

# TUM Career Guide



Career Guide for International Students at Technical University of Munich  
Alumni & Career

[www.together.tum.de/career](http://www.together.tum.de/career)

The TUM Career Guide is updated regularly. If you wish to let us know your suggestions and ideas, please contact us: [alumniundcareer@tum.de](mailto:alumniundcareer@tum.de) or Tel +49 89 289 22132.

## IMPRINT

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## Greeting from the President

*Dear international students and graduates,  
dear alumni from all over the world,*

I am delighted to see that so many of you have chosen Technical University of Munich (TUM) for your studies. Nowadays, one in every six of the 39,000 students currently enrolled at TUM comes from abroad. With your TUM degree, you will be highly sought after on the employment market, because your degree stands for quality and high academic proficiency – by both national and international standards. The TUM trademark really counts, and the career openings in Germany are excellent at the moment. TUM is known worldwide for academic excellence. The lasting connection between well educated international students and alumni like yourselves and your place of study in Germany plays a crucial role in the global competition for highly skilled staff. We can only hold on to such talented individuals if Germany is able to provide good career opportunities.

As far as TUM is concerned, competent career counseling in German or English during a student's time at university – and in particular shortly before his or her transition to the world of employment – has been an essential aspect for years. You benefit from the active TUM network, which includes experienced and successful alumni all over the world. A wide selection of information on the possibilities that international graduates have of pursuing a career in Bavaria – whether in an academic field, in industry or as an entrepreneur – naturally forms part of our Alumni & Career services.



It is now up to you to think about which employer will best suit you and your qualifications. Please don't hesitate to call on the services of your university if you have any queries regarding this important decision. You will receive competent, unbiased advice – individually tailored to you and highly committed. Our Alumni & Career team will be happy to assist you.

I am very pleased to be able to offer you this English version of the tried and tested manual *TUM Handbuch für Ihre Karriere*. It contains numerous recommendations for planning and embarking on your chosen career as well as all the information you need regarding the application process in Germany.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you a good start to your working life and every success along whichever path you choose. And wherever your steps may take you, let's stay in touch.

With kind regards,

Wolfgang A. Herrmann  
President



# Preface

Which kind of job is right for you? The one paying the highest salary, the one providing the most amount of freedom, the one with the nicest colleagues or the one allowing you to see the world? Whatever your answer might be, this guide is designed to help you find out and take the planning of your career into your own hands.

Imagine where you would like to be in the future and how you want to combine work, family and free-time activities. A deciding factor for success is being aware of your own skills and strengths. That is where this guide can help. The chapters are designed to support you in finding a position that suits you: your qualifications, your personality and your professional, personal and social goals. We have compiled 270 pages full of advice to help you navigate through the jungle of job advertisements, application documents and interviews. The suggestions and tips are meant to keep you on track when things are not going as planned, because the rules of the German job market might be very different from the ones you are used to. Recruitment processes seem to follow mysterious rules and the smartest decision for you may not always be obvious.

We wish you all the best for your first steps into the job market and are glad to help with any questions you might have about career planning and development. Visit our websites and the TUM Community, use your university network and make the most of our offers and services. We are looking forward to helping you!

Your Alumni & Career Team

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Richard-Wagner-Straße 3  
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The TUM alumni network is diverse and full of interesting people! The following alumni will accompany you through this guide with personal advice to help you with your career start in Germany:



