

PRESS RELEASE

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New Position for the Director of the Fraunhofer ITWM

Anita Schöbel becomes President of the European OR Societies

Together with other scientific institutions, the Fraunhofer Institute for Prof. Dr. Anita Schöbel has been elected as the next president by the Council of the »Association of European Operational Research Societies« (EURO) on July 9, 2021, unanimously and without abstentions. The director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics ITWM will take up her office in January 2022, initially as »President Elect«.

The field of »Operations Research« (OR) develops quantitative models and methods for decision support for social and industrial, often business management, problems. It is characterized by interdisciplinary collaboration between mathematics, economics and computer science. »For me, Operations Research is an important research topic at the university, but also in the practice of the ITWM. We use OR-methods in many projects, for example, in health care, logistics, production, or energy optimization«, says Anita Schöbel, who, in addition to her leadership function at ITWM, researches and teaches in the Department of Mathematics at TU Kaiserslautern in the field of optimization. An example for the use of OR methods in logistics are supply chains, respectively their maintenance; the various supply bottlenecks during the Corona pandemic show how difficult this can be.

Goal: Increase the Visibility of OR-Methods in Application

The EURO is the European section of the »International Federation of Operational Research Societies IFORS« and aims to promote Operations Research throughout Europe. Currently, 32 national OR societies are represented in the EURO, including the German Operations Research Society (GOR), whose president Anita Schöbel was in 2019 and 2020.

Anita Schöbel's term of office begins in January 2022 as President-Elect. This will be followed by two years as President, during which she will represent EURO at external organizations and scientific societies, as well as at public events. »Over the next four years, I would like to help increase the visibility of Operations Research in science and industry and show how many areas of business and society can benefit from the use of OR-methods«, says Anita Schöbel, whose term as EURO President ends in 2025.

FRAUNHOFER INSTITUTE FOR INDUSTRIAL MATHEMATICS ITWM



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Professor Anita Schöbel, Director of Fraunhofer ITWM
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Press Contact

Ilka Blauth
Fraunhofer-Institut für Techno- und Wirtschaftsmathematik ITWM
Fraunhofer-Platz 1
67663 Kaiserslautern
+49 631 31600-4674
presse@itwm.fraunhofer.de
www.itwm.fraunhofer.de

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 industrial mathematics worldwide. We see our task in further developing mathematics as a key technology and providing innovative impetus. 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 components are consulting, implementation and support in the application of high-performance computer technology and the provision of tailor-made software solutions. Our various competencies address a wide range of customers: automotive industry, mechanical engineering, textile industry, energy and finance. This also benefits from our good networking, for example in the High performance center "Simulation- and software-based innovation".