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Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear members of the iimt world,

The elapsed year was characterised by change, transformation and a variety of exciting new research and educational projects, as well as many other highlights. We are more than pleased to share with you an insight into our year in this Annual Report 2019.

The education sector is in a constant state of change. These challenges are a real motivation for the iimt, and they inspire us to strive for excellence in all we do. Looking at the labour market, it quickly becomes clear that the constant acquisition of skills in a dynamic business environment is the key to success. The iimt, as part of the University of Fribourg, and a leading Swiss competence centre for management in technology, is committed to excellent education and research. Our goal is to develop future game-changers who will have a positive impact on society, by offering outstanding educational programmes.

In 2019 all our Executive Programmes, from the Specialised Courses to the Executive CAS, Executive Diploma, as well as the Executive MBA programmes, went ahead as planned and were conducted very successfully. Once again, outstanding lecturers, coming from other Universities, business schools as well as renowned companies and government institutions in Switzerland and worldwide, offered our students a unique learning experience throughout the year.

New course modules were integrated into the programme, such as the AI course, while the rest of the existing courses were updated. We have made our examination processes even more flexible and agile.

In the past year, not only the existing course modules and programmes were revised, also new programmes were created. With our business partners Swisscom and INNOArchitects, we have conceptualised and launched four new Executive CAS programmes. These programmes equip the participants with the necessary tools for greater success in their day-to-day business environment.

Besides, the Chair of Management in ICT took over a leading role and offered cutting-edge research. New researchers joined the team, and alongside the University courses, we have successfully executed prestigious research projects and published several papers at national and international conferences.

Two main highlights in the last year were undoubtably the ARC-HEST student exchange programme between Switzerland and South Korea, as well as the brand-new University lecture “Fribourg von morgen”. You can find more details about all the research activities in this report.

More news is to come and many exciting projects are on their way for 2020. Customer’s and market needs, as well as digital challenges, are a constant inspiration and driver for us to take a leading role.

We are looking forward to another exciting year with you and would like to thank you for the confidence you placed in us.

Many thanks to everyone!

Dr. Hans C. Werner
President of the iimt

Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel
Director of the iimt
iimt - a world of opportunities

The international institute of management in technology (iimt), as part of the University of Fribourg, is a leading Swiss competence centre for Management in Technology and is committed to excellent education and research.

Our Vision
Our vision is to develop future game-changers who will have an impact in society, who can face technology-driven challenges and who can provide solutions for identified emerging issues in a global business environment.

Our Mission
Our mission is to provide mutual inspiring environments for excellent postgraduate education and cutting-edge research in the field of Management in Technology. We strive to enable a unique and agile learning experience by linking national and international academics and practitioners with the most recent tools and learning techniques. Individual learning and research objectives are realized through stakeholder proximity and strong partnerships. We pool people, cultures, ideas, services and technologies to create real value adding for society.

Our Values

Excellence
We foster cutting-edge research and education and strive for excellence in all we do.

Responsibility
Our cultural cornerstones are transparency, integrity, ethics, and social responsibility.

Openness
We live critical thinking and intellectual and passionate creativity, and we encourage an entrepreneurial plus intrapreneurial mindset.

Humanness
We educate, energize and encourage people to strengthen human-centric business culture.

we care about you
The iimt Executive Programmes
The Executive Programmes

The iimt Executive Programmes offer access to a set of skills enabling participants to innovate, produce consistently superior results and successfully lead global business organisations. We are committed to the success of everyone who entrusts the iimt with their education. Therefore, we offer modular and flexible programmes that provide a great deal of flexibility, allowing everyone to tailor their studies around their busy schedules. Our students can extend their studies over several years, and they have the flexibility to plan their programme as they see fit.

All our courses are focusing on Technology Management, and are continuously adapted to ensure that they are in line with new technologies and developments in the digital world. Here at the iimt, we put a lot of focus on connecting theory and practice. To do so, we continuously collaborate with top experts who share their invaluable experience with our students through practical case studies. Our students had an opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas and knowledge with lecturers and other participants from different companies and industries.

