CALL FOR DIGITALCHANGEMAKER-FELLOWS: TRANSFORM DIGITAL HIGHER EDUCATION WITH YOUR PROJECTS IN THE DIGITALCHANGEMAKER ACCELERATOR!

Second round of the Stifterverband and Reinhard Frank-Stiftung program: Financial and ideational support for student fellows

What should future-proof higher education look like? Which digital learning and teaching innovations are needed? How can the university of the future become an equal-opportunity, empowering and participatory place for learners? This is exactly where the DigitalChangeMaker Accelerator comes in. With the fellowship program, the Stifterverband and the Reinhard Frank-Stiftung fund student *change agents* who want to shape digital transformation at universities and shape higher education in a student-centered and innovative way. The program is inspired by student initiative DigitalChangeMaker by Hochschulforum Digitalisierung and flanks the corresponding measures.

After funding 17 DigitalChangeMaker fellow tandems and trios from March to July 2022, the DigitalChangeMaker Accelerator program is entering its second round that is also explicitly open to international students in Germany.

What exactly do the DigitalChangeMaker Accelerator and the DigitalChangeMaker Fellowships entail?

In the DigitalChangeMaker Accelerator of the Stifterverband and the Reinhard Frank-Stiftung, DigitalChangeMaker fellowships are awarded to student tandems or trios. The fellowship program runs for four months and supports project ideas from students and student initiatives that want to shape digital transformation at universities.

- » **Financial funding:** Each fellow tandem/trio receives a total of **1,200€**, which can be used in a flexible way within the scope of the respective project.
- » **Ideational support:** We offer workshops, (peer) coaching, qualification materials and access to networks. The implementation support will be designed in an iterative, agile process. Together with the future fellows, the formats will be developed in a *form-follows-function* approach according to specific needs.

Who and what exactly is funded?

» **Committed and dedicated students:** Students of all disciplines and study programs (e.g. bachelor, master or PhD) can apply - only your motivation and ideas count!

» **Team work makes the dream work:** Only **tandem or trio constellations** can be funded.

» **Projektanforderungen:**
- **Project status:** Students can apply with a specific new project idea that helps shape and positively change digital higher education, **or** with an already running project that needs funding for further development and scaling. We especially encourage existing projects and initiatives to apply in order to ensure the sustainability of the project within the university.
- **Openness:** There is a great deal of freedom when it comes to project ideas and end products - it could be, for example, a workshop/event series, a toolbox, a hackathon, a podcast, or an innovative teaching/collaboration concept, etc.
- **Open Source:** All results and products developed as part of the fellowship should, if possible, be placed under an open license and made available to the public.
- **International:** Depending on the selected fellows, the main language of the program might be English. Students should feel comfortable to read, write and speak in English.

How does the application process work?

» Interested student tandems or trios need to apply by **July 26, 2023** by sending a completed **application form** via e-mail to yasmin.djabarian@stifterverband.de: All we need is a few details and a brief description of the project and your motivation.

» In **early August (calendar week 31)**, you will get feedback on whether your team has been accepted for the program or not. We may also ask you for a short video call with us beforehand if there are still open questions.

» On **August 14th, 2023 from 10 to 4 pm**, the DigitalChangeMaker Accelerator will kick off with all its fellows **in Berlin**. Please save the date in any case!

Further Information on the DigitalChangeMaker Accelerator Program:

The following overview outlines the general framework of the program, which will be **demand-driven and co-creatively designed** together with the DigitalChangeMaker fellows of the new cohort.

Four phases in four months:

» **Building the base:** The focus of this phase is on the fellow cohort getting to know each other and their competencies in order to make individual skills and expertise visible and - in the sense of peer learning - also usable. In addition, the project ideas will be pitched and concrete challenges and needs will be identified. In this initial phase, we will define the working mode in the Accelerator together with the fellows.

» **Zooming-out phase:** Through impulse talks from experts and visions from the fellows, the teams will focus on larger contexts and develop ideas for the innovative design of higher education. In addition, joint ideation sessions will be held. The motto is "Think big & wild!"

» **Zooming-in phase:** After deliberately broadening the perspective, this phase is primarily concerned with sharpening and specifying the project or project plan. Here, the fellows receive goal-oriented support through workshops, (peer) coaching, sparring sessions, qualification materials and access to networks.

» **Collaboration phase:** In this intensive work phase, the DigitalChangeMaker Fellows will significantly advance their change projects within their tandems/trios as well as with the support of the other fellows as critical friends and will ideally bring their projects into implementation or first iteration.