**Sadhna Goyal**

Informatics 2009

Works for BMW in Munich

**Radek Janku**

Exchange Student Architecture 2001/2002

CEO and founder BattSwap in Prague



**Dr. Shailesh More**

PhD Electrical Engineering 2012

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**Ka Wai Wong**

M.Sc. Mathematics 2015

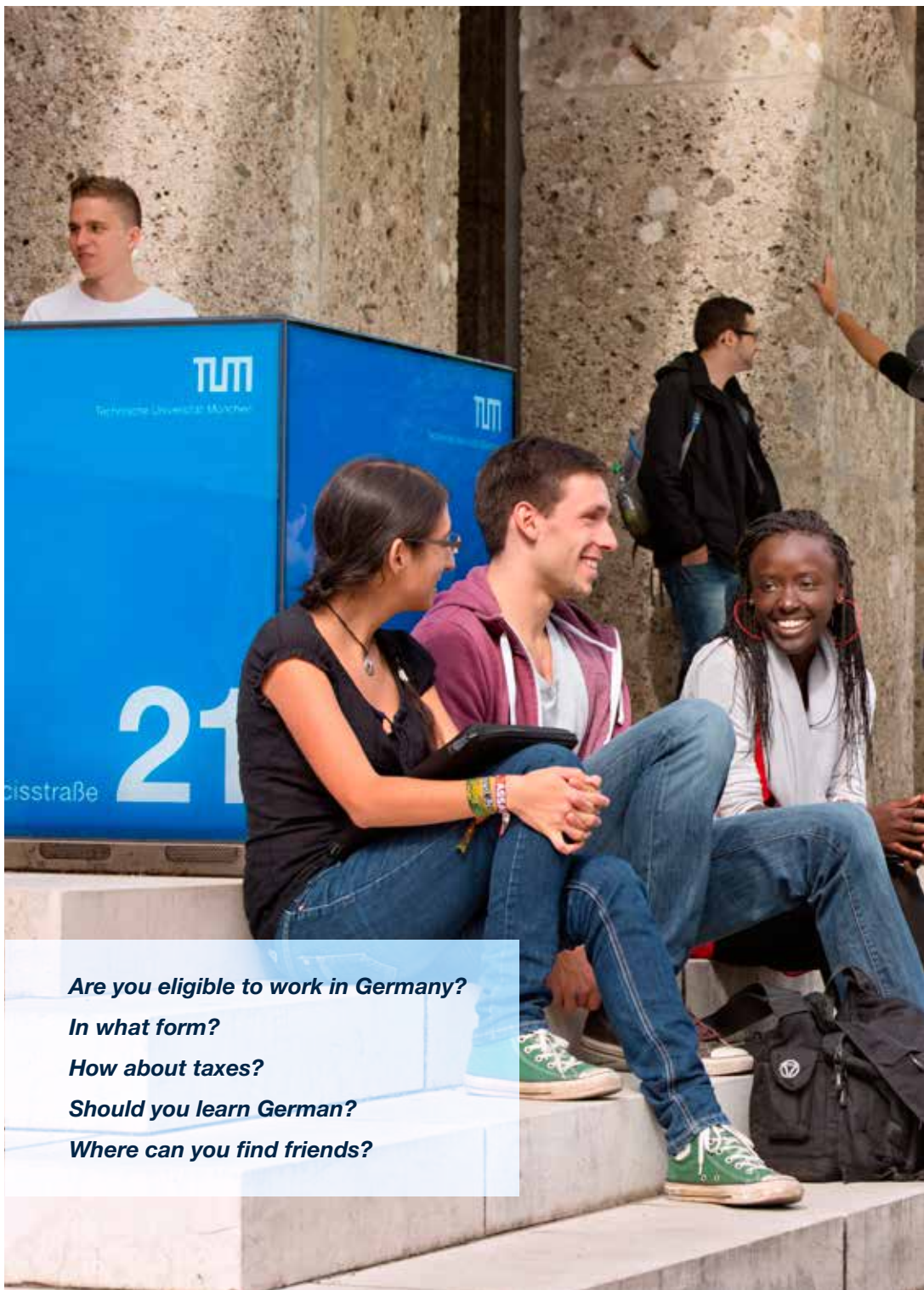
Works for Rhode & Schwarz in Munich



**Merve Yegin**

M.Sc. Consumer Affairs 2016

Works for Telefónica in Munich



***Are you eligible to work in Germany?***

***In what form?***

***How about taxes?***

***Should you learn German?***

***Where can you find friends?***

# Living and Working in Germany



Students in front of the main entrance, TUM Campus Munich

# Tips for Your Successful Career in Germany

## ✓ **Start early!**

Your career begins far ahead of your graduation. Employers want qualified and informed candidates, so start asking questions.

## ✓ **Learn German!**

Despite the internationality of the German job market, your chances of getting an interview increase dramatically with the level of your German language skills.

## ✓ **Prepare well!**

The German market is very formal with regards to the application process - even for internships and part-time positions. Get the information and skills you need to apply professionally and allow for sufficient time to prepare your application documents including a professional photo.

## ✓ **Think ahead!**

Practical experiences from internships and part time positions will get you references and practical experience, both standard requirements of German employers.

## ✓ **Build networks!**

Be active, join networks, visit job fairs, get involved and informed in the online TUM Community: [www.community.tum.de](http://www.community.tum.de)

✓ **Use TUM's offers and services!**

Regularly check the website [www.together.tum.de/career](http://www.together.tum.de/career) and the TUM Job- and internship board: [www.tum.de/jobboerse](http://www.tum.de/jobboerse)

✓ **Don't get frustrated!**

Finding a great job can take a long time – oftentimes not because of your profile or qualifications, but because competition is tough.

”

*To be successful as an international student, I recommend learning German and using it as much as you can. It is good if your job or education requires German, otherwise you have sufficient excuse for not mastering it.*

*Also be punctual, open, and honest in your efforts. This will be paid back. And last but not least, create a reliable network in both your professional and private life.*

“

Sadhna Goyal  
Informatics 2009

