20 years iimt – what truly counts!

The iimt anniversary celebration lies ahead and the preparations for this event are in full swing. In our last iimt eSignal Newsletter we already highlighted some important milestones since the foundation of the iimt. Credo of the numerous feedbacks we received: the last 20 years passed surprisingly quickly and it was an unforgettable time at the iimt!

We share the opinion that the time flew by, but in addition we also would like to point out that the iimt wasn’t established overnight. This constant development was possible due to the valuable contribution of all people who crossed and still share the iimt path. Summarised, the recipe for the iimt success story is its people. All feedbacks, ideas, positive as negative criticism, tips, discussions, cooperations and contributions as council member, partner, lecturer, student, alumni, advisor, staff or friends identify the iimt what it is today.

It would be an extraordinary pleasure to meet you at our anniversary celebration event the 1st of October and to share another unforgettable moment with you.

Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel
Director iimt

Save the date!

Next Courses 08.09.2015-07.10.2015
Next iimt Masterclass 23.09.2015
20 years iimt 01.10.2015
Leaders Launch 26.11.2015
Prof. Dr. Kerstin Alfes granted with the HR Swiss Award

Prof. Dr. Kerstin Alfes, iimt Subject Area Coordinator for HR Management since many years, has provided with her doctoral thesis (“Einfluss der Kompetenzen von Personalverantwortlichen auf die strategische Rolle der Personalabteilung”– ISBN 978-3-86618-322-3) a valuable basis in the field of HR. Her outstanding achievement has been honored with the HR Swiss Award.

This thesis illuminates the competences of HR managers in the German-speaking part of Switzerland and demonstrates at the same time where, through personal development measures, competences have to be improved (e. g.: in the understanding of the business processes and in participation of the strategy development).

Until now, Kerstin Alfes’s dissertation is the widest empirical basis (414 HR managers) with sophisticated and analysed statistics.

Since her dissertation, Kerstin Alfes published many other basic contributions for the understanding of an efficient HR management on an international level, and was the first woman entitled at the faculty of Economics and Social Sciences of the University of Bern in the field of Business Administration.

iimt student met Prof. Dr. Michael Porter

Aboubakr Samy Elashrafy, EMBA student at the iimt, had the opportunity to meet Prof. Dr. Michael Porter (renowned Harvard author of the Cluster Theory) at the WEF (World Economic Forum) in Davos. Since many years, the Porter’s competition courses are taught during the National & International Economics modules, held by Prof. Dr. Philippe Gugler. Mr. Elashrafy was delighted to talk with Prof. Dr. Porter and proud to say that he studied Porter’s theory models at the iimt.

Michael Porter is an economist, researcher, author, advisor, speaker and teacher. Throughout his career at Harvard Business School, he has brought economic theory and strategy concepts to bear on many of the most challenging problems facing corporations, economies and societies, including market competition and company strategy, economic development, the environment, and health care. His extensive research is widely recognised in governments, corporations, NGOs, and academic circles around the globe. His research has received numerous awards and he is the most cited scholar today in economics and business. While Prof. Dr. Porter is, at the core, a scholar, his work has also achieved remarkable acceptance by practitioners across multiple fields. (Reference: Harvard Business school’s website)
Next Courses in September

In September 2015 we will again offer courses with interesting personalities from the industry and academic world. Reach your objectives while taking into account the financial, legal and technical constraints in the energy sector. Get closer to the ICT and its multidisciplinary aspects while considering information security. Learn how a company communicates, or, perhaps your interests lie in the field of Information Management & Decision Support?

Utility Technology

Module 1: 8th - 9th September
The electricity sector - open market, strategy and positioning; The distribution company (design, reliability analysis/power quality, metering, cost over outage time, pricing, sales); Asset management

Module 2: 6th - 7th October
Congestion management; power flow control and economics, social welfare; reliability and investment optimisation; Environment issues

Speakers:
- Prof. Patrick Favre-Perrod, University of Applied Sciences, Fribourg
- Dr. Thilo Krause, ETH, Zurich
- Dr. Lukas Küng, Wasserwerke Zug AG

International Speaker:
- Dr. David Orzan, The Energy Consulting Group Ltd, Zurich
- Dr. Dieter Reichelt, Axpo AG, Baden

Information and Communication Technology

Module 1: 8th - 9th September
Telecom: infrastructure, economics, trends; Green IT; Advanced and multimodal user interfaces; IT networks: threats and trends; IT and sustainable development; Sustainability reporting in the IT

