



## Empowerment through Sustainability

We are happy to announce and welcome you to our 2026 International Staff & Faculty Exchange Week at Clausthal University of Technology (TUC)!

*Sustainability* has become more than just a term. It represents an era of change in a common understanding on how we want to – or rather *should* – live in our world in order to keep the planet livable. We see so many (more or less) glamorous events, political ambitions, university lectures, seminars and even rankings as well as products that promise the S-word. Sustainability has clearly become the master key for saving our planet. Or is it merely the fig leaf of our time?

At Clausthal University of Technology, the *pursuit of sustainability* has consequently led to the guiding principle of *Circular Economy*. The use of resources should happen in a circular rather than in a linear way. But what does that way of thinking mean in the daily operations for – on the one side – the academic part of a university and on the other side, for International Relations Offices? And what are the common principles that are valid for both sides?

The International Center Clausthal (IZC) warmly invites members of International Offices, and faculty to our 2026 International Staff & Faculty Exchange Week from June 8–12, 2026.

We have scheduled workshops, presentations, discussions, and excursions to dive into the matter of sustainability. We would also like to give you a well-rounded overview of our small, yet very diverse University of Technology in Germany's most northern mountain region, the Harz Mountains, and also to show you the surrounding UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites.

Teaching staff who join this event via the ERASMUS+ STA mobility program will find opportunities to contribute teaching activities in various institutes of TUC. Participating faculty with an interest in research will find opportunities for discussions in various institutes as well.

Sounds interesting to you? If so, we will gladly receive your application for participation. Please fill out the [registration form](#) and submit it at the latest by **March 19, 2026**.

As soon as your participation in our International Staff Exchange Week is confirmed you can start to organize travel arrangements. Accommodation and travel expenses in general can be funded via Erasmus+ grants from your home institution.





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## International Staff & Faculty Exchange Week 2026

June 8 – June 12, 2026 / International Center Clausthal

Empowerment through Sustainability. The 2026 International Staff & Faculty Exchange Week at Clausthal University of Technology