In 2019, the iimt was chosen by numerous students as their “number one choice” to expand their knowledge and experience through a variety of programmes we offer such as the Executive MBA, Executive Diploma, Executive CAS study programme or Special Courses. The iimt is continuously reinventing itself with a vision and commitment to developing future game-changers who will have a positive impact on the society and provide answers to upcoming challenges of the global business environment.

Highlights of the Year 2019

2019 was very successful and exciting. We had 18 new students registered for our Executive Programmes who had the opportunity to benefit from a variety of modules. Some of the new students wanted to expand their knowledge through specialised courses, while others enrolled in an Executive Programme. By making our programmes even more flexible, the students were able to put together their own programme.

We are offering eight different Executive CAS, two Executive Diploma and our Executive MBA Programme to future managers and entrepreneurs. With our new range of programmes, students can choose from a wide selection of modules and put together a tailor-made study programme.

To keep up with changes in the global business environment, we have restructured and refreshed some of our modules ensuring that the content is relevant and up to date. In 2019 we welcomed new professors and lecturers bringing in strong new academic and practical knowledge from different universities and industries. We restructured some of our modules to ensure that we are in line with the latest trends, such as digitalisation.
In 2019, in cooperation with our subject area coordinator, we have revised the accounting modules and included new lecturers. In June, Prof. Dr. Messner from the University of Innsbruck taught the new module “Management Control Systems”. He shared his knowledge of planning and budgeting, financial performance and value creation, and strategy and performance measurements with our students.

We also included new modules in our course calendar such as Artificial Intelligence for Managers. Mr Amir Tabakovic, a lecturer at ESADE in Barcelona and BFH in Bern, held his first lecture at the iimt in November. He provided students with a more in-depth insight into the world of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, data driven organisation and democratisation. Mr Amir Tabakovic has gone deeper into the topic by giving practical examples of problems associated with the Machine Learning.

Our “Selected Legal Issues” module has also gone through a revision. In 2019, we reduced the law modules to one module. Our experts gave students an introduction to law and provided practical examples.

Students can familiarise themselves with some of their modules through prep-work giving them a head start with the courses. We have ensured that our courses are rich with engaging content and case studies.

To make our programmes even more flexible, we also adjusted our examination process – some courses will require students to apply and showcase their knowledge in a final paper. In contrast, others will be graded through a written exam or a presentation. All our modules have one thing in common – active participation is the most important and focused on factor when it comes to a final grade.

Based on current technologies, digital transformation is changing the entire economy and society. The digitalisation does not stop at the doorsteps of academia. The challenge to contribute to a paperless educational environment is a crucial point for our Executive Programmes. Also, we are increasingly present on our social networks to communicate about our new modules and courses and to be closer to our students.

In November 2019, the first graduates of the Executive CAS Innovation Management & Intrapreneurship and Executive CAS Lean Innovation were proud to receive their diplomas. These two Executive CAS are carried out in close cooperation with our partner INNOArchitects. This format is a unique course within Switzerland’s continuous education market, combining academic education with a practical approach to real-life cases.

In 2019 we organised three Stammtisch-afterworks, where students had the opportunity to meet our alumni, lecturers and members of the iimt team.
Executive MBA

Vincenzo Barbiéri and Xavier Denti
Digitalisation of the shipping industry How to create value?

Maria Berger
Artificial Intelligence: Definition, Risks, Legal Challenges and Perspectives of Regulation.

Niklaus Dillier
Strategische Analyse des Geschäftsbereiches Stromerzeuger & Notstromanlagen der DEAG.

Cédric Engeler
Impact of Artificial Intelligence on the Customer Experience.

Raffael Hilber
Digitale Transformation - Herausforderungen und Lösungsstrategien für das Geschäftsfeld Netze der BKW.

Rose Moura
Wood Construction Opportunities in Switzerland within Smart City Context.

Fabrice Pasquier
Quel futur pour Groupe E? Une méthode pour établir une stratégie de diversification.

Michel Vorlet

Laure Zbinden-Boulianne
Énergiser Groupe E: Evolution de la culture d’entreprise et des structures organisationnelles afin de développer l’esprit d’entrepreneur, la culture de la performance et de l’agilité.

