gsls@uni-wuerzburg.de



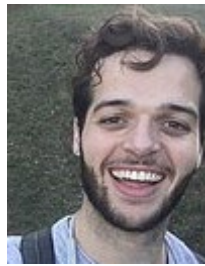
# Current Team



Andrea



Franzi



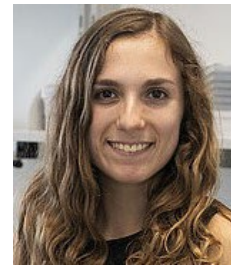
Nico



Guru



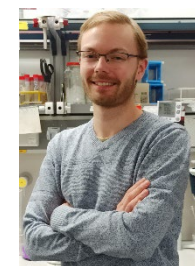
Daniel



Miriam



Salma



Peter



Anastasiya



Daniel, Nico, Guru, Andrea N.\*, Franzi\*, Miriam\*, Salma\*, Peter\*, Anastasiya (\*not shown)

**Infection and Immunity – Ecology – Behavioral Studies – Neurology – Virology – Experimental Biomedicine**





# Social Media

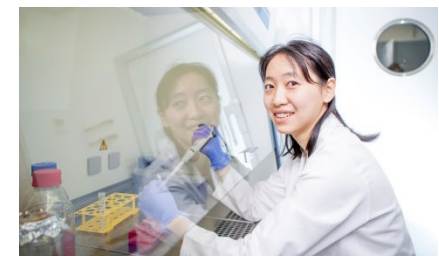
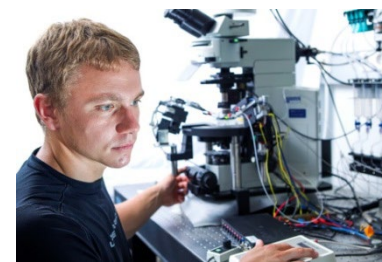


E-Mail: [gsls-drc@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:gsls-drc@uni-wuerzburg.de)

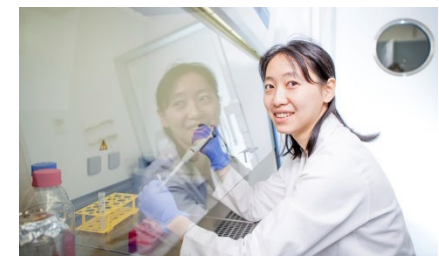
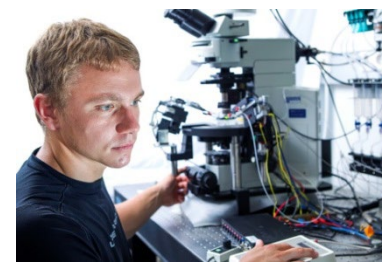


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- Activities and events



# Scientific and Transferable Skills Courses





## Study book overview



### GUIDELINES

#### Mandatory Elements

**LAB MEETING = GROUP SEMINAR**  
usually 1h/ week, organized by the research group or the graduate training group

**LITERATURE SEMINAR – JOURNAL CLUB**  
usually 1h/ week, organized by the research group or the graduate training group

**GOOD SCIENTIFIC PRACTICE** (counts as one of transferable skills courses)  
Mandatory course for all GSLS doctoral researchers admitted after WS 2011/12

**Electives** (at least one of the following per semester – ideally by your thesis submission you will have visited at least 3 scientific courses and 3 transferable skills workshops)

**SCIENTIFIC COURSE / SEMINAR / LECTURES** (ideally one per year)  
organized by the graduate training group, GSLS, doctoral researchers or offered externally  
(e.g. method course, statistics, clinical medicine)

**TRANSFERABLE SKILLS COURSE / SEMINAR / WORKSHOP** (ideally one per year)  
e.g. poster presentation, scientific writing

For doctoral researchers on the study program 'PhD Life Sciences' please note that the "Intercultural Communication" course is part of your study program

