

Profiles of speakers at Graduate Symposium 23 May 2014

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Barbara Abrell

Affiliation: Max Planck Society, Munich
Business: Science and Corporate Communication



Barbara Abrell is Chief Editor / Electronic Media at the Science and Corporate Communication Unit of the Max Planck Society's Administrative Headquarters in Munich. She has a degree in biology from the Technical University (TUM) in Munich and studied International Development and Environment and International Journalism at the American University in Washington, D.C. Barbara Abrell has been working as a journalist for nearly 20 years for various German magazines, newspapers and news portals. She launched and established the health portal at FOCUS online, which she led for six years before becoming Chief science reporter at the same German website. In 2007, Barbara Abrell joined the Max Planck Society in Munich where she is now responsible for the German website of the research organization and their social media networks. In 2010, she

won the idw's first prize for scientific communication for the press release "The Neanderthal in us".

Dr. Ulrich Alt-Epping

Affiliation: Wintershall Holding GmbH, Barnstorf
Business: Energy sector (oil and gas production)



Dr. Ulrich Alt-Epping is a Geologist at Wintershall, Germany's largest oil & gas producer. Originally from Münster, he studied Geology/Paleontology in Tübingen and Adelaide, Australia. His studies were supported by the German National Academic Foundation, for which he later assisted as reviewer for scholarship candidates. After his graduation in 2003 he started a PhD project at the DFG Forschungszentrum Ozeanränder at the University Bremen about environmental variations in southwestern Europe after the last glacial. Finishing his PhD in 2007, he commenced working as exploration geologist with Shell International E&P in the Netherlands, initially in the New Ventures exploration group and later in the Gabon asset team. He had the opportunity to experience

operational exposure during seismic acquisition and drilling in the Gabonese jungle, a drilling campaign in Sweden and geological field work in Tunisia. Ulrich Alt-Epping returned to Germany in January 2013 and joined the geology group of Wintershall in Barnstorf. There he is working on oil and gas fields in Germany in a variety of disciplines, ranging from geophysics to sedimentology and geo-modeling.

Dr. Solveig Bühring

Affiliation: MARUM - Center for Marine Environmental Sciences, University of Bremen

Business: Postdoc / research group leader



Dr. Solveig Bühring is a geomicrobiologist working at the MARUM Research Center – University of Bremen. After studying biology in Aachen and Hamburg, she started her PhD project in October 2000 at the Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology in Bremen working on microbial carbon processing in marine sediments. She defended her PhD in April 2004 and started as a Research Fellow at the Research Center Ocean Margins at the University of Bremen. She furthermore acquired funding from the Marie-Curie Outgoing Actions, which allowed a research stay at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge (USA). Since

2011 Solveig Bühring is head of the Emmy Noether Young Investigators Group “Hydrothermal Geomicrobiology” at the MARUM. The group focuses on the exploration of organisms inhabiting submarine shallow-water hydrothermal vent systems.

Dr. Jochen Dirksmeyer

Affiliation: wpd offshore solutions GmbH

Business: Energy sector (offshore wind energy)



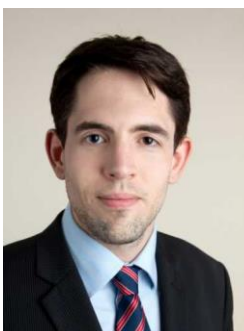
Dr. Jochen Dirksmeyer is project manager at wpd offshore solutions in Bremen. wpd offshore solutions is a service provider and specialist in the development and implementation of offshore wind energy projects. Behind the company, there is a dedicated team of employees with profound experiences in all areas of the offshore industry. Jochen Dirksmeyer has studied Geography in Cologne. After graduation he started his PhD project on investigations of salmon spawning habitats in Germany. Since 2002 he worked as an independent consultant for river restoration and re-settlement of salmon and sea trout in German rivers. Finishing his PhD in 2008, Jochen Dirksmeyer changed the field of activity and started working in the offshore wind industry. He was responsible for the development of wpd’s German offshore wind projects until receipt of permission and he was consultant for a German utility that

just started their business in the offshore wind industry. Since 2011 Jochen Dirksmeyer is responsible for the grid connection and the infield cables of wpd’s wind farm Butendiek which is currently going offshore.