Lionel Zufferey
Acquisition Veltigroup/Swisscom. Le choc des cultures.

Executive CAS Strategies & Innovations

Theodor Glauser
Innovation Model in a changing construction equipment industry. Case study with Liebherr Machines Bulle SA.

Executive CAS Project Excellence

Margaux Jaquiéry
Revue des principales normes et méthodologies d’excellence opérationnelle.

Executive CAS Lean Innovation

Ketsia Bachmann
Recognising recurring complaints from customers before that the client has to announce it.
Executive CAS Lean Innovation

Philipp Leuthold
TOPOS - Bedürfnisorientierte Weiterentwicklung der online Standortsuche der POST CH AG.

Simon Marville
Innovations- und Ideenportfolio bei der Schweizerischen Post.

Matthias Rieder
Prüfung eines flexiblen Angebots für die Brot-Post. Handlungsempfehlungen für zukünftige Innovatoren.

Gerson Schärli

Florian Thut
Die Herausforderungen des agilen Projektmanagements in traditionellen Unternehmen und der Status Quo bei PostLogistics.

Executive CAS Innovation Management & Intrapreneurship

Sophie Bürgin
Hacking Impact. Mit gezieltem Experimentieren die Wirkung einer Transformationsausbildung steigern.

Tobias Burri
Disruption Insurance.

Raphaël Conca
Datenbasierende Innovation. Strukturierte Innovation dank Datennutzung.

Kathrin Engler
Selbstorganisation: Auswirkungen auf den Return on Investment von Innovationsprojekten.

Marco Friedli
Work@Mobi24.

Michael Haussener
Alternative Proteinquellen für Sportlernahrung.

Oana Kofmehl
Impact of cognitive biases on innovation. Can behavioral insights enhance innovation?

Salomon Riedo
Das schlummernde Potential der Intrapreneure bei der SBB aktivieren.

Tino Schütz
Aufbau einer Innovationscommunity in der Insel Gruppe.

Evelyne Thomet
Aktuelle Einflüsse im Programm-Management und Empfehlungen zum Umgang damit.
Facts & Figures

18 new students registered for our Executive Programmes in 2019

10 different nationalities were represented in our classrooms in 2019

10 subject area coordinators from around the world ensured our content is up to date

9 main industries were represented by our students, ranging from ICT & Utility to Transport & Logistics

15 iimt team members made the students’ stay at the iimt a comfortable and unforgettable experience

58 outstanding lecturers from leading Universities, and business experts participated in the delivery of the iimt’s courses

15% female students have taken part in our courses in 2019

Fun Facts

15 kilograms of chocolate was eaten during our courses in 2019

3 afterworks with our students, lecturers and the iimt team were hosted during 2019

512 hours was the running time of the technical infrastructure in our classroom in 2019

2300 litres of water were drank during our courses in the year 2019

500000 steps were taken by our course manager in 2019
Every year, the iimt puts on its finest attire for the graduation ceremony. 2019 has probably been one of the best years so far with not one, but two ceremonies!

The first ceremony was held on 14th November in Bern at INNOArchitects, who is iimt’s partner on several training courses. On this occasion, we have awarded sixteen “Executive Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS)”! The partnership with INNOArchitects dates back to 2018 and the Lean Innovation and Innovation Management & Intrapreneurship training courses. It demonstrates the iimt’s openness to work closely with the private sector to better identify new skills and training required in the dynamic field of technology management.

The second graduation ceremony was on 27th November in Fribourg, when we awarded a total of twelve “Executive MBA Management in Technology”, one “Executive Certificate of Advanced Studies CAS Strategies and Innovation” and one “Executive Certificate of Advanced Studies CAS Project Excellence”!

Our Graduates

Graduation Ceremony @ INNOArchitects in Bern, 14th November 2019
Marketing & Communication Activities
A Short Overview

A vital element of the iimt marketing department is to inform and to communicate effectively and continuously with all stakeholders: lecturers, current and future students, alumni, partners, team and council members. We aim to inform everyone within the iimt community about our programmes, research and other activities in a user-friendly manner and through different channels.

First and foremost, our goal is to keep in touch with our community of students, lecturers and industry partners who, together, contribute to iimt’s success story.

