

# AFECO Monthly Newsletter

## July 2020

### Exam Period

Good luck with studying and your exams in this extraordinary summer term 2020! Support your fellow students, and remember to stay healthy and feel the fresh summer air from time to time. Cheers!

### Call for participation: Interdisciplinary Project-Course taught online by the PRODIGY-Team in 2020/21

From August 2020 to February 2021 we offer 6 virtual modules with 2 X 2 hours each on the teaching-platform go-to-meeting on How diversity regulates soil health, livelihood security, social cohesion and regional climate change. More information and how to apply can be found [here](#).

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### July Events with the Ökoreferat

In July, the Department of Ecology of the AStA once again has some interesting events you can join:

**8 July: Online panel discussion** on Bonn's course of action since declaring a climate emergency in 2019

**18 July: Guided bicycle tour** to the Hambacher Forst (information about the forest can be found e.g. [here](#)) explaining the current situation and activities

More information will be published on their [Facebook page](#) closer to the date.

### #zerohungerrun Challenge 2020

Welthungerhilfe is organizing an online version of their popular running event on **9-12 July**. During these times it is more than clear that everyone's help is needed to get closer to the goal of zero hunger. Your personal challenge to support this goal: "30 or 60 minutes running or walking is the only requirement. Whether fast or slow, young or old, alone or in a (virtual) team – just run as many meters as possible in the chosen time window, track and upload your route and you're in!" [Register online](#), build (virtual) AFECO/AFEPA teams and enjoy your run!

### Kulinarische Schnitzeljagd Bonn 2020

The "Culinary Scavenger Hunt" is a tour through Bonn where you can stop in 12 selected restaurants, cafés and delicatessen shops to taste different flavors of the city you live in. You will

have 7 hours to visit the shops at your own pace and get one culinary delicacy free in each place, with vegetarian options available. The tour is bike optimized. Those who want to cycle can download the suggested routes for Google Maps or Komoot free of charge. This year, registration with contact details is necessary to prevent large outbreaks of the virus that we are all still very aware of. The event takes place on **25 July from 11:00 to 18:00**. Ticket price is 30 € up to two weeks before the event, then 35 €. Get all the information e.g. which restaurants are participating [here](#).

## Exceptional Blood Donation in Bonn Beuel

Unfortunately, many planned blood donation dates in Bonn cannot take place at the moment, but blood is urgently needed since plannable surgeries can now be carried out again. If you are healthy, have not been abroad in the last two weeks and have not had contact with anybody infected or suspected to be infected with the coronavirus, then help the hospitals by donating blood. Details: **1 July 13:30-18:00** (only with online registration!), Brückenforum Beuel (Friedrich-Breuer-Str. 17), [information](#) and [registration link](#).

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## Internship and Job Opportunities\*

[Zwei Studentische Hilfskräfte](#), Professur für Marktforschung der Agrar- und Ernährungswirtschaft  
Bewerbungsfrist: 15.07.2020

[Studentische Hilfskraft / wissenschaftliche Hilfskraft](#), Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung (ZEF)

[Praktikant \(m/w/d\) in der Agrarpolitikkomponente des GV FABI](#), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Bonn  
Bewerbungsfrist: 07.07.2020

[Studentische/r Mitarbeiter/in im Bereich Projektadministration](#), KIAG Knowledge Intelligence Applications GmbH, Köln

Check out the ILR [website](#) for PhD positions and other post-graduate job opportunities.

\*job descriptions in German require fluent German skills

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## ILR Testimonial: Anna Waßenhoven and Simon Ohlert

We interviewed AFECO alumni and now PhD students in the chair [Technology and Innovation Management in Agribusiness](#), [Anna Waßenhoven](#) and [Simon Ohlert](#). We wanted to find out why they are pursuing a PhD, how the AFECO Master prepared them for a PhD and what advice they have for AFECO students contemplating a PhD upon graduation.



## **Why did you decide to pursue a PhD?**

**Anna:** I am more than happy to have the opportunity to stay as a PhD student at the university. Before that, I worked as a student assistant at the chair and therefore, was familiar with the research topics and enjoyed working within the motivated team. Furthermore, I was always interested in finding solutions to complex problems. On the one hand, I am motivated to pursue a PhD by gaining deeper knowledge about and investigating technology and innovation management related questions as well as by working in a dynamic and motivating environment. On the other hand, I always enjoyed working with students during my time as a tutor. Hence, I really like the mix of research and teaching.

**Simon:** During the AFECO-Master program, I got inspired by various regional research projects related to the bioeconomy. I really enjoyed the application of a scientific method during my thesis, as well as participating in external events referring to the bioeconomy (e.g. provided by the Bioeconomy Science Center). I had already started to recognize the relevance of various research topics of our chair during my Bachelor studies (Agricultural Sciences) in Bonn.

## **Which AFECO courses did you find most useful for your continued studies?**

**Both:** The modules “Applied Planning Methods in Agribusiness,” “Methods of Empirical Research” and “Strategy and Innovation Management in Agribusiness” built a good foundation for our research and helped us to better understand the complexity of society and current research problems as well as the complexity of processes within organizations. The module “Applied Planning Methods in Agribusiness” supported us during our Master theses, as we learned a lot about different qualitative and quantitative research methods, potential data sources and useful software tools (e.g. for applying a network analysis). We also can highly recommend the module “Strategy and Innovation Management in Agribusiness”. In the module, we discuss various real industry cases, procedures for innovation management and possible future developments in the agricultural and food industry. Furthermore, you learn more about the role of strategic foresight in current organizations.

## **What advice would you give to those who are considering starting a PhD?**

**Both:** If you are considering starting a PhD, we can highly recommend talking to current PhD students about their work and their daily routine to get further insights. Do not hesitate to contact anyone and just ask about their motivation, research and challenges. There are a lot of different PhD programs so it should be possible for everyone to find something you are really interested in. Furthermore, there are always interesting positions on the institute’s website. So, we can just recommend having a look and talking to other team members to get a feeling about their work and what the position is about.

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## **We want you to contribute!**

This is a student-run newsletter and we want to hear from you! If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, whether it be on a recurring basis or one time, please contact us at [afeco.info@ilr.uni-bonn.de](mailto:afeco.info@ilr.uni-bonn.de). If you have any helpful information about the AFECO program, job/internship opportunities, going-ons around town or advice for first year AFECO students that you would like to share, don't be bashful and have your voice heard!