Dipl.-Psych. Johannes Fesefeldt

Affiliation: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Personalwesen e.V., Berlin (*German Society for Personnel Management*)

Business: Human Resource Management



Johannes Fesefeldt is a psychologist working in personnel consulting at Deutsche Gesellschaft für Personalwesen (*German Society for Personnel Management*) whose statutory members and clients are legal entities, such as government agencies, administrations in the public sector, business enterprises, non-profit organizations and research institutes. Originally from Lüneburg, he studied Psychology and Philosophy in Kiel. After his graduation in 2011 he collaborated as a HR-evaluator in the Great Place to Work Institute Germany workplace culture benchmark “Germany’s best employer 2012”. Since 2012 Johannes Fesefeldt is a permanent staff member of the Berlin office of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Personalwesen (dgp). His focus lies on the design and implementation of personnel selection methods,

such as psychological tests, interviews and assessment centers (AC). Other topics include training seminars for AC, roleplaying, knowledge management, competence modelling and personnel marketing. The clients of dgp are mainly government agencies, e.g. the German Federal Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt).

Dr. Dennis Fink

Affiliation: mediomix GmbH (media agency for scientists)
Business: Science communication and services



Dr. Dennis Fink is the CEO and Co-Founder of the digital media agency mediomix GmbH, which delivers science communication solutions to researchers and industry. Born in Cologne, he was among the first Bachelor students in Biology of the University in Cologne and joined the International Max-Planck Research School MarMic at the MPI Bremen in 2006. Already during his PhD he realized, that by using modern media comes a unique opportunity to help researchers with their scientific outreach. For this reason, he and his colleague Dr. Wolfgang Hankeln decided to start their own company in Cologne after their PhDs in 2011. This was made possible with the EXIST stipend of the Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Technik. Right after this, mediomix convinced a jury of media experts with their business plan and received a subsequent funding by the Medienzentrum North rhine-Westphalia (NRW) in 2013 and were integrated into a network of creative startup companies in NRW. On his way from scientist to science communicator, Dr. Dennis Fink learned the assets of managing a company and acquired valuable insights from science communication for industry and research, that he would like to share with at this symposium.

Dr. Michael Fischer

Affiliation: FIELAX Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliche Datenverarbeitung mbH, Bremerhaven (scientific data management)
Business: Consulting, engineering (services and products for marine sciences and technology)



Dr. Michael Fischer is a scientific engineer at FIELAX GmbH. The company offers scientific-technical services for research and shipping, such as the installation, operation and maintenance of research platforms, measuring devices and data acquisition systems, mainly in the marine environment. Clients are major national and international research institutes, universities, operators of research vessels, public authorities and offshore planners. After working as IT consultant, he studied Geography, Chemistry, and Sociology at the University of Leipzig. During his studies, he has already been a member of several field campaigns to the subtropics and the Antarctic. Michael Fischer graduated in 2009 and was granted with a POLMAR scholarship for his PhD project at the Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research. In 2010 he joined the Helmholtz Juniors (An initiative to represent the interests of approx. 6200 PhD candidates at all 18 Centres in the Helmholtz Association, Germany's largest non-university scientific organization) where he became the spokesperson in 2011. In his PhD project, he investigated the geochemistry of sea ice with an emphasis on the air-ice-ocean exchange of CO₂. He planned and conducted long-term expeditions in Greenland, the High Canadian Arctic and large-scale experiments at the Hamburg Ship Model Basin in collaboration with partners from international research institutes and universities. After finishing his PhD in 2013, he commenced working as scientific engineer at FIELAX. There he works on the integration and preparation of the scientific equipment for the research aircrafts Polar 5 and 6 of the Alfred Wegener Institute as well as accompany the aircrafts on campaigns to the polar regions and integrations in Canada.

Dr. Tilman Hesse

Affiliation: Öko-Institut e.V. / Institute for Applied Ecology
Business: NGOs / research consultancies



Dr. Tilman Hesse is a natural scientist/geologist at Öko Institut e.V., a leading European research institute/consultancy in sustainable development. He studied natural sciences at Cambridge University, UK. After his graduation in 2009 he started a PhD project at the Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, and the Institute for Environmental Physics at the University of Bremen. In his PhD thesis he looked at water mass distributions in the glacial Atlantic Ocean by modelling carbon isotopes in benthic foraminifera. During his PhD he was supported by a POLMAR scholarship. Finishing his PhD in 2013, he joined Öko Institut e.V. working as researcher in the Climate and Energy division in Freiburg. The focus of his work is developing scenarios for a climate neutral

building stock in Germany, as well as integrated heat and electricity market modelling.

