

Our Experts

Co-Leader of the Working Group "Business Model Innovations" Susanne Boll-Westermann, Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg

Susanne Boll-Westermann is Professor for media informatics and multimedia systems at the Carl von Ossietzky University in Oldenburg. She is also board member of the Oldenburg Institute for Informatics (OFFIS). She conducts research and teaches on the topic of human and technology interaction in times of digitalisation and automation.

Co-Leader of the Working Group "Health Care, Medical Technology, Care" Klemens Budde, Charité Berlin

Professor Klemens Budde is Deputy Medical Director of the Medical Department, Division of Nephrology and Internal Intensive Care Medicine at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, where he has held the endowed professorship for pharmacodynamics of immunosuppression after kidney transplantation since 2006. In 2004 Professor Budde received the Hans-U.-Zollinger Research Prize of the German Association for Nephrology for outstanding achievement in his field. He is a member of numerous national and international medical associations. He has headed "Medical Allround-Care Service Solutions" (MACSS) since 2016, a project funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs (BMWi) in which partners from science and industry are developing a patient-oriented smart health service platform.

Co-Leader of the Working Group "IT Security, Privacy, Legal and Ethical Framework" Eric Hilgendorf, University of Würzburg

Professor Eric Hilgendorf holds the Professorship of Criminal Law, Criminal Justice, Legal Theory, Information and Computer Science Law at the University of Würzburg. His main focus lies on technology criminal law and Internet criminal law in particular including data protection law and provider liability. He heads the award-winning research unit "RobotRecht" (www.RobotRecht.de) which investigates legal issues related to autonomous systems and thus reflects on associated ethical and social aspects. Professor Hilgendorf is a member of the Round Table on Automated Driving at the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) and has provided his expertise in the current reform processes in road traffic law. He was appointed to the Ethics Commission on Automated Driving in 2016.











Karsten Hiltawsky joined Dräger in 2012 and is currently responsible for the global technology development and Dräger's intellectual property. In his current role he is responsible for introducing new technologies into Dräger's product lines in critical care (anesthesia, intensive care and perinatal care) and safety (e.g., fire fighter and industrial respiratory protection, hazardous gas detection) as well as for protecting Dräger's intellectual property globally through patents and brands. Prior to that, he worked for Siemens Healthcare and General Electric in different positions with focus on imaging technologies and in-vitro-diagnostics. Dr. Hiltawsky worked as a M.D. in internal medicine and received a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Ruhr-University, Germany. He is a member of the German National Merit Foundation and received a grant to study at Purdue University, Indiana.

Member of the Working Group "Technological Enablers and Data Science" Kristian Kersting, Technical University of Darmstadt

Kristian Kersting is a Full Professor for Machine Learning at the Technical University of Darmstadt, where he is also a deputy director of the Centre for Cognitive Science. After receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Freiburg in 2006, he was with the MIT, Fraunhofer IAIS, the University of Bonn, and the TU Dortmund University. Kristian has published over 160 peerreviewed technical papers and co-authored a book on Statistical Relational AI. Among other awards, he received the European Association for AI Dissertation Award 2006 for the best AI dissertation in Europe. He regularly serves on the PC (often at senior level) for several top conference and co-chaired ECML PKDD 2013, the premier European venue for Machine Learning and Data Mining, and UAI 2017, the premier international venue for Uncertainty in AI.

Member of the Steering Committee Ralf Klinkenberg, RapidMinder GmbH

Ralf Klinkenberg is the co-founder and head of research of the predictive analytics software supplier RapidMiner, a company established in 2007 as a follow-up to the RapidMiner open source project which he had co-founded. He received the European Open Source Business Award in 2008 and the European Data Innovator Award in 2016 in recognition of his expertise the fields of data mining, text mining, predictive analytics, machine learning and big data.











Member of the Working Group "Technological Enablers and Data Science" Stefan Kramer, University of Mainz

Stefan Kramer is full professor at the institute of computer science of Johannes Gutenberg University (JGU) Mainz and Honorary Professor of the University of Waikato in Hamilton, New Zealand. Before his appointment at JGU, he was associate professor at the computer science department of TU München (2003–2011). He has been active in the field of data mining since the first conference worldwide in 1995, has managed more than 30 third-party funded projects, is the author of more than 200 peer-reviewed publications and is the author of several award-winning papers at major conferences. He was vice-chair of IEEE ICDM 2013 and is regularly area chair of conferences like ECML/PKDD. His research interests include mining structured data, stream mining, process mining and clustering.

Member of the Steering Committee Reinhard Ploss, Infineon Technologies AG

Dr. Reinhard Ploss has been a member of the Management Board of Infineon Technologies AG since 2007 and CEO since 2012. He is responsible for Divisions, Group Strategy, Communications & Government Relations, Human Resources (Labor Director), Legal, Research & Development. Reinhard Ploss, a process engineer, served as head of various divisions and business areas at Infineon starting in 1986 (Siemens AG until 1999).

Member of the Steering Committee Frank Riemensperger, Accenture Germany

Frank Riemensperger is Senior Managing Director of Accenture in Germany, Switzerland and Austria and responsible for the market and strategy development in the German-speaking countries. The IT expert is on the Executive Board of BITKOM, Germany's digital association and of VOICE, the federal association of IT users.









Uwe Riss is Senior Researcher at the SAP Innovation Center Network in Potsdam where he focuses on business model innovations, knowledge work and semantic technologies. Dr. Riss, a mathematician and PhD in chemistry, has worked at SAP since 1998 and has managed various EU projects in that time. He has published more than 50 scientific articles.

Member of the Working Group "Mobility and Intelligent Transport Systems" Peter Schlicht, Al Engineer at Volkswagen Group Research, Automated Driving

Peter Schlicht studied mathematics and computer science in Göttingen and received a Ph.D. in mathematics at the University of Leipzig. After a two-year research stay at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale (EPFL) in Lausanne (Switzerland), he started as an AI engineer at Volkswagen Group Research. There, Mr. Schlicht researches on AI technologies for automated driving. He focuses on methods to monitor and explain deep neural networks to make them more robust and secure.

Member of the Steering Committee

Wolfgang Wahlster, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) GmbH

Professor Wolfgang Wahlster has been the holder of Germany's first Chair for Artificial Intelligence (AI) for more than 30 years. As CEO of the German Research Center for AI (DFKI) Professor Wahlster heads the world's largest research institution in the field with its staff of more than 800 researchers. He has received numerous prizes for his work, including the German Future Prize from the Federal President, the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, and three honorary doctorates.







