



Welcome to the tenth ICBM Alumni Newsletter

Dear ICBM Alumni

When you read our last newsletter, no one could have guessed to what extent the corona virus would affect all of our private and professional lives shortly afterwards. A purely online semester was still unthinkable at the beginning of March, as was the closure of libraries, refectories, laboratories and other university facilities and the resulting transfer of work and research to the home office. However, we have all adapted to the new situation over the past few weeks and are making the best of it together. The research ships "Maria S. Merian", "Sonne" and "Meteor" also had to enter the harbour in Emden for a brought forward shipyard stop due to the corona crisis.

In the tenth issue, we report on monitoring of ship emissions, on a new format for career advice for doctoral students at ICBM and on shooting for documentaries projects about the work of ICBM.

We wish you perseverance in the corona pandemic. All the best. Stay healthy!

Summer greetings

Your Ferdinand Esser



Institute for Chemistry and
Biology of the Marine
Environment (ICBM)

TOPICS OF THE ISSUE

- Monitoring of ship emissions
- Career insights online
- Shooting for documentaries at ICBM

MONITORING OF SHIP EMISSIONS

[New EU project under Oldenburg management starts](#)

Developing a measurement network to monitor emissions from ships is the aim of a new EU joint project. Over the next three years, the German-French team of oceanographers, atmospheric chemists and engineers led by Prof. Dr. Oliver Wurl from the Institute for Chemistry and Biology of the Sea (ICBM) at the University of Oldenburg will develop methods to automatically and continuously measure pollutants such as soot, oil, sulphur dioxide or plastic waste at the sea surface and in the air. Drones and equipment deployed from research vessels will supplement a network of measuring buoys, for example to be able to observe the exact extent of pollution, for example as a result of ship collisions. The MATE project - Maritime Traffic Emissions: A monitoring network - is receiving a total of almost two million euros in national funding. The Federal Ministry of Economics (BMWi) is providing the German project partners with around 1.6 million euros; the University of Oldenburg is receiving around one million euros of this. (PR)



Als Ergebnis des EU-Vorhabens MATE sollen Schiffsemissionen zukünftig besser überwacht werden [Foto: S. Riexinger]

Introduction of professional fields

If you as an alumnus or alumni are interested in giving doctoral students an insight into your professional life and presenting your career path, I would be very happy to hear from you.

I would like to invite you for a next meeting. [Career insights online](#) took place for the 2nd time, with over 30 participants. [FE]



Course announcement

"Career insights online - of ICBM Alumni"

for young researchers of the IRTG of the CRC Roseobacter, EcoMol and of the PhD programme Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity and of cooperating graduate schools.



If you have comments:

Please contact us if you have questions or further suggestions: ferdinand.esser@uol.de or icbm-alumni@uol.de

Join the ICBM-Alumni-Network: www.icbm.de/alumni/

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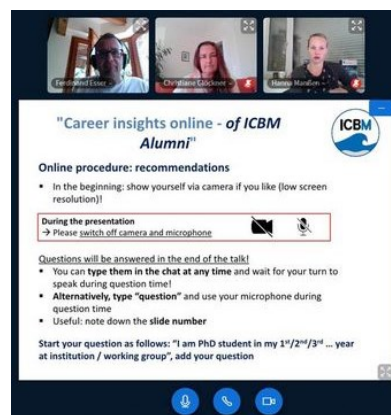
Text: [FE] Ferdinand Esser, [PR] Press release UOL, [SR] Sibet RieXinger
Layout: Ferdinand Esser

NEW OFFER FOR CAREER ADVICE

CAREER INSIGHTS ONLINE

The new format "Career insights online - of ICBM Alumni" aims at introducing different job perspectives in marine science in the widest sense and offers the possibility to get in touch with former members of the institute or of cooperating graduate schools in Bremen and Bremerhaven.

"Career insights online" primarily presents career paths outside the academic world. The speakers provide insights into their professional fields, for example in industry, administration, consulting or journalism. The speakers are asked to talk about their profession and career steps they have taken to obtain the current position within a time window of 20 minutes. Afterwards, participants will have the opportunity to ask questions to the speaker. At the kick-off event, Dr. Hanna Manßen, former doctoral student from the ICBM working group "General and Molecular Microbiology", reported on her work as editor and project manager in the Thieme group in Stuttgart. (FE)



First „Career insights online - of ICBM Alumni“ meeting with Dr. Hanna Manßen as speaker, Dr. Christiane Glöckner, MPI Bremen and Dr. Ferdinand Esser [Image: F. Esser]

SHOOTING FOR DOCUMENTARIES AT ICBM

HOW PLASTIC LITTER ENDS UP IN THE SEAS

A well-known glass recipient in the wrong place and wooden drifters brought together Dr. Rosanna Schöneich-Argent of the ICBM research group Geoecology and award-winning filmmaker Steffen Krones. Shooting for parts of a new documentary recently took place in Wilhelmshaven. It was about some scientific aspects of the film project. An odd experience beyond the polar circle became a key event for Krones: On the rocky shoreline of an uninhabited and hardly accessible Lofoten Island, he came across an empty beer-bottle, besides several pieces of plastic debris. It was not any kind of a beer bottle since it bore a German label. So, how did this bottle end up on this abandoned rocky shore far away from Germany, and did the nearby plastic pieces cover a similar distance? From then on, these questions kept bothering Krones, as a committed citizen as well as a filmmaker. Together with a friendly neighbour and engineer, they started to construct GPS drifters in Dresden and tracked their way downstream the Elbe river, even by camera. Thus, Krones tried to find out whether plastic litter drifting down the rivers ends up in the North Sea or even the Northern Polar Sea. During his enquiries on the subject, he encountered several scientists such as Rosanna Schöneich-Argent, who had been working on the issue of macroplastics pollution in the southern North Sea for her PhD thesis. Krones' documentary is going to depict the causal relations that contribute to marine plastics pollution. It is motivated by the strong desire to eventually terminate the issue. The film will be seen at several festivals next summer, and German public-service TV will broadcast a 45-minute version by the end of 2021. (SR)



Documentary maker Steffen Krones during an interview with Dr. Rosanna Schöneich-Argent [Image: S. RieXinger]

SLIME-FILM

Slimy remnants and excretions of marine organisms form a wafer-thin surface layer almost everywhere on the global oceans. This delicate pellicle is investigated by ICBM marine chemist Prof. Dr. Oliver Wurl. The thin surface layer influences the exchange of gases and heat between the ocean and atmosphere, which also may affect weather and climate substantially. „Slime“ in all its occurrences is at present one main focus of mobyDOK, a many times awarded Berlin documentary film enterprise. Inspired by the „Buch vom Schleim“ (The Book of Slime) by the German science writer Susanne Wedlich, during their investigations the film makers also came across professor Wurl. Without further ado they contacted Wurl, which eventually ended up in the recent shooting for the documentary in Wilhelmshaven. Being produced as a possible pilot for a new documentary series, the film is expected to be broadcast in autumn this year. (SR)



Prof. Wurl and documentary makers Martin Koddenberg and Alexander Lahl, while preparing for an interview shooting at the Wilhelmshaven Nassau harbour (from left to right) [Image: Sibet RieXinger]