Barbara Hoffbauer

Affiliation: KEPOS GmbH
Business: Science Management



Fully qualified attorney, many years of experience as personnel manager and human resources developer, working in the field of counseling scientists in their professional orientation process since 2006. She possesses well-founded insights in the personal requirements imposed on employees in industry and administration and offers a wide range of methods in individual counseling. She has many excellent contacts in various business branches and has numerous successful career examples. She is well qualified for consulting activities, having trained at the Moreno Institute in Stuttgart and with WSFB in Wiesbaden.

Florian Maaß

Affiliation: EWE AG, Oldenburg - Personnel development
Business: Energy Sector



Florian Maaß is a Psychologist at EWE AG in Oldenburg. Originally, from Oldenburg, he studied Psychology in Oldenburg and Long Beach California (USA). After his graduation in 2000, he started his career as Manager for Training & Development at the company Atlanta AG in Bremen. In 2007, he commenced working as Head of Human Ressource & Training and development at Floragard in Oldenburg. Floragard is a world wide operating company and Mr. Maaß was responsible for the whole Human Ressource Process. Florian Maaß left the company Floragard in March 2011 and joined the Human Ressource Department of EWE in Oldenburg. There he is working in the holding as Manager for Personalmarketing. With energy, telecommunications and information technology, EWE combines the key expertise needed for a sustainable and intelligent energy supply. More than 9,000 people work in the Group, which is largely owned by local authorities,

in northwest Germany, Brandenburg, northern West Pomerania and on the island of Rügen, and in Poland and Turkey. As a secure and forward-looking employer, EWE offers a high degree of job autonomy, a wide range of vocational and professional training opportunities, a good work-life balance and comprehensive health and social security benefits.

Dr. Iris Menn

Affiliation: Christoffel Blindenmission (currently)
Greenpeace (formerly)

Business: NGOs / Research Consultancy



Dr. Iris Menn is program director with Christian Blind Mission. Dr. Iris Menn is head of the programme and international cooperation with Christian Blind Mission CBM (www.cbm.org). Iris is originally from a small village near Marburg/Lahn. She studied biology with a focus on ecology and marine biology in Marburg, Braunschweig and Hamburg. For her diploma and PhD thesis as well as for a post doc position she worked at the Wadden Sea Station Sylt of the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research. For more than 10 years she was working for

Greenpeace Germany within the department of oceans, forests and biodiversity. Her work focused on marine conservation issues and specifically on marine reserves and fisheries. Iris passion for freedom, social justice, peace and environmental protection are the main drivers for her long standing Greenpeace commitment. Her responsibilities included campaign strategy development as well as the implementation of national and international campaigns. Whereby campaign work the spectrum from negotiations with politics and economics on national as well as international level, nonviolent direct actions, preparations of reports, public as well as media relations and cooperation with other stakeholders covers. Under Iris leadership, for example, the global strategy for the marine reserve campaign has been developed for Greenpeace International. Three years ago she mentored the establishment of the Greenpeace office in Senegal including the building of the team and the development of their oceans campaign strategy. Just recently, she led the forest campaign of Greenpeace Germany.

Dr. Tanja Michler-Cieluch

Affiliation: Graduate Academy of Leibniz Universität Hannover

Business: Science management



Dr. Tanja Michler-Cieluch is a project coordinator at the Graduate Academy of Leibniz Universität Hannover. The Graduate Academy is the central coordination and service facility for all young academics at Leibniz Universität Hannover. Born near Hanover, Tanja studied Biology at the University of Oldenburg, Germany, and complemented her natural science studies with a Master of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). During her studies she participated in various projects which took her, among others, to Costa Rica, Mexico, Norway, Spain and Portugal. After having finished her master's thesis in 2004, Tanja started a PhD project in the working group "Marine Aquaculture, Maritime Technologies and ICZM" at the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI). Thematically, she worked on a visionary

and strongly transdisciplinary topic concerning the potential of future integration of two different business sectors in the North Sea, namely offshore wind energy generation and marine aquaculture (mariculture).

