

# Program for the BMS Career Talk 2017

- **Date and Time:** Friday 24 November 2017, 17:00-19:00.
- **Location:** Kleistsaal, Urania's First Floor, An der Urania 17, 10787 Berlin.
- **Speakers:**
  - **Claudia Hein** - Scrum Master at Leanovate (Management consulting firm).
  - **Olga Heismann** - Project Engineer at IVU Traffic Technologies AG (Software company for solutions on public transportation).
  - **Thomas Al Khatib** - Senior Project Engineer at IVU Traffic Technologies (Software company for solutions on public transportation).
  - **Dror Atariah** - Senior Data Scientist at reBuy reCommerce GmbH (E-commerce platform, facilitating online consumer-to-consumer and business-to-consumer sales).
- **Time table:**
  - 17:00 sharp, Presentation of the speakers.
  - 17:00-18:00, One hour of open interview and discussion with the speakers:
    - The moderator will propose some questions to the speakers so they can answer them (if they want).
    - After each question there will be a time for discussion and the possibility of participation with the audience.
    - At the end of the questions proposed by the moderator, if there is some time left, the audience will be able to ask their own questions to specific or all speakers.
  - 18:00-19:00, Snacks and Drinks with speakers and students for personal interaction and networking, this also will last at most one hour.
- **Moderator questions, in order of appearance:**
  - Ice breaking:
    - Explain us broadly what were you doing before (former research area or group) you left academia, and what you are doing now.
    - Do your current job is related to your former research in any sense?
  - Personal experience:
    - When were you sure that you wanted to pursue this career instead of staying in academia?
    - What influenced you to make that decision? (breakpoint)
    - Do you find the industry more challenging than the academia?
    - What has been the biggest challenge in your career?
    - Do you find the kind of achievements reached in your current job similar to the achievements reached in the academia (e.g. equally, less or more satisfying if comparable)?
    - (For female speakers) Do you feel that being a female employee has posed particular challenges to you?, Was that the case for academia?
      - (If so) What do you think are some challenges facing young female employee/researchers nowadays, and what is your advice on handling them?
    - (For everybody) How do you balance family, healthy life and a high demanding career?
  - Advice for students:
    - How can one find and choose positions that maximize one's potential on the non-academic

job market?

- How important are the following selection criteria when applying for a job relative to each other: publications, grades, recommendation letters, age, knowing the right people, international experience, previous non-academic job experience, experience on management, technical skills (e.g. programming, software knowledge).
- How important is networking for a one's career?
  - Any recommendations for shy/introverted people?
- Is there any possibility to combine an academic career with work on industry?
- In any case you know, how easy is it to go into industry and come back to an academic career?
- Final question, to sum up:
  - Please tell us in 1 minute what is your most important advice for a young scientist when taking decision about their career path.
- Questions from the public, if some time is left.