

Election of the Graduate Student Representatives

Candidates for the term of 2019/ 2020

The election will take place from **11:30 am until 12:45 pm on November 13, 2019**

Anna-Lena Amend

IEG, Neuherberg



I am in my 2nd year of my PhD now at the Institute of Experimental Genetics and a candidate as a spokesperson for the 2nd time. I am also one of your Helmholtz Juniors (HeJus), this means I represent HMGU within a board of all Helmholtz Centers in Germany.

Ever since I started my PhD at HMGU I was part of DINI. I am organizing the monthly get togethers and other social events such as the summer networking event and the snow weekend for the PhD students, so you have quite possibly met me!

Doing a PhD is a long and intensive process and these social events provide the opportunity to create a good und functioning network. Exchange and communication with other PhD students about work related interests and problems but also on a social level enables us to connect better with each other and this significantly enhances our working environment. I would like to continue getting people to connect with each other, learn about problems and try to help improving the situation if necessary.

Kora-Lee Claude

IFE, Neuherberg



I started my PhD at the Institute of Functional Epigenetics (IFE) in November 2017, meaning that I am currently in my 3rd PhD year. Feeling more comfortable at the centre and in my project, I now want to focus on the exchange with other students. During a PhD, I think that being surrounded by a good social network, not only by friends and by family outside of the centre, but also on campus, is very important. I miss the connectivity between students from different institutes that I feel is stronger on university campuses.

As your Graduate Student Representative, I would like to help enforce the communication and exchange between the students on Campus. I of course also would like to help anyone if they encounter problems and be an active part in shaping a comfortable environment in our centre.

Mohamed Elhadad

EPI, Neuherberg



PhD students are the driving force of Helmholtz. They carry upon themselves the burden of learning a lot on their very specific topics, while also contributing to their respective groups' work by helping in the lab or with side projects. However, as a PhD myself, I can say we are prone to changes in the center or in our groups. Therefore, we need a voice and we need to be heard. I would like to rerun again as a student representative to help convey our voices to HELENA, work council and to the center's management. I believe that we

need it now even more than ever.

As for information about me, I have been active in organizational work since high school. My volunteer work ranged from political parties to purely social and charitable organizations. I have been active in the center as a member of DINI and as a student representative last year."

Sophia Klink

INET, Neuherberg



One year ago, I started my PhD project at the Molecular Microbial Ecology Group at the Institute of Network Biology (INET). I realized early how important social structures are that help you through this intense period of PhD. For this reason, I joined the doctoral student's initiative at Helmholtz Zentrum München (DINI).

As your Student Representative, I desire to be your ear and voice contributing to a vivid communication. I would love to bring you together with fellow students so we can learn and profit from each other.

I aim to strengthen social structures so you will not only survive your PhD but make most of it in an enjoyable atmosphere.