

SCHOLARSHIPS

OUR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS FOCUSED ON THE HEART OF SCIENCE: BASIC RESEARCH - AN AREA WHICH IS OFTEN NEGLECTED BY FUNDING AGENCIES. WE SUPPORT YOUNG RESEARCHERS AT THE START OF THEIR CAREER WHO CARRY OUT RESEARCH ON TOPICS OF FUNDAMENTAL SCIENTIFIC IMPORTANCE.



As a doctoral student Liana Movsesyan is carrying out basic research at the GSI Helmholtzzentrum für Schwerionenforschung GmbH (Helmholtz Center for Heavy Ion Research) in Darmstadt, Germany. The GSI has its headquarters in Darmstadt where it operates a unique large-scale accelerator for heavy ions. After graduating in her hometown Yerevan in Armenia, Liana decided to continue her research in Darmstadt. Since 2012, the young scientist has been supported with a Beilstein scholarship.

**GSI HELMHOLTZZENTRUM FÜR SCHWERIONEN-
FORSCHUNG GMBH IN DARMSTADT, GERMANY**



LIANA MOVSESYAN



BEILSTEIN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

“The Beilstein Scholarship is like a springboard for me: it has enabled me to move 4,000 kilometers from Yerevan to Darmstadt to continue my education and carry out research in nanotechnology.”



LIANA MOVSESYAN

GSI HELMHOLTZZENTRUM FÜR SCHWERIONEN-
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STOP

SUPPORTING YOUNG RESEARCHERS

Although basic research does not often make the headlines, without it major scientific sensations would not be possible.

More than financial support: the scholars receive help and support for their professional and personal development.

Since 2012, the Beilstein-Institut has been running a scholarship program for young scientists to carry out their doctoral studies in basic research in chemistry and related disciplines. The aim of the program is to support the participants at the start of their scientific career. It addresses those students who want to devote their doctoral studies to interdisciplinary research projects in biochemistry, chemistry and physics. Apart from the financial support, the Beilstein-Institut seeks to help the scholars further by promoting exchanges with established scientists, the formation of networks and the development of the “scientific personality.”

The application phase for the first edition of the scholarship program ended in March 2012. By then, 25 applicants had signed up – a respectable number underlining the scientific community’s high level of interest in the new program. The proposed research projects were evaluated by external experts. Those students who received positive feedback were invited to present their projects during a symposium at the Beilstein-Institut.

After this second hurdle had been overcome, 15 candidates were accepted into the scholarship program. Amongst the projects were the development of low-cost dye-sensitized solar cells, the neutralization of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide by sunlight, the production of semiconductor wires of only a few nanometers thickness and the study of pharmaceutically active substances. The scholarship holders in the program, which is based on two 18-month periods, are based at 14 universities and research centers across Germany.

The Beilstein scholarship holders are doing research at different universities, Helmholtz and Max Planck Institutes across Germany.

SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS IN FOCUS

In addition to the scientific aspects of the scholarship, the communicative skills of the participants are also addressed. For example, in May 2013, the topic “Scientific publication – how and where do I publish?” was discussed at a scholarship meeting which was also attended by scholarship holders from the NanoBiC project as well as staff of the Beilstein-Institut. Through their work in the editorial office of the Beilstein Journals, the staff members are experts in the field of scientific publications, and were able to report first-hand on important aspects of scientific publishing. They also gave the doctoral students an insight into the work of an editorial office, and thus some helpful tips, such as the correct way to cite literature and to avoid plagiarism.

With interdisciplinary events like this, the Beilstein-Institut aims to provide young academics with a forum to get to know each other, exchange information and build up long-term networks. The organizers of the meeting, Christina Keil and Dr. Carsten Kettner, received very positive feedback from the participants, revealing that the subject met the interest of the young scientists.

In December 2013, it was “half-time” for the Beilstein scholarship holders: an interim evaluation took place at the Beilstein-Institut and the scholars presented the progress of their projects to the foundation. All 15 funded scholars received positive assessments and were accepted for the second funding term of the program.



Dr. Maria Eugenia Toimil-Molares (left) and Professor Christina Trautmann supervise and support the PhD project of Liana Movsesyan at the GSI Helmholtz-zentrum für Schwerionenforschung GmbH (Helmholtz Center for Heavy Ion Research) in Darmstadt, Germany.



