

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Robotik (DGR) e.V.i.G.
c/o Robotics and Biology Lab
Technische Universität Berlin
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Director of Institute for Logistics Engineering
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jana Jost

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Application for the Position of Treasurer

Dear members of the board,

I am pleased to submit my application for the position of Treasurer of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Robotik (DGR) e.V. i.G.

To me, robotics has never been a purely engineering discipline. Beyond the technical development, it is the human dimension that determines the success of robotic solutions. This begins at the co-design of systems with their future users and ends with questions of leadership and change management when robots are introduced into organizations. Anyone who wants to advance robotics in Germany must invest in people just as much as in technology.

As director of the Institute of Logistics Engineering at Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH) and with a close affiliation to Fraunhofer IML, I follow this development from both a scientific and an applied perspective. I have accompanied the Robotics Institute Germany (RIG) since its inception and am an active member of euRobotics as well as other working groups, e.g., of the VDMA or acatech. Further, I have been an equal opportunity officer for more than a decade and a mentor for scientists. This combination of academic leadership, research practice and international connections is what I would like to bring to the DGR's board. I view it as the DGR's mission to attract new people to robotics and strengthen the advancement of women in the field. Diversity of background, discipline and perspective is a precondition of good robotic products that can positively impact our society. Further, I see it as the DGR's responsibility to simplify the framework conditions for robotics in Germany. Political requirements currently place tight limits on this development; they cannot be shifted by individual institutions, but only if associations and societies move forward together. I see the DGR's core mission as combining key strengths, e.g., topical Fachgruppen, career-spanning community and close industry ties into its own profile: the home for everyone in German robotics, closely linked to RIG, which together can coordinate the national research roadmap in robotics. Therefore, I like to focus on four priorities with possible formats:

- 1. Connecting disciplines:** Shape robotics as an interdisciplinary field that brings together technology, user perspective and management questions from the outset through DGR technical committees linked to, not duplicating, the RIG clusters, and an expanded transfer network for companies through DGR job hubs and talent pools.
- 2. Attracting talent:** Targeted mentoring and visibility formats that inspire new, particularly female, talent to join robotics and retain them long-term. Peer mentoring for PhDs, travel funds, early-career/interdisciplinary fellowships, and a DGR Young Academy to strengthen and honoring young professionals.
- 3. Strengthening the political interface:** Act together with other associations as a coordinated voice towards policymakers, to reduce regulatory hurdles for robotics in Germany backed by quarterly executive briefings and a joint "State of German Robotics" report with the RIG roadmap.
- 4. Securing a financial foundation:** As Treasurer, a financial base which combines membership fees, sponsorships, sponsored content, and revenue from DGR-hosted formats (conference, Career Fair).

I would be glad to help shape the DGR's board, and I thank you for considering my application.

Yours sincerely,



Jana Jost