

November 16 – 19, 2011

Symposium: Spatial Cognition for Architectural Design

The physical space in which humans live and work has far-reaching implications for the nature and quality of everyday life and experiences. As Winston Churchill once said, “We shape our buildings; thereafter our buildings shape us.” Understanding the space surrounding us has been a challenge for many disciplines: Architects conceptualize and shape space by designing buildings and cities. Cognitive scientists, such as psychologists, research human understanding of and behavior in physical space. Computer scientists strive to represent the three-dimensional space in which we function with mathematical computations and systems for design.

At the “Understanding People, Spaces, and Spatial Cognition (SCAD)” symposium, which was jointly funded and organized by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the National Science Foundation (NSF), researchers, educators, and practitioners debated the latest advances and current trends in the theory and practice of architectural design, spatial cognition, and spatial computation.

An international and truly interdisciplinary group of almost 50 scientists gathered in New York City to discuss basic questions such as: How do architects think about form and function while designing. This conference was another proof of the fact that collaboration makes for better science.

Dr. Eva-Maria Streier
Director, German Research Foundation, New York



Panel discussion with speakers and moderators

Event Speakers: Public Panel Discussion, November 17, 6.00 p.m.

Prof. Ömer Akin

School of Architecture, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh

Dr. Meहुl Bhatt

Cognitive Systems Group, University of Bremen

Prof. Gabriela Goldschmidt

Department of Architecture, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology

Dr. Christoph Hölscher

Center for Cognitive Science, University of Freiburg

Dr. Oliver Schnakenberg

Deputy Consul General of the Federal Republic Germany, New York (Introduction)

Dr. Eva-Maria Streier

German Research Foundation, New York (Moderator)

Prof. Wilfried Wang

University of Texas, Austin

Event Outcome:

Symposia are being planned to follow up on this event



Poster session at the Spatial Cognition for Architectural Design (SCAD) Symposium, November 16 – 19, 2011



Networking reception at the "Understanding Spatial Cognition" panel discussion, November 17, 2011

Resources

The first half of the Resources section on the GCRI website is devoted to academics. Four separate pages, divided into study and research levels, list comprehensive funding opportunities, such as fellowship, grant, and scholarship programs for those who are interested in studying or working in Germany.

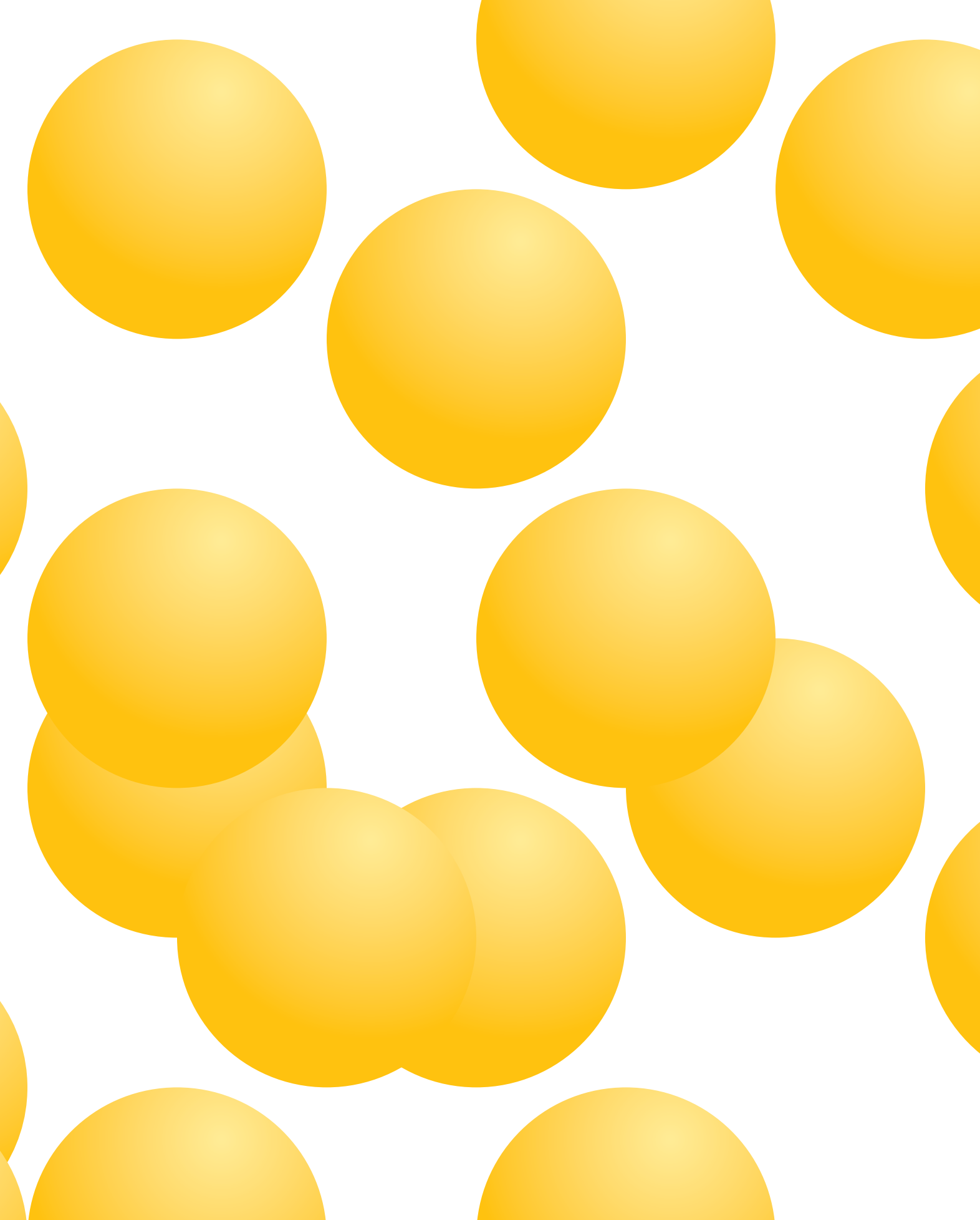
- Undergraduates
- Graduates & Doctoral Students
- Postdocs
- Faculty & Researchers
- Business & Industry
- Press
- Foundation Index
- Ph.D. in Germany

The Resources for Business & Industry page features agencies and information centers at the federal and state levels that represent Germany as a strong economic hub in the global market.

Careers

The German Center for Research and Innovation actively promotes the movement of people and ideas between North America and Germany for study, research, and employment. With a series of skill-building workshops that offer career and networking tips, GCRI seeks to convey relevant information to its constituents. These workshops are announced on the Careers and Career Events pages.

The majority of the employment opportunities on the Job Postings page are provided by the GCRI partner, www.academics.com, Europe's leading website for research careers in universities, research institutes and R&D companies in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.





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