However, we are going a step further. The iimt’s daily marketing activities should not only reach out to our existing stakeholders but also help spread the news about the iimt activities to potential new students, lecturers and partners.

We would like to stay in touch and continuously grow and nurture the iimt community and its network of professionals.

iimt on Social Media

Modern times have brought us a variety of tools that provide us with easy and fast access to information and content. We want to make sure that we are staying in touch with all our stakeholders not only face to face but also via different Social Media Channels. The iimt has significantly increased its social media outreach in 2019, pushing news, updates on courses, events research activities and other highlights from the institute. Everyone is more than welcome to join us online.

@iimt.unifr
iimt_unifribourg

iimt - international institute of management in technology
A Variety of Activities

Throughout the past year, the iimt has increased its public exposure in different Swiss magazines, newspapers and newsletters through advertisements, press releases, portraits and editorial articles. Promoting our Executive Programmes, research activities and the iimt itself.

iimt Newsletter
The iimt Newsletter provides its stakeholders, as well as potential members of the iimt world with the latest news from the institute on its activities and upcoming events.

Each Newsletter covers the most recent news from the iimt Executive Programmes, with insights into the daily course organisation as well as the upcoming courses and programmes available at the iimt. Additionally, our research team promotes their cutting-edge research projects, university courses, as well as conferences the team attended since the previous Newsletter. Besides our Social Media channels and the website, the Newsletter is one of the available tools where all stakeholders can keep up-to-date with everything that is going on at the iimt.

Portraits, Editorial Articles
We are pleased to say that the iimt was featured in several publications. Furthermore, our Executive Programmes, research projects and activities were presented in several publications giving the iimt exposure in both French and German-speaking parts of Switzerland.

Facts & Figures

- 2 iimt press releases were sent to the Swiss media in 2019 (French & German)
- 29 new flyers and factsheets were updated and created for our Executive Programmes
- 3057 pictures were taken during our courses, lectures & research activities

Continuous expansion of the iimt curriculum

In addition to the iimt Executive Programmes and the iimt Marketing activities, in 2019 we focused on the development of our educational programmes. In cooperation with Swisscom, three Executive CAS programmes were conceptualised and launched. In November 2019, we launched an Executive CAS “Agile Leadership” in French and an Executive CAS programme “Leadership in a Diverse World” will be launched in January 2020. The third Executive CAS “Soft Skills for Project Managers” shall be launched in autumn 2020. On the other side, we have been busy at work with INNOArchitechts to prepare and launch the Executive CAS “Product Champion” in January 2020. Should you wish to get more information about the variety of our Executive Programmes or you are interested in a customised company training, please get in touch with the iimt team.
Our Event Highlights in 2019

In 2019, the iimt organised or actively participated in the following events:

- **24.01.2019**: ICT Networking Party in Bern
- **13.02.2019**: NUAM Workshop
- **06.03.2019**: Meet-up Event Campana & Schott Zürich
- **14.03.2019**: iiimt Stammtisch
- **02.04.2019**: asut IoT conference Berne
- **10.05.2019**: JAU-NE Neuchâtel
- **23.05.2019**: asut member Apéro Berne
- **13.06.2019**: HEIA-FR Collaboration Event Fribourg
- **13.06.2019**: iiimt Stammtisch
- **18.06.2019**: Visit Nihon InsighTech Fribourg
- **22.06.2019**: asut Seminar in Bern
- **22.08.2019**: Visit Nihon InsighTech Tokyo
- **02.09.2019**: General Assembly CCIF Fribourg
- **09.09.2019**: Workshop Urbaplan Fribourg
- **12.09.2019**: iiimt Stammtisch
- **17.09.2019**: BOC Event Zürich
- **23.10.2019**: Dissertation Yves Hertig
- **13.11.2019**: asut colloquium Berne
- **10.12.2019**: Smart Living Lab year-end event

In addition to the above-mentioned events, the iiimt participated actively in different Smart Living Lunch events, organised by and in cooperation with the Smart Living Lab in Fribourg.