**RESEARCH STAY**  
e.g. scientific fieldwork, laboratory training, usually outside University of Würzburg

#### Additional

**Additional Activities**  
e.g. peer mentor, DRC, teaching/supervision activities, organisation of events

- The study program requires you to **complete six “electives”**
  - Ideally, you will have visited at least 3 scientific courses and 3 transferable skills workshops
  - Definition “Transferable skills”: General skills that go beyond the day-to-day requirements of your PhD project
- **„Good Scientific Practice“** is mandatory for all GSLS doctoral candidates
- For the study program ‘PhD Life Sciences’ please note that the **“Intercultural Communication”** course is mandatory
- Individual choice is encouraged!
- Your thesis committee might recommend courses for you to take

Transferable Skills - Overview

EARLY STAGE	According to your needs	FINAL STAGE
Good Scientific Practice	Scientific Writing and Publishing / Writing of Scientific Papers	Cover Letter & CV
Intercultural Communication	Supervising BSc and MSc Students	Job Interview
Poster Design & Presentation	Critical Reasoning and Logic	Introduction Biotech Industries
Oral Presentation	Purposeful Networking	Quality Management and Audit Biotech Industries
Academic Writing (for Beginners)	Improved Reading	Good Manufacturing Practice
EndNote for Scientists	Slide Writing	Good Clinical Practice
Literature Research Strategies for Scientists	Visual Communication of Science	EU Patent Law in Life Sciences
Networking at International Conferences		Grant Writing
Project management		Job Perspectives in Pharmaceutical Industry
Open Access and Copy Right in Science		

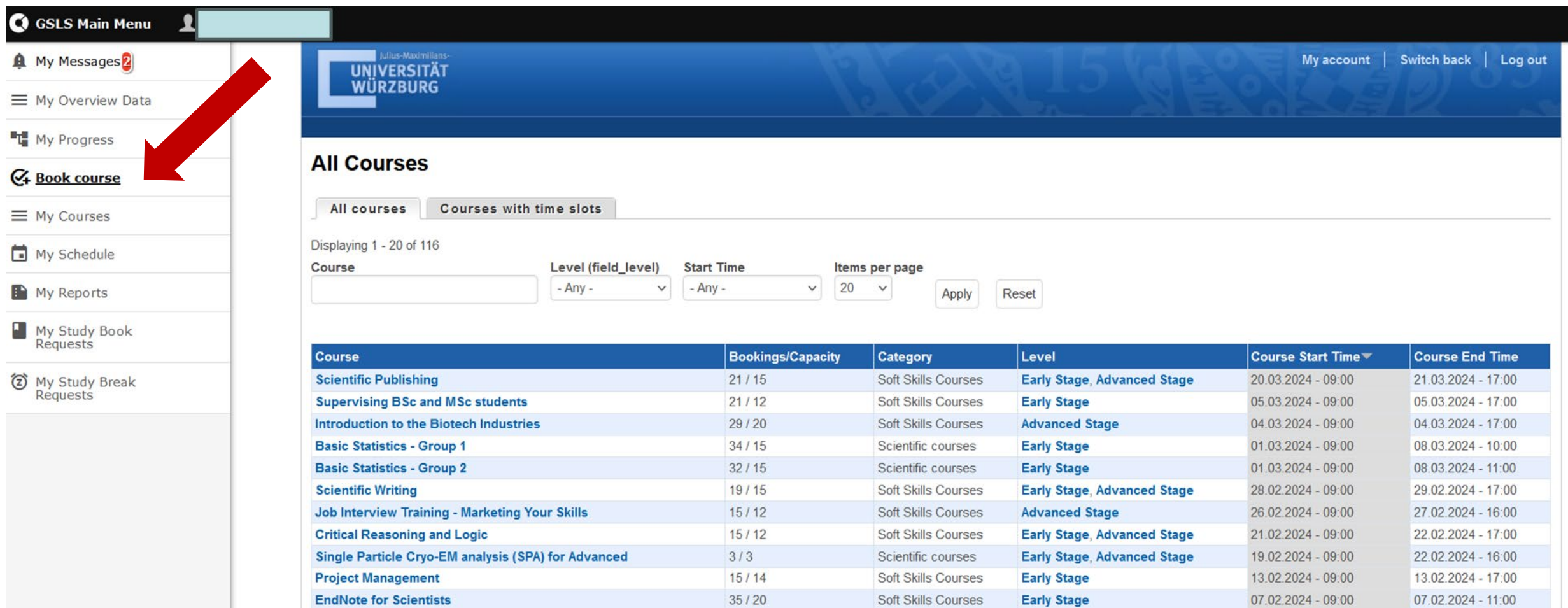
## “Scientific courses” – examples:

