ZMT Senior Fellows

The ZMT is honoured to maintain active international working relationships with a network of highly renowned scientists in the fields of research, supervision, and training. A specific format for strengthening the scientific relationships for the benefit of both partners is the ZMT Senior Fellows. These ZMT Senior Fellows are outstanding colleagues invited to join the institute as external fellows for a period of five years as honorary adjunct institute members.

ZMT Senior Fellows are nominated by the department leaders after consultation with the workgroup leaders of their departments in order to strengthen the research strategy of the department and the institute. The Extended Directorial Board will choose and appoint the ZMT Senior Fellows on the background of the institute’s strategic development and the envisioned collaboration. This can include plans for joint research projects and proposals, the active involvement of the ZMT Senior Fellow in the supervision of doctoral theses, the participation in summer schools, seminars, lecture series, as well as publication projects and stakeholder involvement processes that relate to the particular fields of expertise and networks of the ZMT Senior Fellow.

Formal Information

Scientists with the profile and willingness to strengthen ZMT’s research development and strategy, its international cooperation network and training can be offered the status of a ZMT Senior Fellow. This status is usually grounded in active research collaboration or the development of joint research projects. It does not carry remuneration, and there is no formal contract to be signed. Senior Fellows may not represent themselves as employees of ZMT.

The appointment is normally for a period of five years. Usually up to two Senior Fellows per department have an active appointment at any given time. Potential fellows are proposed by workgroup leaders via their department leaders to the Extended Directorial Board, accompanied by the CV and written explanatory statement of the scientist. The appointment may be renewed following a written request from the responsible department leader for re-appointment.

Benefits of Appointment for the Fellow:

1. Full access to information and digital resources of ZMT
2. Participation in the research and teaching activities of ZMT, as appropriate
3. Access to ZMT’s research facilities, as appropriate
4. Listing in the relevant ZMT media channels (e.g. website, newsletter) and double affiliation on publications, where appropriate

Benefits of Appointment for ZMT:

1. High identification of fellow with the ZMT
2. Involvement of the fellow in summer schools
3. Easier access of the fellow to German and European funding for joint projects
What we expect of our Senior Fellows:

1. We invite our fellows to collaborate in ongoing or new research projects.
2. We invite our fellows to participate in the supervision of doctoral theses.
3. We invite our fellows to participate in summer schools, seminars, panel committee meetings, workshops and alike.

Criteria for Appointment:

1. The fellow holds a doctoral degree (at least 3 years) in a discipline relevant to ZMT and is renowned in her/his chosen field.
2. The fellow is active in doing research and has a home research environment (appointment in an academic or research institution).
3. The fellow maintains or has initiated significant collaborative interaction with one or more workgroups at ZMT.
4. The fellow supports the mission of ZMT and the specific collaborative research approach of ZMT (Bremen Criteria).

Procedure for Initial Appointment:

1. The process is initiated by a department leader following the proposal of a workgroup leader of her/his department. Upon agreement of the Extended Directorial Board, the responsible department leader will oversee the process of submission of the necessary documents (see above) for nomination and is responsible for the verification of the credentials.
2. The scientist is asked by the department leader to submit an up-to-date CV and a letter of intent indicating why he/she wishes to be considered for Senior Fellow status and how he/she plans to interact with ZMT.
3. Upon decision by the Extended Directorial Board, the scientist will be informed, in writing, of the appointment, and welcomed to join the ZMT community.

Conditions of Participation in Research Activities:

1. Senior Fellows may serve as panel members for doctoral students in collaboration with a ZMT workgroup leader. This ZMT supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the respective university's as well as ZMT's regulations are followed and that the established timelines are met.
2. ZMT core funding can only be allocated to joint projects with Senior Fellows if a ZMT workgroup leader is designated as Principal Investigator. Senior Fellows will therefore be required to apply as a collaborator in research projects together with a ZMT scientist.