Our Network of Partners

We strive to enable a unique and agile learning experience by linking national and international academics and practitioners with the most modern tools and learning techniques. Individual learning and research objectives are realised through stakeholder proximity and strong partnerships.

### Platinum & Gold Partners

Swisscom (Schweiz) AG, our Platinum partner, and Groupe e SA as well as INNOArchitects, our Gold partner are all taking an active role as leaders and contributors to high-quality education. We are actively collaborating with both partners in the fields of education, research, as well as planning and delivering lectures and events.

### Bronze Partners

- asut
- Banque Privée Edmond de Rothschild S.A.
- BOC
- Campana & Schott
- Electrosuisse
- GITI - Groupement des Ingénieurs en TIC
- HEIA - School of engineering and architecture Fribourg
- Hostpoint
- Münchner Kreis
- Smart Living Lab

### Media Partners

- CRM Finder & Cloud Finder
- energate messenger
- Energie Finder & Security Finder
- ICT Kommunikation

Partners & Events
The Chair of Management in ICT
Highlights of the Year

Lecturing innovation
The first multidisciplinary course at the University of Fribourg
A genuinely interdisciplinary course was created to leverage the breadth of the university’s faculties, which focuses specifically on contemporary social topics from different perspectives. The novel idea of a multi- and interdisciplinary course is intended to enable students to combine the acquired knowledge from their studies and various fields and courses, and to generate cross-disciplinary solutions through group projects. The motto for the first trial of this course was “Fribourg von morgen”.

Did you know?
The iimt’s new multidisciplinary master course “Fribourg von morgen” is open for students from all faculties. It doesn’t matter whether you are studying management, economics, psychology, law, IT, theology, chemistry or physics. The more students with different backgrounds join the course, the more different types of knowledge can we bring together, proposing solution pathways for current and future challenges!

Innovation-led transformation of socio-technical system: Strategic Niche Management
This course aims to provide students with a theoretical understanding of the basic principles and concepts of Transition Studies and, particularly, Strategic Niche Management. As a key element of the course, students should be able to apply these principles to analyse and evaluate real-life examples for innovation niches, to provide practical recommendations to key actors.

Strategisches Projektmanagement
This master course aims to convey the importance and applicability of theoretical and practical methods in project management. Especially the practical contributions from our partners Campana & Schott, DACS and revendex always make this university course very special.

Swiss-Korean Academic Exchange Programme ARC-HEST
Members of the iimt team have added their expertise in innovation and transition studies to this novel academic exchange programme, organised by six universities – the University of Fribourg, HEIA-FR, and EPFL in Switzerland and Sungkyunkwan University, EWHAWomans University and Hanyang University in Korea – and supported by the Swiss Science and Technology Office in Seoul. In the course of the programme, students and teachers have investigated synergies of architectural design, human factors, and technologies in office buildings and their combined effect on indoor environmental quality and human-building interaction in the context of the local culture and architecture. The first part of the programme was held from August 18th to 30th August in Seoul, Korea, as a summer school, while the second part will be organised as a winter school in February 2020 in Fribourg.
Highlights of the Year

Swiss-US Energy Innovation Days
The Swiss-US Energy Innovation Days (SUEID), organised by the Swiss Federal Office of Energy, have taken place between the 6th and 9th of October in Austin and San Antonio, Texas (USA). The SUEID provided a collaborative networking forum where attendees exchanged ideas and explored energy innovation, strategies, market developments and policies from both countries. The event, which was attended by more than 80 Swiss and US participants, featured inspiring panels, seminars, workshops, field trips and interactive presentations. Kirstin Stadelmann presented the iimt’s Crowd Energy concept and the related human-powered paradigm shift.

Prof. Dr Xuan Xie visiting the iimt
Professor Xie was with the iimt for six months as a visiting researcher, bringing in her expertise and background in information theory. At the University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC), Chengdu, her focus is on information theory, data analysis, feature extract, and fault diagnosis for mixed-signal circuits. Her home university, UESTC, was included as one of the first universities into the “Project 211” in 1997, a project in China that aims to develop 100 first-class universities. In 2001, UESTC was admitted into the nation’s Project 985 (top 39), receiving special support for developing excellent universities and world-renowned research-oriented universities. Moreover, UESTC has been supported by the national “Double Top” (A) construction project since 2017 (top 32). It has been a very inspiring and productive six months with Xuan.