- Courses offered by the GSLS
  - Statistics courses (e.g. Basic Statistics, Introduction to R, Data Analysis with R)
  - Scientific Image Processing and Analysis
  - Advanced Image Analysis and Macro Programming
  - Software Carpentry
- External method courses or seminars
  - project relevant
  - duration: at least 1 SWS/week or 1.5 days
  - certification/confirmation of participation required (or confirmation by supervisor)
- Colloquia/lecture series, e.g.
  - Biocenter colloquium, RNA seminar & Microbiology colloquium, Zoological colloq., RVZ colloquium, Clinical Medicine lecture series ...

Log in directly at OpenCampus

<https://gsls.cloud.opencampus.net/>

- Please use the Username you used during your admission
- **Do NOT create a new account**



The screenshot shows the GSLS Main Menu on the left and the All Courses page on the right. The 'Book course' link in the sidebar is highlighted with a red arrow.

**GSLS Main Menu**

- My Messages 2
- My Overview Data
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- Book course**
- My Courses
- My Schedule
- My Reports
- My Study Book Requests
- My Study Break Requests

**All Courses**

Displaying 1 - 20 of 116

Course:  Level (field\_level):  Start Time:  Items per page:

Course	Bookings/Capacity	Category	Level	Course Start Time	Course End Time
Scientific Publishing	21 / 15	Soft Skills Courses	Early Stage, Advanced Stage	20.03.2024 - 09:00	21.03.2024 - 17:00
Supervising BSc and MSc students	21 / 12	Soft Skills Courses	Early Stage	05.03.2024 - 09:00	05.03.2024 - 17:00
Introduction to the Biotech Industries	29 / 20	Soft Skills Courses	Advanced Stage	04.03.2024 - 09:00	04.03.2024 - 17:00
Basic Statistics - Group 1	34 / 15	Scientific courses	Early Stage	01.03.2024 - 09:00	08.03.2024 - 10:00
Basic Statistics - Group 2	32 / 15	Scientific courses	Early Stage	01.03.2024 - 09:00	08.03.2024 - 11:00
Scientific Writing	19 / 15	Soft Skills Courses	Early Stage, Advanced Stage	28.02.2024 - 09:00	29.02.2024 - 17:00
Job Interview Training - Marketing Your Skills	15 / 12	Soft Skills Courses	Advanced Stage	26.02.2024 - 09:00	27.02.2024 - 16:00
Critical Reasoning and Logic	15 / 12	Soft Skills Courses	Early Stage, Advanced Stage	21.02.2024 - 09:00	22.02.2024 - 17:00
Single Particle Cryo-EM analysis (SPA) for Advanced	3 / 3	Scientific courses	Early Stage, Advanced Stage	19.02.2024 - 09:00	22.02.2024 - 16:00
Project Management	15 / 14	Soft Skills Courses	Early Stage	13.02.2024 - 09:00	13.02.2024 - 17:00
EndNote for Scientists	35 / 20	Soft Skills Courses	Early Stage	07.02.2024 - 09:00	07.02.2024 - 11:00

## Book a workshop

### EndNote for Scientists

[Book Course](#)

Title	Time	Room	Teacher
EndNote for Scientists	01.02.2022 09:00 - 11:00 (Tue)	online	Manuel Beck

#### Description:

Are you at the beginning of your PhD project and do you want to learn how to move seamlessly through your research process with flexible tools for searching, organizing, and sharing your references, creating your bibliography, and writing your paper? Come and learn how to use the reference management software EndNote!