Module 2: 15th - 16th September
From strategy to budgeting; Management control systems; Performance measurement

Speakers:
- Peter Burkhalter, ABEONA Business Services+ Coaching AG and Patton Electronics Co.
- Dr. Elena Mugellini, University of Applied Sciences, Fribourg
- Walter Steinlin, CTI/KTI, Bern
- Prof. Dr. Ulrich Ultes-Nitsche, University of Fribourg

International Speaker:
- Dr. Edgar Weippl, SBA Research and Vienna University of Technology, Austria

Corporate Communication

22nd - 23rd September
Corporate communication and stakeholder management; Corporate identity, image and reputation; Communication strategy and practice incl. media relations; Crisis management

International Speaker:
- Dr. Graeme Lindsay, Amiens School of Management, France
Information Management and Decision Support

Module 1: 10th - 11th September
The role of IT: its importance for corporate strategy; Fundamentals of information management; IT-governance, IS-controlling and risk Management

Module 2: 17th - 18th September
Implementing information system in organisations; Effecting organisational change; International IT implementation; IT service management

Module 3: 24th - 25th September
Business analytics; Data warehousing; MicroStrategy; Fuzzy data warehousing; Big data; NoSQL databases; Neo4j graph database; Hadoop

Speakers:
• Dr. Daniel Fasel, Scigility AG, Fribourg
• Prof. Dr. Philippe Cudré-Mauroux, eXascale Infolab, University of Fribourg

International Speakers:
• Prof. Dr. Andreas Meier, University of Fribourg

Next Courses in November

In November, we will have our last course weeks of the year. Discover the drivers for competition and competitiveness with the course on National & International Economics; this course is based on the classes of the famous Prof. M. E. Porter. Get familiar with the fundamentals of law, and take part of this interactive course. Lead a project to success and learn why projects are essential to achieve the companies’ strategies with the Project Management course.

National & International Economics
Module 1: 3rd - 4th November
Module 2: 10th - 11th November

Law in ICT & Utility Management
Module 1: 5th - 6th November
Module 2: 12th - 13th November

Project Management
17th - 20th November

Course fee:
CHF 1'400.- (for 1 module)
CHF 2'800.- (for 2 modules)
CHF 4'200.- (for 3 modules)

Course language:
English

Location:
iimt, University of Fribourg

With the successful completion of a course, it is possible to credit the modules towards a future Executive MBA, DAS or CAS in ICT or Utility Management.
From the EMBA Thesis to a Big Data Start-up

"Who would have thought that the beginning of my studies at the iimt in 2008 would also mean the beginning of a new company? Actually I had the intention to acquire, through the Executive MBA, deep management and business skills in a practical further education for my former position as a CEO of the Bernese IT consulting firm basis06 AG.

Since the beginning, I was in particular, fascinated by the insights into the models and examples of strategy and innovation management and this know-how gave valuable inputs to my previous pragmatic "learn by doing" approach.

The dream to develop and to commercialise a software product, had pursued me for a long time. I had already made a few attempts but with modest results. As at basis06 AG we dealt with our clients with topics that would today be called "Big Data" - more precisely "Cognitive Computing" - and I could acquire at the iimt the important economic tools, the opportunity seemed perfect to make a new attempt.

In my EMBA Thesis in 2011, under the somehow unwieldy title "Positionierung einer disruptiven Produktinnovation im Markt für Decision Support Systeme" (positioning a disruptive product innovation in the market for decision support systems), I drew up the strategy and marketing fundamentals, which are today still valid in the main statements and up to date.

But that was just the beginning. It was necessary to refine and deepen insights in order for a better understand the market and customer needs, to write a business plan and to seek capital. Fortunately, we already had a software team, which could soon begin with the initial work. In September 2013, it was done: we could officially establish our new company Quantinum AG as a spin-off of basis06 AG.

In fall 2014, the product was launched on the market: a Big Data platform, which is able to intelligently and automatically collect and analyse large amounts of data, and to allow an easy access for the user. Quantinum is used where a solid information basis is important for informed decisions, for example in the areas of Market Intelligence, Innovation, Risk Management and Customer Service.

In retrospect, what sounds quite simple was in fact a hard and rocky path. I would definitely do it again, but certainly do some things differently. I would like to thank Prof. Dr. Teufel and the whole iimt team. Its further education was a source of inspiration for me and such a significant contribution to the emergence of a Swiss Big Data Start-up."