Books about Blockchain at Springer-Verlag
Members of the iimt research group have compiled contributions on the subject of Blockchain in the Energy Sector for two major works on Blockchain published by Professors A. Meier and H.-G. Fill in the series IT-Kompakt and Edition HMD of Springer Verlag. Both books will be published in the first quarter of 2020.
Fun Facts
Having arrived in Seoul to take part in the ARC-HEST Summer School, the iimt team went searching for a nice Korean restaurant just to end up at a Chinese one. Never mind – it was tasty! And we got all our Korean cuisine dreams fulfilled in the following days!

Besides taking part in a brand-new academic exchange-programme, engaging in cultural and academic exchanges with our Korean hosts, and exploring the fantastic city of Seoul, one of the core challenges tackled by the iimt ARC-HEST team was to convey our coffee wishes to the hotel staff!
Publications (peer reviewed)


Additional Publications


Bachelor Theses

Bauer, A. (2019); ‘Sicherheitsstrategie in Unternehmen - Eine theoretische Übersicht’, iimt BA, University of Fribourg.


Nguyen, M. (2019); ‘Konzeption und Modellierung eines Cyber Security Canvas’, iimt BA, University of Fribourg.

Master Theses

Iskhakova, Y. (2019); ‘Knowledge Management and User Involvement in an Open Innovation Network: A Swiss Living Lab as a Case Study’, iimt MA, University of Fribourg.


Moukthari, O. (2019); ‘Knowledge Flows and Actors Roles in the University of Fribourg Innovation Ecosystems’, iimt MA, University of Fribourg.

Scotti, E. (2019); ‘A strategic analysis of Swisscom’s mobile voice recording service’, iimt MA, University of Fribourg.

PhD Thesis


EMBA & Executive CAS Theses

Barbieri, V., Denti, X. (2019); ‘Digitalization of the shipping industry - How to create value?’, iimt EMBA.

Engler, K. (2019); ‘Selbstorganisation: Auswirkungen auf den Return on Investment von Innovationsprojekten’, iimt Executive CAS.

Glauser, T. (2019); ‘Innovation Model in a changing construction equipment industry. Case Study with Liebherr Machines Bulle SA’, iimt Executive CAS.

Hilber, R. (2019); ‘Digitale Transformation - Herausforderungen und Lösungsstrategien für das Geschäftsfeld Netze der BKW’, iimt EMBA.

Jaquier, M. (2019); ‘Revue des principales normes et méthodologies d’excellence opérationnelle’, iimt Executive CAS

Kofmehl, O. (2019); ‘Impact of cognitive biases on innovation. Can behavioural insights enhance innovation?’, iimt Executive CAS.


Riedo, S. (2019); ‘Das schlummernde Potential der Intrapreneure bei der SBB aktivieren.’, iimt Executive CAS.

Thomet, E. (2019); ‘Aktuelle Einflüsse im Programm-Management und Empfehlungen zum Umgang damit.’, iimt Executive CAS.

Thut, F. (2019); ‘Die Herausforderungen des agilen Projektmanagements in traditionellen Unternehmen und der Status Quo bei PostLogistics’, iimt ExecutiveCAS.

Zufferey, L. (2019); ‘Acquisition Veltigroup / Swisscom - Le choc des cultures’, iimt EMBA.
Memberships with Advisory Vote

- Manager Smart Living Lab UNIFR
- Member of the Advisory Board Cybersecurity SATW
- Member of Swiss Federal Communications Commission (ComCom)
- Member of Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences (SATW)
- Member of the editorial committee of the Journal of Electronic Science and Technology and committee member of JEST special section on Energy Efficient Technologies
- Editor of iimt University Press
- Chair of iimt University Press Scientific Advisory Board
- Jury member of Energy Award Germany (under the auspices of Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Energie)
- Scientific Board Member of SBA Research Vienna
- Member of asut Fachkommission Bildung
- President of the Advisory Board of energate messenger Switzerland
- Member of the Advisory Board of Security–Finder Schweiz
- Steering Group Member of Sustainable Transitions Research Network (STRN)
- Steering Committee Member of Network of Early Career Researchers in Sustainable Transitions (NEST)