During this workshop you will learn:

- how to create your EndNote Library
- how to import references and PDFs directly from the bibliographic databases
- how to use the EndNote-Tool "Online Search"
- how to organize your references into groups

→ You will receive a booking confirmation by email



## Book a place on the waiting list



You can book this course, but will be placed on the waiting list.

Book Waiting List



Title	Time	Room	Teacher
Test_1	13.12.2021 09:00 - 15.12.2021 15:00 (Mon)	via Zoom	Prof. Muster

### Description:

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy eirmod tempor invidunt ut labore et dolore magna aliquyam erat, sed diam voluptua. At vero eos et accusam et justo duo dolores et ea rebum. Stet clita kasd gubergren, no sea takimata sanctus est Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consetetur sadipscing elitr, sed diam nonumy eirmod tempor invidunt ut labore et dolore

→ You will receive a booking confirmation for the waiting list by email

## Moving up the waiting list

- If you have moved up from the waiting list, you will receive an email
- To accept that place you don't have to do anything else
- If you don't want to accept the place, cancel it

# Overview - “My courses”

## Course List

**GSLS Main Menu** Jean

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- My Schedule
- My Reports
- My Study Book Requests
- My Study Break Requests



Year 2022

Start time (ascending)

**Search**

---

→ [Test\\_1 \(13.12.2021 - 15.12.2021 \) \(WL Nr.: 1\)](#) **(Course Detail)**

→ [EndNote for Scientists \(01.02.2022 - 01.02.2022 \)](#) (Course Detail)


BOOKED

ON WAITING LIST

Check your bookings on a regular basis

- ☐ Are you still available?
- ☐ Have you moved up on the waiting list?
- ☐ Is your PI up-to-date?
- ☐ Please also cancel your registration if you are on the waiting list and no longer wish to participate

## Cancellation of courses



Supervising BSc and MSc students

✓ You have booked this course.

View

Resources

Cancel Booking

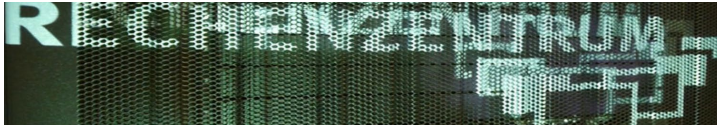
←

Title	Time	Room	Teacher
Supervising BSc and MSc students	14.03.2022 09:00 - 17:00 (Mon)	Seminar room 01.001/002, GSLS Building	Prof. Michael Decker

- You will receive a cancellation confirmation by email
- The next person on the waiting list will move up to the list of participants
- Cancellation period ends 10 days before the workshop
- Less than 10 days: Please write an email to [gsls-info@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:gsls-info@uni-wuerzburg.de) and send your medical certificate or supervisor confirmation

**If you just don't show up, we will block you for 6 months from course bookings**

- Please also cancel your registration immediately even if you are on the waiting list and no longer wish to participate

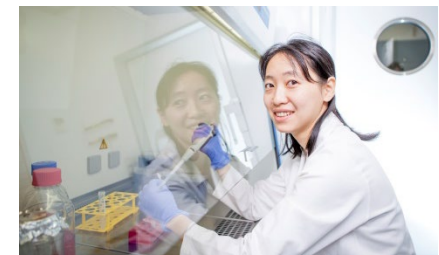
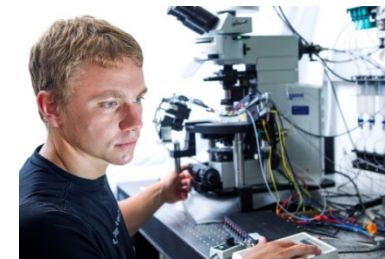


Konfliktmanagement

Course booking

**Do you have any questions?**

# Activities and events





- **Welcome Days** (for new GSLS doctoral researchers)  
19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>th</sup> November 2025
- **Graduate Schools' Day**  
July 2026
- **GSLS Lecture Series „Clinical Medicine“**  
In summer terms (please register via OpenCampus)
- **EUREKA ! Symposium** (international symposium organized by GSLS students)  
8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October 2025 (Rudolf Virchow Center, UKW)

