

KIT Founders Forge Is Lighted

KIT Organizes Three Events for the "Karlsruher Gründersommer 2013"

The "Karlsruher Gründersommer" (Karlsruhe Founders Summer) will provide information and counseling for founders and entrepreneurs until June 21. Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) will organize three events: The launch of the KIT Founders Forge, the event "Best Practices for Science Spinoffs", and a presentation by the PionierGarage university group. All three events will take place on June 21 on KIT Campus South.

Sustainable spinoffs are a major factor of success for Germany as a location of industry. KIT therefore wishes to support responsible entrepreneurs and enterprises that commercialize innovations. These are startups by the around 24,000 students and scientific high-tech spinoffs. As KIT won the Germany-wide EXIST competition this year, KIT can extend its activities to promote young entrepreneurs in the next five years. Based on the offers established in the past years, the KIT Founders Forge will now offer new services and actions to support young entrepreneurs.

The **KIT Founders forge will be opened officially on Friday, June 21, 17 hrs**, on the premises of the Center for Entrepreneurship on KIT Campus South (glass pavilion, Engesserstr. 9).

Program:

From 16.30 hrs Admission

17.00 hrs Welcome Address
Dr. Peter Fritz,
KIT Vice President for Research and Innovation
Professor Orestis Terzidis and Dr. Jens Fahrenberg,
Coordinators of the KIT Founders Forge

17.15 hrs Keynote: Mirko Holzer, BrandMaker GmbH

17.45 hrs "From Founders for Founders"
KIT founders share their experience

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Special guest via livestream from the Silicon Valley:
Pascal Finette, Mozilla Corporation

From 18.30 hrs Opening Ceremony of the KIT Founders Forge
BBQ buffet

More information: www.kit-gruenderschmiede.de

SMART FRAME: Science Spinoffs

The SMART FRAME Central Europe project will organize the event “**Best Practices for Science Spinoffs**” on **June 21, 10 hrs** (KIT Campus South, Otto-Ammann-Platz 1, building 10.81, Seminarraum 219). This event is aimed at alleviating the founders’ fears of establishing spinoffs and at demonstrating the advantages of spinoffs to previous employers. In this way, SMART FRAME tries to make spinoffs more attractive and to advance them all over Europe. SMART FRAME is a network project analyzing best practices for the formation of spinoffs in European regions and deriving a model for potential founders and their former employers, which can be applied all over Europe. The model and the resulting manuals for founders and executives will be presented at the event.

Program:

10.00 – 10.30 hrs Keynote: Martin Hermatschweiler, Nanoscribe GmbH

10.30 – 11.00 hrs Keynote: Dirk Schweinberger, tech-solute GmbH

11.00 – 11.15 hrs Presentation of SMART FRAME

11.15 – 12.30 hrs Presentation of the Spinoff Model
with subsequent discussion

More information: www.smart-frame.eu

Bridge to the Silicon Valley

Companies like Google, Facebook, and Apple have grown in the Silicon Valley – this valley in California is considered the mecca for founders. The KIT university group PionierGarage wants to strengthen the founders’ scene in Germany based on this model and visited the Silicon Valley. Based on their experience, they set up an entrepreneurship guide to motivate young people to establish an own enterprise. The students will present their **Silicon Valley tour on June 21, 2013, 13.30 hrs** to students and the interested public (KIT Campus South, Englerstr. 7, building

20.40, Neuer Hörsaal). In addition, videos of interviews of founders in the Silicon Valley and a presentation by Tobias Knecht from the KIT startup Abusix highlighting the German Silicon Valley Accelerator Program will be presented.

Program:

13.30 hrs **Admission and Welcome Address**

14.00 hrs **Presentation**

Presentation of PionierGarage
Review of the Silicon Valley tour
Tobias Knecht, Abusix, about the German Silicon
Valley Accelerator

More information: www.pioniergarage.de



**Karlsruher
Gründersommer 2013**
Die Eventwoche für Unternehmerinnen
und Unternehmer

The three events are part of the “Karlsruher Gründersommer”, a series of events for entrepreneurs organized by the Gründerallianz Karlsruhe. From June 17 to 22, the partners of the Gründerallianz will organize various events relating to entrepreneurship.

More information: www.gruendersommer.de

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation according to the legislation of the state of Baden-Württemberg. It fulfills the mission of a university and the mission of a national research center of the Helmholtz Association. Research activities focus on energy, the natural and built environment as well as on society and technology and cover the whole range extending from fundamental aspects to application. With about 9000 employees, including nearly 6000 staff members in the science and education sector, and 24000 students, KIT is one of the biggest research and education institutions in Europe. Work of KIT is based on the knowledge triangle of research, teaching, and innovation.

This press release is available on the internet at www.kit.edu.