Further Memberships

- CCIF - Chamber of commerce and industry Fribourg
- Electrosuisse
- GI - Gesellschaft für Informatik
- IEEE - Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
- IFIP-TC11 - International Federation of Information Processing (Security and Privacy Protection in Information Processing Systems)
- Innovation Club Fribourg
- ISSS - Information Security Society Switzerland
- IT Valley Fribourg
- Münchner Kreis
- PMI - Project Management Institute
- RISE - Responsible Innovation Sustainability Entrepreneurship Collaboratory, Kingston University, UK
- SCNG Special Interest Group of PMI Chapter Switzerland
- SGB - Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Betriebswirtschaft
- SI - Schweizerische Informatikgesellschaft
- SIRA - Swiss Informatics Research Association
- STIR - Sustainability, Technology and Innovation Research Group, University of Greenwich, UK
- VHB - Verband der Hochschullehrer für Betriebswirtschaft
Programme Committees & Academic Reviews Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel

DBKDA 2019, 11th International Conference on Advances in Databases, Knowledge, and Data Applications. Athens, Greece, 2019. Reviewer and member of the programme committee.


TrustBus’19 - 16th International Conference on Trust, Privacy and Security in Digital Business. Linz, Austria, 2019. Reviewer and member of the programme committee.


Programme Committees & Academic Reviews Dr. Anton Sentic


GAIA Ecological Perspectives for Science and Society. Reviewer.


Programme Committees & Academic Reviews Dr. Bernd Teufel


The ideas@iimt program was envisioned at the ‘Innovation and Technology Management’ course at the University of Fribourg. The program actively supports students who are interested in developing and implementing their business ideas. The early-stage support provides students with much needed financial support, as well as the opportunity to gain hands-on experiences in entrepreneurship. By following a lean start-up method, ideas@iimt allows its students to apply their knowledge and learn quickly through a trial-and-error approach.

Current ideas

The program is currently managing and supporting three individual ideas.

“Permaculture Garden”: A project to set-up a garden at the University.

“Próspero”: A business idea to support private businesses in their marketing efforts.

“Localité”: A business idea to create a shop with local products.

The participants are working on these projects in their own free time and at their own pace. Working together with the people behind these projects is an absolute added value - both sides can have plenty of learning opportunities and can gain valuable experience through the program.
Permaculture Garden

By now, Permaculture Garden is one of our senior projects. In 2019, the project grew out of the initial phases and made some progress in real planning and structuring of the garden. The latest efforts included the gathering of seeds and the procurement of required equipment for the construction.

Próspero

Próspero is a business idea developed by Próspero Filipe. His idea helps private businesses to concentrate on their core operations by supporting them in their marketing efforts and customer acquisition.

Localité

This idea for a shop was born from the new sustainability course called “Fribourg of Tomorrow”. The mastermind behind this idea is Sabrine Tawfik. Her goal is to create a sustainable supply chain that can withstand the competitive environment of today to increase the local quality of living.
The Smart Living Lab

The Smart Living Lab is an interdisciplinary, cross-institutional platform unifying cutting-edge research and real-life experimentation in multiple research areas: construction technologies, well-being and behaviours, interactions and design processes and energy systems. Bringing together over 80 researchers in 11 research teams from three institutions: the University of Fribourg (UNIFR), the EPFL and the School of Engineering and Architecture Fribourg, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland (HEIA-FR). Researchers from the iimt, led by Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel and Dr. Anton Sentic, form one of the eleven teams, focusing primarily on energy system through the concept of Crowd Energy, as well as the performance and management of the living lab as an open innovation space and an innovation niche in the context of Transition Studies.

iimt Projects at the Smart Living Lab

In 2019, the iimt’s research activities at the Smart Living Lab focused on continuing ongoing research on the living lab’s internal collaboration and communication networks, continuous improvement of the Crowd Energy 2.0 model, and new research endeavours in the form of the “Efficient and Sustainable Waste Collection” projects and preparation of a review of transition processes in Fribourg’s former tramway system. In line with the SLL’s emphasis on transdisciplinary collaboration, most of these projects include collaboration with both living lab colleagues and external partners.