- **Welcome Days** (for new GSLS doctoral researchers)  
19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>th</sup> November 2025
- ✓ 2 times per year /depending on the number of new PhD candidates
  - ✓ Excellent networking opportunities
  - ✓ Detailed introduction to the GSLS
  - ✓ What to expect from a PhD
  - ✓ Short introductions to your PhD projects
  - ✓ Varied offer of important workshops (Good Scientific Practice, Intercultural Communication)
  - ✓ Social event (guided city tour and pub crawl with the DRC)
  - ✓ Counts as “Retreat” for your study book if fully attended





## ➤ Each July: Graduate Schools Day



- Career session
- General-interest lecture
- Graduation ceremony
- Supervisor of the year
- Thai Chi Session
- Live music and dinner



We cordially invite you to our Graduate Schools Day!

Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

University of Würzburg Graduate Schools Building,  
Beatrice-Edgell-Weg 21, 97074 Würzburg

- 2:30 pm Welcome by Prof. Dr. Christian Wegener, Dean, GSLS
- 2:45 pm GSLS Career Session  
- Alumni present their career paths  
- Networking opportunities
- 4:00 pm Coffee break
- 4:30 pm Featured talk by Prof. Dr. Tobias Ullmann  
Earth Observation Research Cluster, JMU  
"Looking from above to look ahead: Remote Sensing for tomorrow"
- 5:30 pm GSLS Graduation Ceremony & Supervisor of the Year Award
- 6:30 pm Tai-Chi Session (registered participants)  
Start of Barbecue
- 7:30 pm Start of live music "Main Project" \*



Graduate Schools Day 2025

## ➤ **GSLS Lecture Series “Clinical Medicine”**

- Takes place in the Summer Terms
- Lecture series in English, fully accountable towards your GSLS curriculum (Scientific courses/lectures)
- Highly recommended for anyone with interest in the interplay between unmet medical needs and basic research

### **Topics in SS 2026:**

- e.g. psychiatric disorders, cancer treatment, antiviral therapies

**When:** Mondays, 4:15 - 5:45 pm (Start: April/May 2024)

**Where:** Rudolf Virchow Center (RVZ), Seminar Room 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
(Josef-Schneider-Str. 2, Building no. 15)

**Registration:** via OpenCampus





# EUREKA! 2025 Symposium



## International symposium in the field of Life Sciences

- Organized by the **PhD students** of the **GSLS**
- Two-day symposium including:
  - Talks by **outstanding researcher speakers** from Germany and abroad
  - Talks by **student speakers** of the GSLS (including awards)
  - **Poster** session (including awards)
  - Image and essay writing **contests**
  - **Career session**
- Platform for young researchers to discuss their research, meet other PhD students, and gain valuable insights into the current developments in the field of Life Sciences



Get in contact with the sponsoring companies



Meet other researchers in your field!



Main/student speakers and career session



# EUREKA! 2025 Symposium



October 2026 (Rudolf Virchow Center, UKW)



*Want to get involved?*

[eureka.symposium@uni-wuerzburg.de](mailto:eureka.symposium@uni-wuerzburg.de)



**General management****Dr. Jennifer Ritzer**

Phone +49 931 31-83630

jennifer.ritzer@uni-wuerzburg.de

**Scientific and transferable skills course program,  
PostDoc Plus program****Dr. Juliane Fiebig**

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**The whole process from GSLS registration to thesis submission****Doctoral researchers' registration  
(foreign and domestic)****Katharina Bötsch**

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katharina.boetsch@uni-wuerzburg.de