| Monday, June 08  | Tuesday, June 09   | Wednesday, June 10  | Thursday, June 11  | Friday, June 12  |
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| <p><b>9:30 – 10:30</b><br/><b>Registration</b></p>   | <p><b>8:30–10:15</b><br/><b>Building Bridges for International Mobility in Challenging Times – A Lego® Serious Play Approach – Part I</b></p>  | <p><b>9:00 – 10:00</b><br/><b>IO staff:</b><br/><b>Services for International Students</b><br/>Hasan HABBABEH<br/>Head of Admissions and Support for International Students, IZC</p>  | <p><b>9:00 – 10:00</b><br/><b>Sustainability – a Challenge for Society and Universities</b><br/>Dr.-Ing. Asja MROTZEK-BLÖß<br/>Sustainability and Climate Protection Officer, TUC</p>  | <p><b>8:00 – 10:30</b><br/><b>IO staff:</b><br/><b>Working Breakfast</b><br/><i>...And now...!?</i> Reflecting this week's outcomes and how to deal with them in future.</p>   |
| <p><b>10:30 – 10:45</b><br/><b>Welcome and Introduction</b><br/>Astrid ABEL<br/>Director IZC</p>   | <p>Dr. Lara M. GOTTFRIED<br/>Sino-German Collaboration Office, IZC</p>   | <p>Bettina SEKLER<br/>Advisor to the Erasmus+ Institutional Coordinator, IZC</p>  | <p><b>10:00 – 10:15</b><br/><b>Coffee Break</b></p>  | <p><b>Faculty:</b><br/><b>Job Shadowing/ Research Opportunities in Various Institutes</b><br/><i>Participating colleagues, please provide an academic introduction of your research focus as a presentation not longer than 12 minutes.</i></p>                          |
| <p><b>10:45 – 11:15</b><br/><b>Welcome Address &amp; Group Photo</b><br/>Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Thomas ULRICH<br/>Vice-President for International Affairs and Equal Opportunities, TUC</p>   | <p><b>10:15– 10:30</b><br/><b>Coffee Break</b></p>   | <p><b>10:00 – 11:00</b><br/><b>Yes you can – Learn German Quickly</b><br/>Dr. Jörg SCHRÖDER<br/>Lecturer for German as a Foreign Language</p>   | <p><b>10:15 – 11:30</b><br/><b>SDGs in Practice: Fostering Gender Equality and Diversity for Sustainable Universities</b><br/>Dr.-Ing. Angela BINDER<br/>Faculty of Energy and Economic Sciences, TUC<br/>Equal Opportunity Officer</p>  | <p><b>Teaching Staff:</b><br/><b>Teaching Opportunities in Various Institutes</b><br/><i>Participants who join this Staff Week via ERASMUS+ STA mobility, please provide your teaching contribution.</i></p>   |
| <p><b>11:15 – 12:00</b><br/><b>City Tour</b></p>   | <p><b>10:30– 12:00</b><br/><b>Building Bridges for International Mobility in Challenging Times – A Lego® Serious Play Approach – Part II</b></p>   | <p><b>9:00 – 11:30</b><br/><b>Faculty:</b><br/><b>Job Shadowing/ Research Opportunities in Various Institutes</b><br/><i>Participating colleagues, please provide an academic introduction of your research focus as a presentation not longer than 12 minutes.</i></p> | <p><b>11:45 – 13:45</b><br/><b>Lunch at Ju Bin Lou (Chinese Restaurant, Buffet Lunch)</b><br/>By invitation of the IZC</p>   | <p><b>10:30 – 11:00</b><br/><b>We say Auf Wiedersehen!</b><br/>Wrap-up<br/>Certificates<br/>Photographs</p>  |
| <p><b>12:00 – 14.30</b><br/><b>Introduction of Participating Colleagues and their Home Universities</b><br/>Incl. international culinary delights –<i>participating colleagues please bring some typical food or drinks from your respective home country.</i></p> | <p><b>12:00– 13:00</b><br/><b>Quo Vadis International Mobility?</b><br/>A discussion</p>   | <p><b>Teaching Staff:</b><br/><b>Teaching Opportunities in Various Institutes</b><br/><i>Participants who join this Staff Week via ERASMUS+ STA mobility, please provide your teaching contribution.</i></p>  | <p><b>14:00– 16:00</b><br/><b>IO staff:</b><br/><b>Building Bridges for International Mobility in Challenging Times. Reflecting the results from Tuesday.</b></p>  | <p><b>11:00 – 14:00 (appr.)</b><br/><b>Go Underground! Experience a World Heritage Site from below</b><br/>Warm clothing recommended (optional)<br/><i>tbc</i></p>   |
| <p><b>14:30 – 17:00</b><br/><b>Free Time</b></p>   | <p>Prof. Dr.-Ing. Philip JAEGER<br/>Institute of Subsurface Energy Systems, TUC</p>  | <p><b>11:00 / 11:30 – 12:00</b><br/><b>Getting ready for Goslar</b></p>   | <p>Dr. Lara M. GOTTFRIED<br/>Sino-German Collaboration Office, IZC</p>   | <p><b>14:00 – 17:00</b><br/><b>Faculty:</b><br/><b>Job Shadowing/ Research Opportunities in Various Institutes</b><br/><i>Participating colleagues, please provide an academic introduction of your research focus as a presentation not longer than 12 minutes.</i></p> |
| <p><b>17:00</b><br/><b>Welcome Dinner</b></p>  | <p><b>13:00</b><br/>Joint Departure for Campus Games</p>   | <p><b>12:19</b><br/><b>Visit to the Old Imperial Town of Goslar: A UNESCO World Heritage Site - with guided tour and free time</b></p>  | <p><b>14:00 – 17:00</b><br/><b>Faculty:</b><br/><b>Job Shadowing/ Research Opportunities in Various Institutes</b><br/><i>Participating colleagues, please provide an academic introduction of your research focus as a presentation not longer than 12 minutes.</i></p>   | <p><b>Teaching Staff:</b><br/><b>Teaching Opportunities in Various Institutes</b><br/><i>Participants who join this Staff Week via ERASMUS+ STA mobility, please provide your teaching contribution.</i></p>   |
|  | <p><b>13:30 – Open End</b><br/><b>Campus Games &amp; Open Air</b><br/>-Campus Run – Join the IZC team for one walking lap around the campus and other fun activities. The walking distance will be 2.8 km max.</p> |   | <p><b>16:30</b><br/><b>Visit to local Farmer's Market</b><br/>in Zellerfeld (optional)<br/>Join us for a stroll through the lively market in the heart of Zellerfeld. You can also visit the Kunsthandwerkerhof with its individual artisan stores and browse through the arts and crafts, located at the end of the market.</p> | <p>Program subject to change.<br/>Last update: February 2026</p>   |





