PRESS RELEASE

The Cremé de la Cremé in Rhineland-Palatinate

State Mathematics Competition Honors 27 Young Talents

For three years, they have been tinkering and volunteering – and at the beginning of April, they were rewarded for their efforts. 27 pupils from Rhineland-Palatinate successfully took part in the state mathematics competition, beating 72 others. The competition concluded with the award ceremony at the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics ITWM. On site, they were congratulated by Mayor Beate Kimmel, Vice President of the University of Kaiserslautern-Landau (RPTU) Dr. Stefan Löhrke and Prof. Dr. Ralf Korn, scientific advisor to the Fraunhofer ITWM.

The Rhineland-Palatinate Ministry of Education's state mathematics competition promotes mathematically gifted and interested pupils from all types of secondary schools in Rhineland-Palatinate. In three different rounds, they are motivated to work independently on mathematical problems – the best students in each round go through to the next round. The competition concludes with a three-day colloquium at one of the state's universities and an award ceremony. The choice of this year's venue is no coincidence. The Kaiserslautern Institute of Mathematics has been actively involved in supporting young scientists for many years. In addition, the Felix Klein Center for Mathematics, which serves as an umbrella organization for the Fraunhofer ITWM and the Department of Mathematics at the RPTU, supports the state competition financially.

From Optimization to Puzzles and Artificial Intelligence

Three exciting days filled with lectures, leisure activities and project work lie behind the young talents. In the third round of the competition, the students got to know the RPTU and applied mathematics. »You have learned a lot over the last few days. This morning you demonstrated your skills, because you all rocked the presentations!«, said competition director Christian Goldschmitt from the IGS Anna Seghers Mainz. This year's topics were mathematical optimization, puzzles and Artificial Intelligence. The three projects provided insights into an exciting and entertaining, but above all diverse science. This was also confirmed by Ralf Korn in his keynote speech entitled »Future

technologies in mathematics« at the closing event: »Mathematics moves the world and you can change the world with mathematics!«

Applause for the Next Generation of Scientists

The young people were honored from many sides for their outstanding abilities. Beate Kimmel emphasized her admiration for the students in her welcoming speech. »My thanks also go to the parents who encourage their children's mathematical talent.« Stefan Löhrke concluded by emphasizing that the young researchers can be proud of themselves. They are in the right place for their future: »Kaiserslautern is an international center for mathematics with the RPTU, the Fraunhofer ITWM and the Felix Klein Center for Mathematics. We look forward to welcoming one or two faces back.«.

The 27 winners of the State Mathematics Competition together with the guests of honor and the organizers at the award ceremony. © Fraunhofer ITWM

Further Online Information

www.itwm.fraunhofer.de/quip-winterschool-en

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About the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics ITWM

The Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics ITWM in Kaiserslautern is one of the largest research institutes for applied mathematics in the world. We see it as our task to further develop mathematics as a key technology and to provide innovative impulses. Our focus is on the implementation of mathematical methods and technology in application projects and their further development in research projects. The close cooperation with partners from industry guarantees the high practical relevance of our work.

Their integral building blocks are consulting, implementation and support in the application of high-performance computing technology and the provision of customized software solutions. Our various areas of expertise address a wide range of customers: the automotive industry, mechanical engineering, the chemical industry, energy and the financial sector. This also benefits from our excellent networking, for example in the Simulation and Software-based Innovation Center.

About the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft

The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, based in Germany, is the world's leading organization for application-oriented research. With its focus on future-oriented key technologies and the utilization of results in business and industry, it plays a central role in the innovation process. As a guide and driving force for innovative developments and scientific excellence, it helps to shape our society and our future. Founded in 1949, the organization currently operates 76 institutes and research facilities in Germany. More than 30,000 employees, most of whom are trained in the natural sciences or engineering, work on the annual research volume of 2.9 billion euros. Contract research accounts for 2.5 billion euros of this total