The continuation of the internal network review through the project “System Analysis Tool for Socio-Spatial Innovation Networks (SATIN)” was implemented together with the TRANSFORM Institute, HEIA-FR, while the “Efficient and Sustainable Waste Collection” project includes partners both from the University of Fribourg and the industry. Finally, the transitions review of Fribourg’s tramways adds an international dimension, being done in collaboration with researchers from the University of Greenwich, London, UK.

Researchers from the iimt took part in living lab teaching activities, actively participating in the ARC-HEST Swiss-Korean Academic Exchange Programme. The iimt also participated in the lab’s management, with Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel acting as manager of the University of Fribourg’s effort at the lab and Kirstin Stadelmann holding the role of communications representative UNIFR.
System Analysis Tool for Socio-Spatial Innovation Networks (SATIN)

In this research project, the iimt Smart Living Lab team continued its research on (smart) living labs as innovation niches and open innovation arenas, drawing on the results and insights obtained in the “Niche Analysis & Actor Network Mapping” research project undertaken in 2017 and 2018. Financed through the Smart Living Lab small projects fund with CHF 13’000.-, the project lasted from February to September 2019. In collaboration with the TRANSFORM Institute of the HEIA-FR, the research focus was an exploratory one – investigating ties between social networks and the spatial location of individuals in their workplace and developing a pilot analytical approach combining social network analysis and spatial analysis methods. Elements of the novel approach were pilot-tested on the case of the Smart Living Lab, where the development of a 3D spatial model was combined with a social network survey to create visualisation options for socio-spatial networks. The project was co-led by Dr Anton Sentic and Prof Florinel Radu (TRANSFORM, HEIA-FR), and supported by Jonathan Parrat and Julie Runser (TRANSFORM, HEIA-FR) as well as Yanina Iskhakova and Virgile Pasquier from the iimt.

Additional Highlights

In addition to the CHF 13’000.- won from the Smart Living Lab Small Projects Fund for the SATIN project, the iimt team has successfully co-developed the “Efficient and Sustainable Waste Collection” project proposal, gaining a funding share of CHF 60’045.- from the Innosuisse Swiss innovation agency.

For the ARC-HEST Winter School programme, the iimt has been called up to lead the academic programme development, with Dr. Anton Sentic taking the role of academic coordinator. In addition to co-developing a new iimt workshop together with Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel and Kirstin Stadelmann, he will oversee the planning and implementation of all other academic inputs, including student presentations at the closing event of the programme.
Efficient and Sustainable Waste collection

This project is an Innosuisse-funded collaboration between a Swiss waste logistics company, Schwendimann AG, and two departments at the University of Fribourg: the Decision Support & Operations Research group (DS & OR) of the Department of Informatics and the iimt. The project aims to explore innovative, efficient and sustainable solutions for municipal waste collection by developing optimised waste collection models, as well as supporting the uptake of innovative waste management solutions. Within the project, the iimt team takes the role of innovation management experts, focusing on the development of innovation support tools enhancing the uptake of innovative solutions in Swiss municipalities. Schwendimann AG, as the industry partner, brings in extensive practical knowledge of the municipal waste collection and flexible solutions such as light electric vehicles and press containers. At the same time, the DS & OR group provides expertise on system optimisation and modelling. The project formally started in October 2019 and will run for three years, during which the project partners intend to pilot-test some of the project’s outputs in interested municipalities, adding a practice dimension to the planned research activities. Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel and Dr. Anton Sentic are leading the iimt’s role in the project, supported by Dr. Bernd Teufel and Virgile Pasquier.

Student Incubator

In line with its focus on supporting and developing student entrepreneurial and innovative activities, the Smart Living Lab has, with the support of Baloise Group, developed a student incubator programme. The incubator will allow students with entrepreneurial ideas to develop them further, supported by Smart Living Lab experts. In addition to their valuable expertise, the students will also be able to access a fund of up to CHF 5’000.- to cover their expenses and initial project costs.
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