Reto Trinkler, iimt alumni 2011
Executive MBA in ICT Management

http://www.quantinum.com/
Big Data in the energy sector

On the 11th of June 2015, the iimt Masterclass with the Top Speaker Mr. Thomas Koller, CEO of the Bernese consulting and software company enersis took place. Mr. Koller presented strategic approaches to manage these challenges, provided impulses with possible tactical measures and showed excerpts of concrete projects in the field of Big Data.

The energy industry is facing a fundamental and unprecedented upheaval. Besides massive regulatory and socio-political influences, market participants are facing, with decentralised energy productions and the Smart Grid, a technological paradigm shift. In addition, new, innovative and powerful competitors emerge into the traditional energy suppliers’ market.

A central aspect in current solution discussions seems to be the consequent establishment of energy suppliers as IT service providers: Big Data, Digitalisation, Smart Grid, Internet of Things, fiber to the home and new IT customer services found their way from visions of the future into company’s operational projects. Often, however, the current measures are based on fragmented actions and lack of a necessary overview and a strategic realignment.

The iimt warmly thanks Mr. Koller for his fascinating presentation and the numerous participants for their presence at the iimt Masterclass.

The iimt is looking forward to the next iimt Masterclasses after the summer. The dates and topics will be available soon on the iimt website: stay up to date!

smart living lunch

The first smart living lunches already took place at the iimt, University of Fribourg. The main goal of these lunches is to present the different ongoing and planned research activities around the smart living lab project. Furthermore, the aim is to meet researchers from all involved institutions, as the EPFL, the School of Engineering and the University of Fribourg, and to exchange ideas and know-how.

The smart living lunches are open to all interested persons, students, PhD students, employees or persons involved in the project. These events are taking place on a monthly basis. The last one took place on the 30th of June at the iimt University of Fribourg around the following topics:

- "Crowd Energy – an innovative approach to smart living" – Stephanie Teufel, Director and Mario Gstrein, Research Assistant at the iimt, University of Fribourg UNIFR

- "Renewable energy in the future building: the smart living lab as case study" – Stefano Cozza, Master student for the smart living lab building

As mentioned, the smart living lunches are open to all interested persons and the event language is English.

More information available on: www.smarlivinglab.ch
The iimt – a network of people

As mentioned before, it is thanks to the people who contributed during the last 20 years, that the iimt has become a competence centre in the field of education and research in the Information & Communication Technology as well as in the Energy sector. In order to give you an impression, here some facts:

- 74 lecturers are actually active in the Executive Programmes
- 308 lecturers were active in the Executive Programmes in the last 20 years
- 14 staff members are actually working at the iimt
- 81 staff members were working at the iimt in the last 20 years
- 52 students are actually following courses at the iimt
- 585 persons followed courses at the iimt in the last 20 years
- 14 staff members are actually working at the iimt
- 81 staff members were working at the iimt in the last 20 years
- 52 students are actually following courses at the iimt
- 585 persons followed courses at the iimt in the last 20 years
- 230 persons are member of the iimt Alumni Network
- 26 persons are member of iimt councils
- 69 persons were active in iimt councils in the last 20 years
- 52 partner representatives are actually active at the iimt
- 28 different nationalities were represented at the iimt in the last 20 years
- 1200 persons receive the iimt eSignal Newsletter 4 times a year

We would like to thank you for your valuable contribution during the last 20 years and we are looking forward to cooperating with you in the future. Feel the magic of our anniversary celebration and be part of this unique event. Take the opportunity and meet former colleagues and friends the 1st of October. Highlights are several attractions, some speeches, drinks, food and networking. We are looking forward to clink glasses!

