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Highlights 2025/1

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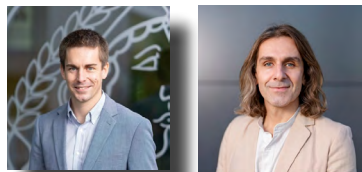


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Alumni Newsletter #2

Dear alumni and friends of our institute,
The first half of 2025 was packed with interesting symposia and conferences, events with politicians and decision-makers, as well as two major internal events at the institute. Two new research group leaders have started working at MPI-IS, and more will join us in the fall. We hope you enjoy looking back on the highlights of the past months at MPI-IS.
Contact: alumni@is.mpg.de

January



- **Change in institute management:** Christoph Keplinger is new overall Managing Director; Moritz Hardt is new deputy Managing Director for the whole institute
- In the spring, we received a great deal of coverage in various German media outlets: [Spiegel](#) (Cyber Valley), [Wirtschaftswoche](#) (Künstliche Muskeln), [mdr](#) (Haptics/Smartwatch), [Handelsblatt](#) (KI-Zeitalter), [SWR](#) (Künstliche Muskeln/Tremor), [SWR Kultur](#) (Tastsinn), [Stuttgarter Zeitung](#) (KI/Robotik)



February/March

- [Scientific Symposium](#) in Stuttgart
- ELLIS Institute Tübingen organizes a [Scientific Symposium](#)
- RIG hosts the first [German Robotics Conference](#), and MPI-IS researchers showcase their research in soft robotics and haptics
- [Cem Özdemir](#), Acting Federal Minister of Research, visited Cyber Valley/MPI-IS Tübingen



April

- MPI-IS was evaluated by the [Scientific Advisory Board \(SAB\)](#) and received an extraordinary and outstanding feedback
- Our graduate and internship programs achieve [record-breaking numbers of applicants](#): IMPRS-IS: 888 valid applications and 77 doctoral students selected to form the next generation; CLS: 300/10, CaCTüS: 323/9, RIGI: 466/10 respectively

May



- [New research group](#) "Neuromechanics of Movement" (NOM) started in Stuttgart, led by Janneke Schwaner
- In Stuttgart, the [groundbreaking ceremony](#) ("Spatenstich") for the Cyber Valley building took place, involving the Science Minister of Baden-Württemberg, the Max Planck President, the Rector of the University of Stuttgart and our Directors
- MPI-IS is involved in two further funded [Clusters of Excellence](#) at the universities of Stuttgart and Tübingen



June



- [New research group](#) "Computational Applied Mathematics & Artificial Intelligence Lab (CAMAIL)" began in Tübingen, led by T. Konstantin Rusch
- 290 participants joined our 3-day institute retreat in Schluchsee, Black Forest
- MPI-IS organized a [Special Symposium for Intelligent Systems](#) in Tübingen which was followed by our annual **Summer Party** with **alumni meeting** and a lot of fun :-)



July

- Kick off for [nine CaCTüs interns](#) and [ten RIGI interns](#)
- The CyVy [AI Incubator Batch #6](#) ended with a great demo day and a vivid summer party
- The Center for Learning Systems ([CLS](#)) [retreat](#) took place in Switzerland
- The interns of our two internship programs [RIGI](#) and [CaCTüs](#) met twice cross-site (see upper picture right)
- A big group of scientists and staff members from MPI-IS and MPI-FKF joined the [Christopher Street Day Parade](#) in Stuttgart, demonstrating for freedom, equality, and tolerance

