

4500 Freshmen at KIT

Welcome Event at Schwarzwaldhalle – Total Number of Students Will Presumably Remain the Same in the Winter Semester – Slight Increase in Applicants



Big event prior to studies: KIT invites this year's freshmen and their families to the welcome event at Schwarzwaldhalle. (Photo: Sandra Göttisheim)

More than 4500 students will start their studies at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) in the 2013/2014 winter term. As a tradition, KIT welcomes them by a big event: This year, it will take place on Friday, October 18, 18 hrs, at the Schwarzwaldhalle of the Karlsruhe Congress Center. Representatives of the media are cordially invited and asked to register using the fax form enclosed, online or by e-mail.

Gathering first impressions, establishing new contacts, familiarizing with the most important information offices: This is what the freshmen did in the past days during the orientation phases organized by the student representatives of their departments. The opportunities resulting from studies at KIT will be presented to them by KIT President Holger Hanselka: "There is no other place in Germany, where students are so close to big research. KIT offers unique opportunities, which is also a result of increased integration of scientists from Campus North into education." It is one of his objectives as new KIT President to further increase the mobility of the students within KIT

**Monika Landgraf
Chief Press Officer**

Kaiserstraße 12
76131 Karlsruhe, Germany
Phone: +49 721 608-47414
Fax: +49 721 608-43658
E-mail: presse@kit.edu

**For further information,
please contact:**

Margarete Lehné
Press Officer
Phone: +49 721 608 48121
Fax: +49 721 608 43658
E-mail:
margarete.lehne@kit.edu

for them to use the large-scale research facilities much more than before.

As in the past year, the total number of students will presumably be on the same high level of about 24,000. However, enrolment and move-up procedures are still in progress. The reference date for the statistics is November 30. This year, about 22,800 applications for starting studies at KIT were submitted.

Similar to past years, the courses with restricted admission that were in highest demand were the traditionally strong bachelor programs in engineering, natural sciences, and economics. 3,300 applications were received for business engineering and 2,300 applications for mechanical engineering. Interest in architecture has increased considerably, with the applications now totaling 1,200. 900 applications were submitted for the program "Science, Media, Communication" that was introduced one year ago.

"Activities of many students at KIT extend far beyond their studies," says Alexander Wanner, KIT Vice President for Higher Education and Academic Affairs. "In student representations and university groups with a cultural, social or scientific focus, they enrich and shape the campus life at KIT." Wanner will honor 57 of them for their high commitment during the freshmen welcome event.

For a good start, the freshmen will be given the KIT backpack: Apart from information material about major KIT institutions, the General Students Committee, and the Studentenwerk, it will also contain information and give-aways of the backpack sponsors. Important information for starting studies, about central institutions, and services and counseling offers of KIT is summarized in the brochure "Was Studierende wissen sollten": http://www.kit.edu/mediathek/print_forschung/Broschuere_Erstsemester_de.pdf.

The online students magazine clickIT will also be issued at the beginning of the lecturing period. Under www.kit.edu/clickit, it supplies latest news and background information, with audio interviews, films (www.kit.edu/youtube), and discussions (www.kit.edu/facebook). Every issue covers a topic selected by the facebook community. During the welcome event at the Schwarzwaldhalle, the magazine will be presented by the editorial staff at one of the booths.

At other booths, various KIT institutions, university groups, and partners will inform about their offers and be pleased to answer questions. In addition, the KIT collection will be presented: Clothing, of-

rice articles, and gifts in KIT design may also be obtained at www.kit-shop.de or at the bookstore on Kronenplatz.

Program of the Freshmen Welcome Event

Start: 18 hrs, admission from 17.15 hrs

Musical Opening by the KIT Big Band

Conductor: Dr. Günter Hellstern

Welcome by the Presidential Committee

“Excellent Research – Excellent Education: Studying at KIT”

Professor Holger Hanselka, KIT President

Welcome Address by the City of Karlsruhe

First Mayor Margret Mergen

Welcome Address by the UStA Chairman

“From Students for Students”

Noah Fleischer

Prizes for Outstanding Student Commitment

Professor Alexander Wanner, KIT Vice President for Higher Education and Academic Affairs

Freshmen Quiz

Cabaret with Sascha Korf

After the Program:

Visit of Information Booths and Get-together

With KIT professors at the entrance hall of Schwarzwaldhalle

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.

The photo of printing quality may be downloaded under www.kit.edu or requested by mail to presse@kit.edu or phone +49 721 608-47414. The photo may be used in the context given above exclusively.