BEILSTEIN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GOES INTO THE NEXT ROUND

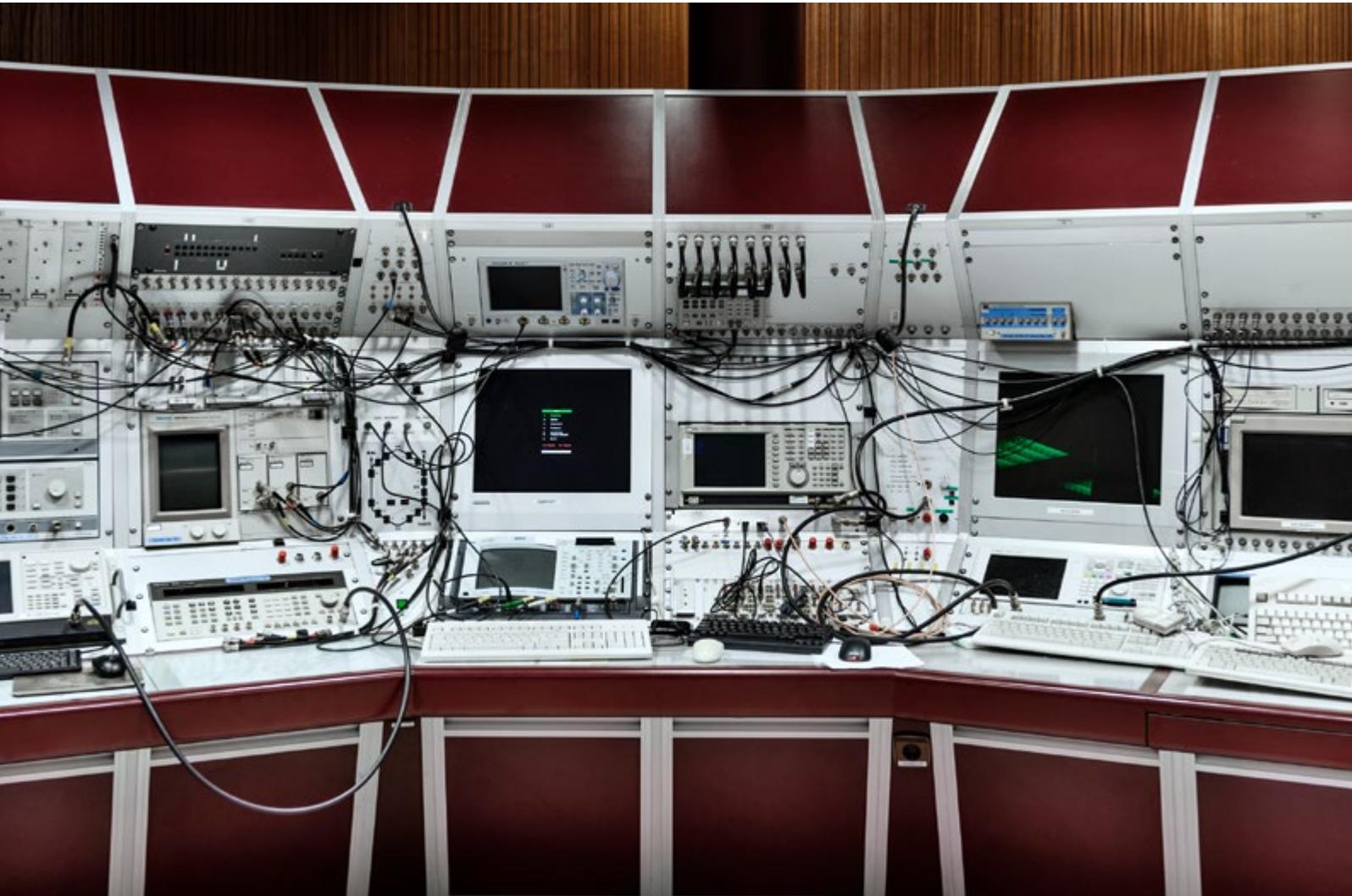
The second round for the scholarship program started in the summer of 2013 with 26 students applying. More than half of them satisfied the formal eligibility criteria. After the assessments of their research projects had been completed, eight doctoral students were accepted into the program in December 2013.

www.beilstein-institut.de/stipendium



Middle: Scholarship awards in June 2012.

Below: In addition to the scholars of the Beilstein program, the scholars of the NanoBiC project and employees of the Beilstein-Institut attended the scholarship meeting in May 2013.



Beilstein scholarships are awarded for a period of up to three years with an interim evaluation after 18 months. The maximum age for acceptance into the program is 25 years; the financial support is 1,650 euros per month.