



Schreibmotorik Institut e. V.
Schwanweg 1
90562 Heroldsberg, Germany
www.schreibmotorik-institut.com

Contact person: Andrej Priboschek
Agentur für Bildungsjournalismus
Mobile: +49 175 43 20 675
andrej.priboschek@bildungsjournalist.de



Technische Universität Darmstadt
Institute of Ergonomics & Human Factors
Otto- Berndt- Strasse 2
64287 Darmstadt, Germany
www.iad.tu-darmstadt.de

Press release / invitation, Darmstadt, 23/06/2017

Handwriting in the age of digitalisation – an international Symposium addresses the latest developments

Handwriting and digital technology – by no means a contradiction, as shown, for example, by the development of digital pens that are used to convert handwriting into text files. On the other hand, there are international efforts aimed at increasingly replacing handwriting with typed letters in schools. Where are developments headed? A conference at the TU Darmstadt turns a spotlight on this issue.

This year, the “2nd International Symposium on Handwriting Skills, 2017” will be organised by the Schreibmotorik Institut in cooperation with the Institute of Ergonomics & Human Factors of the Technische Universität in Darmstadt and will focus on collating international experiences on the topic of handwriting within the context of digitalisation. The aim is to discuss the latest research findings in the field of handwriting and tried-and-tested real-life pilot projects in an international context. The current gaps in research and practice are to be filled. Date of the event: 10 November 2017.

The Symposium, hosted in one of the Technische Universität Darmstadt’s guest houses, is aimed at experts from the fields of motor skills, neuroscience, sport and exercise science, (ergo)therapy, medicine, developmental psychology, ergonomics, (primary) education and representatives from the field of teacher training, ministries of education and schools. It is a networking platform that has previously facilitated the successful exchange of knowledge between figures from science, education, health and politics from eight European countries.

Prof. Dr Gerald Lembke, Professor for Digital Media, DHBW Mannheim, will use his opening speech to discuss the opportunities and risks of digital education. Prof. Dr Ruud van der Weel, Professor of Cognitive Psychology, Norwegian University of Science & Technology, Norway, will give a speech entitled: “Only Three Fingers Write, but the Whole Brain Works.” Dr. Christian Marquardt, scientific advisor for the Schreibmotorik Institut, will introduce the “KompetenzSpinne” – A screening method to assess writing motor skills. The entire programme can be found at <http://www.schreibmotorik-institut.com/index.php/en/programme>.

Registry for the symposium will be possible until 25 July 2017 (<http://www.schreibmotorik-institut.com/index.php/en/registration>). The “2nd International Symposium on Handwriting Skills, 2017” was accredited by the *Hessische Lehrkräfteakademie* [Teaching Academy of Hesse]. Furthermore, the Symposium will be recorded for teacher training in Bavaria. Simultaneous interpreting will be available for attendees. On Thursday, there will be a get-together for all attendees. On Saturday, interested parties can also take part in a joint city tour. The International Symposium is part of the Handwriting 2020 campaign, a joint initiative from the Schreibmotorik Institut and the Didacta Association of the German Education Industry.

2nd International Symposium on Handwriting Skills, 2017

Friday, 10 November 2017, 9am to 5pm

Georg Christoph Lichtenberg-Haus
Bernauer Strasse 241
64287 Darmstadt, Germany

Thursday 9 November 2017:

Official get-together for all attendees

Evening meal at 7pm in the Herrngartencafe,
Schleiermacherstrasse 29,
64283 Darmstadt, Germany

Media representatives are warmly invited to report on the event.