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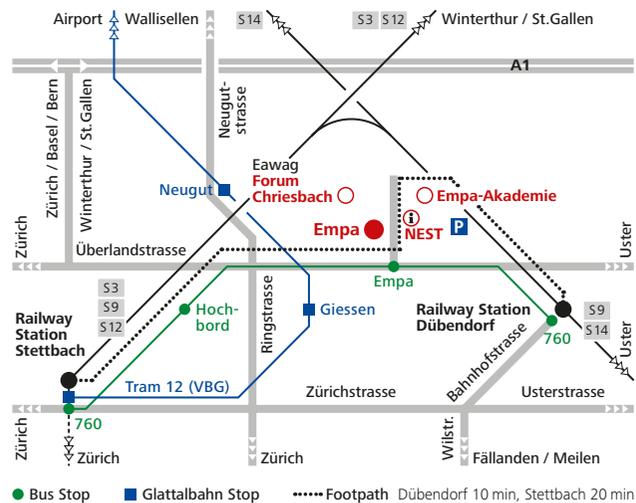
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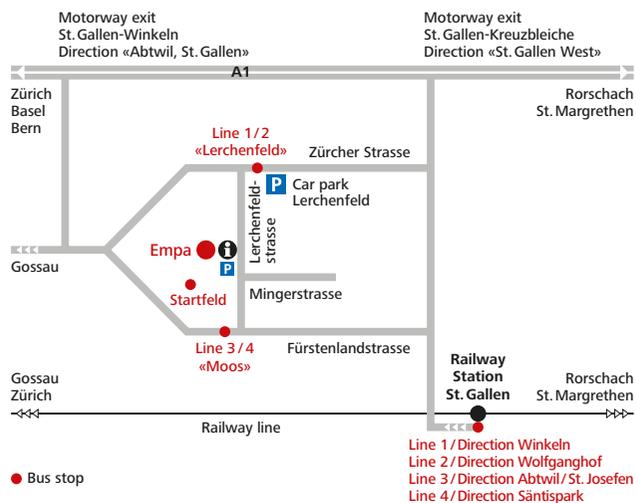
phd-symposium@empa.ch

How to get there

Empa-Akademie, Dübendorf



Empa, St. Gallen



Participants can choose to attend on-site in Dübendorf or St. Gallen, otherwise they can join via online platform.



PHD STUDENTS' SYMPOSIUM 2020

Sustainable Innovation for a Green Future

What is your plan?

Join the first hybrid (online and on-site) PhD Students' Symposium



Empa, Überlandstrasse 129, Dübendorf
Empa, Lerchenfeldstrasse 5, St. Gallen
Monday, November 30, 2020

Online registration:
www.empa-akademie.ch/phd-symposium

Aim

For the first time in the history of Empa, the PhD Students' Symposium will take place in a hybrid form, both online and offline. The reason is the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, but it will not stop us from learning and exchanging new knowledge and ideas. The concurrent online and offline formats ensure that even in the worst situation, i.e. everything to be shut down, the knowledge will still be available to everyone.

During the lock-down, with limited vehicles on the roads, we all realized that the air in the cities became much cleaner than it was before. That is just a glimpse of the advantage of living more sustainably. Daily human activities have created so much pollution, but our perception of the polluted environment is still limited to what we see in the present moment, and we cannot fully grasp the harm of ongoing climate change. What will happen in the next 100 years depends on what we are doing now. Therefore, this year's PhD Students' Symposium, entitled **"Sustainable Innovation for a Green Future: What is your plan?"**, is to encourage you as young researchers, whose silent effort in the lab can lead to a better world, to exchange ideas and discuss your own research related to the topic. The four subthemes are:

Subthemes

- Green Materials and Technology
- Food and Health for the Next Generation
- Resources, Energy and Pollutants in Thriving Society
- Circular Economy and Data Science

Invited speakers

Keynote Speaker

Prof. Dr Michael Dittmar

Institute for Particle Physics, ETH Zürich
8093 Zurich, Switzerland

Industrial Speaker

To be announced soon

Preliminary program

The Empa PhD Students' Symposium 2020 will be held in hybrid format. Attendance on-site is limited depending on the coronavirus pandemic situation at the time, however, the whole symposium will be streamed online from Dübendorf and St.Gallen.

08:30 am Registration and coffee

09:00 am Welcome and Keynote Speech

10:00 am Student Presentations and "Science Slam" Session

12:00 pm Lunch

01:00 pm Round-table discussion with industrial speaker

02:00 pm Student Presentations and "Science Slam" Session

04:30 pm Closing Ceremony

What's new

- In order to avoid commuting during the unpredictable pandemic situation, participants from Empa Dübendorf and Empa St.Gallen can join on site at Empa-Akademie, Dübendorf and Empa SG Seminar Rooms, respectively. The whole event will be streamed online in a hybrid format.
- This year's symposium includes regular talks (12 min presentation and 3 min Q&A) and a "Science Slam" session instead of the conventional poster session. Science Slam is a new form of scientific communication. It aims to increase PhD students' capacity to effectively explain their research topic in three minutes, in an entertaining and easily understandable way appropriate to non-specialist audience.
- A round-table session is introduced to promote active discussion and networking between students, fellow researchers and invited speakers from both academic and industrial perspectives.

Abstract submission

All PhD students of Empa are invited to submit an abstract to phd-symposium@empa.ch before **September 25, 2020 (23:59 CET)**.

When sending your abstract, please use the template on the webpage and indicate whether you prefer to give a talk or participate in the "Science Slam". Each abstract will be evaluated, and authors will be notified in the beginning of October whether they have been accepted.

Practical information

– **Online registration:**
www.empa-akademie.ch/phd-symposium

– **Abstract submission deadline:**
September 25, 2020 (23:59 CET).

– **Participation fee:**
free of charge

– **Award:**
The best presentations for regular talk and "Science Slam" session will be awarded with special prize. All active participants during the virtual symposium will receive gifts from sponsors and a coupon at Empa/Eawag SV-Restaurant (Dübendorf) or Tagblatt restaurant (St.Gallen).

– **Technical information:**
The symposium will be held in hybrid format. We are currently in the organization process. Further instruction will be published soon.

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