Dr. Gesa-Meike Muhr

Affiliation: NIVEA, Beiersdorf AG
Business: Science communication and services



Dr. Gesa Muhr is responsible for the field of science communication in the Category of Face products for NIVEA at Beiersdorf AG, Hamburg. Beiersdorf is a global company which consumer business segment concentrates on the international skin and body care markets. With more than 150 affiliates worldwide and strong brands like NIVEA and Eucerin Beiersdorf develops innovative, high-quality skin and body care products. Originally from Wittmund, Gesa Muhr studied biology at the University of Oldenburg and focused on the biochemistry of the nervous system. She finished her studies with a external diploma thesis at the center for molecular neurobiology hamburg (ZMNH). After the graduation she started

2002 a PhD Project at the Research center of the Beiersdorf AG in collaboration with the University of Hamburg. Finishing her PhD in 2006 she was able to work as a Research Scientist in the field of skin research. 2008 Gesa Muhr took over the Management of the research lab “Aging Skin”. Returning from parental leave in 2012 she moved to the field of science communication. In this role she is now responsible for promoting and explaining science and science related topics in order to support Beiersdorf Face care products.

Dr. Judith Neumann

Affiliation: Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit (German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety)
Business: Administration / civil service



Dr. Judith Neumann works for the Federal Ministry for the Environment. Judith has studied biology in Marburg, Erlangen/Nuremberg and Bremen and has specialized on marine ecology, zoology and environmental law. Graduating in 2008, she was accepted for a PhD grant offered by the Bremen International Graduate School for Marine Science. Within her PhD project she investigated the “Effects of high CO₂ and low pH on benthic communities of the deep sea”. After finishing her PhD at the Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology, she had a postdoc position at the MPI-MM. Since April 2013 she works at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety in Bonn.

Dr. Ute Schadek

Affiliation: planungsgruppe grün gmbh, Bremen (Partner in Planungsgemeinschaft Umweltplanung Offshore Windpark GbR)
Business: Environmental planning (on- and offshore)



Dr. Ute Schadek is a project manager in environmental planning at planungsgruppe grün gmbh in Bremen. planungsgruppe grün gmbh (PGG) is an office with an interdisciplinary line-up in environmental and town/country planning located in Bremen, Ovelgönne-Frieschenmoor and Fritzlar-Geismar, working successfully since 1972. PGG's concept is to advise, assist and attend public and private project holders in terms of sustainable realization of ideas, in the planning of regionally adapted concepts of use and development of landscape as well as in the practical implementation of environmental planning and landscape architecture projects. The office has been working in projects

situated both on land and in the marine environment (i. e. on- and offshore) with working fields mainly in the sectors of wind energy, infrastructure (power cables, road engineering), and land use planning. Offshore projects in the scope of wind energy and power cables are usually conducted in a specially

established association with the offices IBL Umweltplanung GmbH, Oldenburg, und BioConsult Schuchardt & Scholle GbR, Bremen. The association “Planungsgemeinschaft Umweltplanung Offshore Windpark GbR“ (PGU) has been existing since the year 2000, covering the whole range of offshore environmental planning services concerning approval documents as well as the monitoring of construction and operation of offshore installations. Dr. Ute Schadek studied Landscape ecology and graduated at the University of Oldenburg. During and after her diploma phase in 2001 she worked for two years as a specialist in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and environmental planning at ARSU GmbH and NWP Gesellschaft für räumliche Planung und Forschung mbH, Oldenburg. Not knowing whether to prefer a career in science or in practical environmental planning, she subsequently decided to try out and switched to graduate in the context of urban ecology. Since her graduation in 2006 Ute Schadek has been working at the planungsgruppe grün gmbh in Bremen as a project manager in environmental planning, especially within the scope of wind energy, power cables (both on- and offshore) and as an environmental construction supervisor.

Dr. Detlev Suckau

Affiliation: Bruker Daltonics

Business: Instrument manufacturers



Dr. Detlev Suckau is Head of the department “Pharma and Biopharma Solutions R&D” at Bruker Daltonik in Bremen. Bruker Corporation is a leading manufacturer of analytical systems for life science and clinical applications. Today, worldwide more than 6,000 employees are working on this permanent challenge at over 90 locations on all continents. Bruker systems cover a broad spectrum of applications in all fields of research and development and are used in all industrial production processes for the purpose of ensuring quality and process reliability. Bruker Daltonik GmbH develops, manufactures and distributes mass spectrometry based systems

for clinical diagnostics, pharmaceutical R&D and QC, all kind of Omics technologies, food and material science or petrochemistry. Raised up in Wiesbaden he studied Chemistry in Mainz and Irvine, CA. During Diploma thesis he worked in bacterial genetics and turned to mass spectrometry of proteins for his PhD thesis in Konstanz. A postdoc at Cornell, NY in 2002 –gas phase protein structure analysis - was followed by a first position in the pharmaceutical industry in the Pharma R&D mass spectrometry lab of Boehringer Mannheim. 2004 he joined Bruker Daltonik in Tsukuba-shi, JP to help build up the applications group and then in Bremen heading the MALDI-TOF applications R&D group after a few years. He is head of the newly formed Pharma and Biopharma solutions R&D unit since Jan 2014.

