

ZEE NEWSLETTER 01/2014



Dear Members and Friends of ZEE,

With this newsletter we would like to inform you about the latest developments at the Centre for Renewable Energy (ZEE).

Prof. Dr. Eicke R. Weber

19th February 2014

General Meeting of ZEE members and advisory board
21st July 2014 at **17:00** o'clock (s.t.), **room 200**, Herderbau
Tennenbacher Str.4, 79106 Freiburg

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Prof. Weber, head of ZEE board of directors, presented the ZEE and its achievements on 29th January 2014 at the Senate of the University of Freiburg. His presentation was well received by the senate.

The ZEE board of directors recently discussed with rector Prof. Schiewer and vice-president for research Prof. Neuhaus the future of the ZEE. It was agreed upon that the ZEE should be developed further to a Centre for Sustainability together with the Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources, the Technical Faculty and its new institute and the vice-president for research. The ZEE board of directors will develop a concept within the next months.

ZEE applied for numerous research projects (e.g. prolongation of KleE graduate school) and hopes to announce positive news soon.

The REM programme will be expanded by this winter term and therefore expects a substantial funding by the Ministry for Education of Baden-Württemberg (decision expected by April 2014, see also page 5).

Prof. Weber welcomed the new REM students on 16th October 2013 together with the ZEE team and lecturers (see picture below):



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MSc Renewable Energy Management (REM)



REM M.Sc. Renewable
Energy Management

The sixth generation (REM6) started on 21st October 2013. ZEE director Prof. Weber welcomed 25 students from 16 countries. With this, a total of 162 students from 41 countries have participated in the REM programme of the University of Freiburg up to now.

Nepalese Gold Medal for REM Student

Former REM student Subarna Babu Sapkota received the Gold Medal from the President of Nepal on 8th September 2013 (in a program organised by the Ministry of Education, Nepal on the occasion of the National Education Day) for securing the first position in REM 1 (2008-2010).



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Student Organized Event COGREEN



The REM4 students held their student organized event “COGREEN” on 30th November 2013. The students developed a concept for the community of **Oberried** in Germany to transform Oberried into an energy exporting community using energy efficiency and renewable energies.

The concept was presented by REM students to the public in Oberried on 28th January 2014 (see picture below). The mayor of Oberried and interested public was present during the presentation, which was done in German and thus translated by the students.



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REM expansion

REM as the most successful master programme of the University of Freiburg will be expanded together with the Faculty of Engineering. REM will then stand for “Renewable Energy Engineering and Management”. Expecting substantial funding by this winter term we will be able to offer 45 study places and from 2015 on 55 study places. The engineering part of REM will be focused and three elective tracks will be offered: energy systems technology, energy conversion, environmental planning and management. Thus the elective part will be expanded substantially and enable the students to get more detailed knowledge in each specialization line.

Master Online Photovoltaics www.pv-master.com

For winter term 2013/14 we received 10 applications for Master Online Photovoltaics. We observe a trend that **more applicants are from non-European countries** including the sun-rich gulf region. Considering the critical situation of the PV industry the number of applications is better than we expected.

During our Campus Phase in September 2013 we celebrated our **first graduating student!** After only a little more than the targeted 3 years, the Master Online Photovoltaics looks back on successfully establishing a future-oriented curriculum at Master level.



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Nevertheless, we see that many **professionals prefer shorter programs**. Therefore, beside the established 3-year Master we are going to offer specialized modules with the length of one semester. Topics will be from all along the chain of photovoltaic electricity generation from cells, to modules, to electronics and smart market. Those specialized modules lead to a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) according to the established system from Swissuni. Furthermore, many **professionals with no formal education in engineering or the sciences** but with a lot of professional experience ask to enter our program. We want to seize this opportunity and develop bridging modules to teach needed fundamentals. Currently, we are looking for test persons who study and evaluate those bridging modules and specialized modules from October 2014 onwards. Test persons will study free of charge.

GRADUATE SCHOOL KleE

The post graduate programme „Small scale renewable energy systems“, (abbr. KleE) with 15 postgraduate scholarships officially started on 1st July 2011 and is now in its final year. Shortly after the last internal KleE-meeting, a joint meeting with the fellow PhD scholars of the graduate school GenMik took place on the 6th and 7th of June 2013 at the beautiful castle Hornberg. The meeting was organised in order to get acquainted with the projects carried out in the other graduate school and find out about potential fields of cooperation in the future. A total of 28 PhD scholars gave a short oral presentation about the current state of her and his project and had the chance for comprehensive discussions at the poster presentation. Further information on the KleE website:

www.klee.uni-freiburg.de



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Convention of Environmental Laureates

The third International Convention of Environmental Laureates will take place in Freiburg from 10th to 13th April 2014. The title will be “Fighting for protection – with social media, bo(u)ycotts and laws” and it will again be organized by the European Environment Foundation. REM students will get the opportunity to contribute within the roundtable “Laureates meet Young Talents”.



UWC Robert Bosch College in Freiburg

The first United World College (UWC) in Germany will open this autumn in Freiburg. Until now there are only 13 UWCs worldwide. With its focus on sustainability Freiburg is the perfect spot for this new UWC and we are looking forward for fruitful cooperations.



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