**Thesis submission and the doctoral procedure****Eva Dallmann**

Phone +49 931 31-87994

eva.dallmann@uni-wuerzburg.de

**Heike Schrenk**

Phone +49 931 31-84079

heike.schrenk@uni-wuerzburg.de

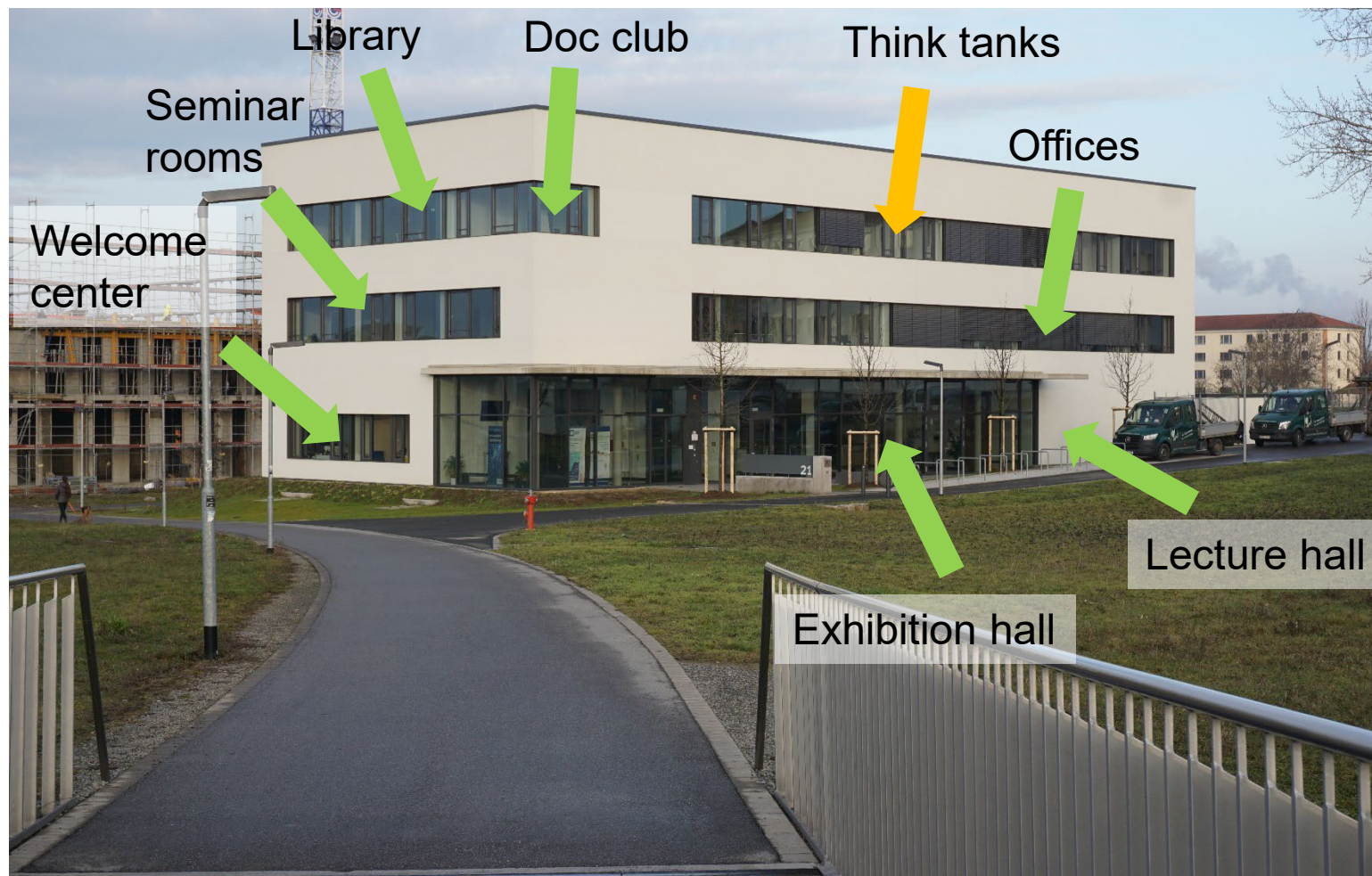
**Medical doctoral researchers' registration****Luisse Lesch**

Phone: +49 931 31-89325

luisse.lesch@uni-wuerzburg.de



# Graduate Schools Building Campus Hubland North





# Thanks for your attention!



<https://www.graduateschools.uni-wuerzburg.de/life-sciences/>

GSLS - Graduate School of Life Sciences Würzburg (@gslsuniwue.bsky.social) — Bluesky