Dr. Bettina Taylor

Affiliation: Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland e.V. (BUND), Meeresschutzbüro

Business: Environmental NGO, Marine conservation



Dr. Bettina Taylor is a marine biologist at the environmental NGO BUND, which is part of the global Friends of the Earth network. She studied biology at the University of Hannover and the University of Glasgow, Scotland. During the 2 years at the University of Glasgow, she started specializing in marine biology. After her graduation (Diplom) in 2001, she did a PhD at the Centre for Marine Tropical Ecology in Bremen (2002-2006) on the characteristics of organic nitrogen compounds in a mangrove ecosystem in north Brazil. For the field work Bettina Taylor spend approximately 2 years in total in North Brazil. After the PhD she worked for 6 years as a PostDoc in the Young Investigators Group “Phytooptics” at the Alfred-Wegener-Institute in Bremerhaven, where she was responsible for the field sampling and analysis of phytoplankton samples in the

Atlantic Ocean. In 2013 Bettina Taylor decided to leave the scientific world and joined the environmental NGO BUND in Bremen in the field of marine conservation.

Dr. André Wischmeyer

Affiliation: Busse & Busse, Patent- und Rechtsanwälte (*patent agents and lawyers*)

Business: Intellectual Property



Dr. André Wischmeyer is a Patent Attorney at the IP law firm Busse & Busse Patent- und Rechtsanwälte Partnerschaft mbB in Osnabrück, Germany. Originally from Osnabrück he started his studies in Physics at the University of Osnabrück and later moved on to University of Bremen. After his graduation in 1998 he started his PhD at the Alfred- Wegener-Institute for Polar and Marine Sciences about several aspects of the global Silicon cycle. Part of his research was spent at Romberg Tiburon Center, a research facility of San Francisco State University. Having finished his PhD by the end of 2002, he started his education to become a patent attorney in the well established law firm of Busse & Busse. This included studies of law at the Hagen distant University as well as studies at the German Patent and Trademark Office and the German Patent Court. Since 2006 Dr. Wischmeyer has been working as a German Patent Attorney. After passing the European Qualification Examination later on he has also been acting as European Patent Attorney for the above mentioned law firm. He is now working in every aspect of Intellectual Property with a focus on Patents and Trademarks being registered, used and defended in the world's biggest markets.

Dr. Chris Andre Würdemann

Affiliation: Intertek, Director Laboratory Systems

Business: Quality testing and certification



Dr. Chris Würdemann is working as global Director, Laboratory Services at the Intertek's Business Life sciences (Food, Chemicals and Pharma). Intertek is the industry leader with over 36,000 people in 1,000 locations in over 100 countries. Whether your business is local or global, we can ensure your products meet quality, health, environmental, safety, and social accountability standards for virtually any market around the world. We hold extensive global accreditations, recognitions, and agreements, and our knowledge of and expertise in overcoming regulatory, market, and supply chain hurdles is unrivalled. Chris studied Biology at the University of Bremen with focus on Biotechnology/ Microbiology, Biochemistry and Genetics until his graduation in 2002 in the Department of Biotechnology and Molecular Genetics at the Center for Environmental Sciences in Bremen. Afterwards he did his Doctorate (Ph.D.) at the Max Planck Institute for Marine Microbiology in the Department of Molecular Ecology in the Microbial Genomics Group, supervised by Prof. Dr. Glöckner and at the International University of Bremen. Finishing his PhD in 2006, Chris started to work in the area of Product Development and Quality Management in a production company before he joined a European focused service provider for product testing as Laboratory head and later as site and branch manager. After a short period of self- employment and cooperation with another world wide acting testing and certification company Chris joined Intertek in 2011. In his actual role Chris is focusing on global strategic Service development in the area of analytical Laboratory Services, product testing and process as well as workflow optimization.