

Editorial

Dear Readers,

Watching a video, going through your emails or taking a nap while your self-driving car brings you safely to your next appointment – this futuristic vision is already becoming manifest. The first autonomous buses are now driving on German roads and the automation of society in general is advancing in leaps and bounds: from refrigerators that restock themselves to digital factories and networked diagnostics for saving more lives.

Oldenburg scientists are studying this trend intensely – from both technological and ethical perspectives, looking, for example, at the question of how to programme machines to make the right decisions. This new issue of *Einblicke* offers exciting insights: in an interview the two computer scientists Werner Damm and Martin Fränze talk about current challenges and goals; philosopher Mark Siebel and neuropsychologist Jochem Rieger discuss basic

moral and ethical standards; legal expert Jürgen Taeger and political scientist Markus Tepe examine gaps in the current legal provisions; and computer scientist Susanne Boll and social scientist Gesa Lindemann explain how to optimise cooperation between human and machines.

Another major topic of our times is religion. We spoke to Joachim Willems to find out why the educationalist sees interreligious competence as a “key qualification in the 21st century”.

We also introduce you to economist Stephanie Birkner. She holds Germany’s first and only “Female Entrepreneurship” junior professorship and is researching how female entrepreneurship can strengthen the economy and society.

Our reportage takes a closer look at relationship between the surface of the

sea and the climate. Marine researcher Oliver Wurl and his working group are studying the exchange of gases between the atmosphere and the water.

The world of the outer surface of human beings – i.e. the skin, our largest sensory organ – is something Ulrike Raap knows plenty about. For the dermatologist the diversity of her field is “a dream come true”.

Last but not least, Oldenburg sports scientists are researching “feigned throws” in handball. In a series of photos we show how players’ movements are represented in a 3D model that reveals the patterns of a deceptive manoeuvre.

We wish you a most enjoyable read!

Yours,
the EINBLICKE editors.