Programme
16:30 Guest Arrival
17:15 Official Greetings
   Prof. Dr. Stephanie Teufel - Director iimt
   Beat Vonlanthen - State Councilor Fribourg
   Prof. Dr. Astrid Epiney - Rector University of Fribourg
   Walter Steinlin - President iimt
   Prof. Dr. Kathrin Altwegg - University of Bern
   We are stardust - a travel back to our astronomical past

Once upon a time - a time travel
Dr. Jocelyne Imbach - former Vice-Director iimt
Walter Frei - former President iimt

A look into the future
Magic P - Artist
A magical highlight

18:45 Aperitif & Anniversary Party
Excellent news from our innovative students in the ideas@iimt-programme

Since its launch, the ideas@iimt programme and its students ensure one success after the other. These success stories are proving that there is a huge innovation spirit at the University of Fribourg, which needs to be stimulated even more:

Philipp Zimmer and “Fit-Coins” granted with the “Energieideen Schweiz”-Jury Award

Efficiency, consistency, sufficiency - these are the three strategies that private persons, economy and public authorities can follow to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Based on these topics, Energie-Schweiz was looking for new, innovative, crazy, romantic, unthinkable, creative, crazy, down to earth, young, old and controversial "EnergyIdeas". A jury, consisting of various specialists, evaluated different ideas and nominated 10 of them. Philipp Zimmer, trainee at the Chair in ICT Management at the iimt has developed his “Fitcoins” idea and is now supported by EnergieSchweiz for the elaboration of the idea. Congratulations to Philipp Zimmer! Philipp is now working with different experts trying to find out how the market entry of his idea should look like. The “Fit-Bike” prototype already attracted more than hundreds of enthusiastic students in the University-Gym.

Jedidja Inhelder wins Campus Pitching Contest and industrial partner for his “MyCity”-App

Jedidja is already the second winner granted with the business ideas@Fribourg-Award. “MyCity” convinced not only the jury but also an industrial partner. Gassmann Media in Biel is working with Jedidja on a prototype, which started to be tested by customers at the beginning of June.

More details available on: www.iimt.ch
In this semester, the Chair held the University course "Management of the Energy Sector – Solar Decathlon", where students investigated in research questions around the “Crowd Energy – living in the future” concept. The objectives of this joined course between the iimt and the HumanIST (Faculty of Science) was to gain insights into economic and social aspects around electricity management, e.g. mental accounting and incentives for exchange. The final outcome was well-designed research posters providing a state-of-the-art in diverse topics like behavior of consumers and prosumers, taxation within a decentralised structure, trust and commitment building within the crowd community, and increase of public stakeholder engagement.

The posters were displayed at the ground floor at the Pérolles II building and students had the chance to explain their findings to a critical audience. In this way, the Chair would like to thank our partners from the EPFL and HEIA in the Solar Decathlon project for their participation and the exciting discussions around our contributions. It is to emphasize that the gained insights are valuable complementary elements for this interdisciplinary project. The Chair is sure to have a similar success in the joined course with the EPFL and HEIA in the fall term 2015.

Some research questions

- Taxation's relationship with supply and demand in tomorrow's crowd-energy paradigm?
- Renewable energy integration in smart grids, barriers, strategies, control?
- How can we raise the awareness and motivation to adopt sustainable energy consumption behaviour, and how can green pricing affect the consumer's decision making?
- How can you convince the end-consumer (profit organisations?) that a sustainable consumption is good not only for the environment but also for himself?
- How does the phenomenon of a shared economy influences the trust within a community and how does it affect the risk management?
**Did you know?**

4 electric bulbs
Every evening in European homes, there are on average 4 lighted electric bulbs per person. Comparatively, in the USA, there are 7 bulbs and in Africa 0.3

12 minutes
In Switzerland, a solar power plant is put into operation every 12 minutes. The potential of solar energy is considerable. According to the Swiss Federal Office of Energy, in 2050, 20% of current energy needs could be covered thanks to the photovoltaic energy

2191 hours
On Monte Cimetta, overlooking Locarno (TI), we can get plenty of sun according to MeteoSwiss, the sun shines 2191 hours per year, a record in Switzerland. Altdorf (UR) is bringing up the rear with 1319 hours per year

50’000 hours
LED lamps have a 50 000 hours lifetime, while halogen lamps have approximately 2000 hours

60.5 °C
The Solar Lake in the Sinaï Peninsula is a salt lake which, with 60.5° C, shows the highest water temperature ever measured in a saltwater lake. This fact can be explained by the high salinity of the water, the lake thus operating much like a solar collector

**Save the date!**

The next iimt Leaders Launch 2015 will take place on the 26th of November.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the Gutenberg Museum.

**New Staff Members**

The iimt is pleased to welcome three new staff members. Bettina Irnhauser, Julia Kling and Marie-Charlotte Prallet will work as Junior Researchers (traineeship) and all the iimt team is looking forward to working with them.

**The iimt staff wishes you a nice and relaxing summertime!**