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| <p><b>Overall objectives of the mobility</b></p>   | <p>Exchanging best practices among colleagues from other International Relations-/ Global Offices as well as members of academia on implementing sustainability in universities.</p> <p>Getting a personal impression of Clausthal University of Technology (TUC) and the International Center Clausthal including services to inbound &amp; outbound exchange students</p> <p>Expanding the network with members of Clausthal University of Technology including its various institutes and with colleagues from around the world.</p> <p>Input on how to create and maintain long, successful, and (more) sustainable co-operations.</p> <p>For teaching staff: Gathering teaching experience at TUC.</p> |
| <p><b>Added value of the mobility</b><br/>(in the context of the modernization and internationalization strategies of the institutions involved)</p> | <p>Members of International Relations Offices: Getting insight on how other International Relations/ Global Offices work.</p> <p>Faculty/ Researchers: Getting insight on how TUC institutes conduct research.</p> <p>Teaching Staff/ Lecturer via Erasmus+ STA mobility: Having the opportunity to teach 8 hours.</p>  |
| <p><b>Activities to be carried out</b></p>   | <p>Workshops, presentations, discussions, and excursions.</p> <p>Teaching Staff/ Lecturer via Erasmus+ STA mobility: Having the opportunity to teach 8 hours.</p>   |
| <p><b>Expected outcomes and impact</b><br/>(e.g. on the professional development of the staff member and on both institutions)</p>                   | <p>New ideas for services for students, faculty and teaching staff.</p> <p>Expanding the network with universities/ colleagues from Europe and around the world.</p>  |
| <p><b>Target group</b></p>   | <p>Members of International Relations Offices/ Global Offices</p> <p>Teaching Staff/ Lecturers</p> <p>Faculty/ Researchers</p>  |





# Empowerment through Sustainability

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| <b>Hosting Higher Education Institution:</b>               | Clausthal University of Technology (TU Clausthal)  |
| <b>Institution Website International Center Clausthal:</b> | <a href="http://www.izc.tu-clausthal.de/en">www.izc.tu-clausthal.de/en</a>   |
| <b>Country:</b>  | Germany  |
| <b>Working Language:</b>                                   | English (we recommend at least B2)   |
| <b>Dates:</b>  | Monday, June 8, 2026 to Friday, June 12, 2026  |
| <b>Registration fee:</b>                                   | Free of charge   |
| <b>Number of participants:</b>                             | 12–20  |
| <b>Maximum numbers of participants per university:</b>     | 2  |
| <b>Target group:</b>                                       | Members of International Relations Offices/<br>Global Offices<br>Teaching Staff/ Lecturers<br>Faculty/ Researchers |
| <b>Deadline for application:</b>                           | March 19, 2026 (confirmation via email<br>by March 23, 2026)   |

## Accommodation:

Accommodation not provided.

In our mail of confirmation, we will include some recommendations for accommodation.

## Contact Person

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