

As a cohort of early PhD students from the Soft Materials and Colloids (SMaC) group at Monash University (Clayton) the 2018 Bayreuth International Summer School (BISS) offered a chance to network and learn skills useful for the rest of our PhD programs. The BISS offered a good mix of both Australian and European academics though the lecture schedule was very segregated with the Australian academics in the first week and European academics in the second. Bayreuth is a beautiful city and the BISS is a very well-organized summer school. It was a great way to experience both the cultural heritage of Germany and the living and working environment of Bayreuth University. For early PhD candidates who are considering an exchange or looking to build their networks this is a highly recommended trip.