

A joyful reunion with our alumni!

Dear Sir/Madam,

An exciting and eventful 2023 lies behind us. In addition to the ceremonial awarding of our scholarships and other prizes in October, we invited the previous award winners to a reunion at Agritechnica for the first time. We are particularly pleased about such encounters - after all, they show how our young talents are developing and what individual career paths they are pursuing.

We are also very pleased that we once again had many international events in our calendar last year. For example, we celebrated our ten-year collaboration with the Slovakian university in Nitra. And in the summer, we were once again able to support the international "Summer School" of the Universities of Hohenheim and LaSalle.

Supporting school students was also on our agenda in 2023, with the mini-tractor driving competition, mBot training sessions for teachers and the excursion of the Student Research Center Osnabrück to the CLAAS IT specialists in Harsewinkel.

In 2024, we will continue to promote and support young talent in a wide array of formats tailored to the respective target groups. Always with the aim of passing on our enthusiasm for technology and science to the next generation.

With warmest regards,



Sylvia Looks

Frank Klüsener

Claas-Foundation Executive Board

You can find the announcement for the Helmut Claas Scholarship 2024 at [claas-foundation.com](https://www.claas-foundation.com)



Cathrina Claas-Mühlhäuser with winning scholars, Board of Trustees, jury and representatives of the universities.

2023 award ceremony

Claas-Foundation honors young talents!

In October, the Claas-Foundation recognized excellent final theses in the fields of agricultural and engineering sciences. As has been the case for over 20 years now, the students received awards, which this year amounted to a total value of over €30,000.

The budding talents accepted their prizes in a festive setting at the CLAAS Greenhouse. In addition, the final theses were outlined to the audience by the winners of the main prizes in brief presentations.

The awards were presented by Cathrina Claas-Mühlhäuser, Chair of the Board of Trustees since 2021. She was delighted to once again welcome new agricultural talents from various European countries to Harsewinkel: "Today we are meeting students who have already discovered their great passion for technology and agriculture. Talents that are so important for mastering the challenges we face today and in the future."



On the evening before the award ceremony, the bonus prize winners had the opportunity to present their projects in a relaxed atmosphere.

The following individual prizes were awarded for the scholarships:



1st prize: Tristan Mittel, a student at the University of Kassel, created a guide for the planning of agroforestry systems. He received €7,200 for his work, which is intended as a practical manual to help promote innovative forms of agriculture.

2nd prize: Christian Reichler from the South Westphalia University of Applied Sciences developed reference materials for determining moisture in a forage harvester using near-infrared rays. He was awarded €6,000 for his work.

3rd prize: Fabian Lorenz, who is studying at the University of Applied Sciences Weihenstephan-Triesdorf, won €4,800 for his experiment on single-grain sowing of wheat using different sowing methods and pilled seeds (seeds enclosed in a shell, resulting in a uniformly round shape).

4th prize: Tim Huurdeman was awarded fourth prize for his research on optimized supplementary lighting in greenhouses to maximize financial yield. The student from Wageningen University received 3,600 for his work.

Reunion with former prize winners First alumni meeting at Agritechnica



Happy reunion with the alumni at Agritechnica.

The Claas-Foundation invited former award awardees and scholarship winners to a meeting in November. The CLAAS booth at Agritechnica in Hanover provided the perfect setting.

"The Claas-Foundation has built up a lively network over the years, which also includes the contact with our previous award winners," said Sylvia Looks, who welcomed the alumni together with fellow Board member Frank Klüsener and Dr Hermann Garbers, Deputy Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Claas-Foundation. Among other topics, Dr Garbers spoke about the development of the foundation in recent years.



Dr Hermann Garbers also welcomed the former award winners.

Claas-Foundation and Slovak University of Agriculture 10 years of successful cooperation



Prof Vladimír Rataj (center) was honored for his many years of commitment.

The cooperation between the Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra and the Claas-Foundation started more than ten years ago. Prof Vladimír Rataj and Dr Hagen Adam (CLAAS KGaA mbH and graduate of the University of Nitra) have been involved in this cooperation since the beginning. Students from the university are regularly among the winners of the Claas-Foundation's international student prize. "We believe that such impulses spark young people's interest in modern agricultural technology and are inspiring for their professional careers. They should motivate and encourage," said Sylvia Looks. Prof Vladimír Rataj received a heartfelt thank you and a certificate for his commitment to the cooperation on the part of the university.

UniLaSalle and University of Hohenheim

International "Summer School"

In September 2023, the University of Hohenheim and UniLaSalle held a joint one-week "Summer School" as part of their cooperation supported by the Claas-Foundation, in which French and German students took part.

Under the motto "Soil-Tire Interaction: Challenges and Practices", lectures were given by Prof Dr Stefan Böttinger, Robert Obermeier-Hartmann (CLAAS Industrietechnik) and Francois Pinet (Michelin) at the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart and by Asst Prof Ugarte at the UniLaSalle in Beauvais.

In addition to the theoretical lecture, the practical aspect was also on the agenda: The students had the opportunity to take measurements with agricultural tires on different surfaces and then evaluate them.



Theory and practice complemented each other at the "Summer School".

„Hands-On-Technik“ (HOT) in Thuringia

Driving competition enters the next round



Speed and skill were required on the obstacle course.

In the summer, around 50 students from five schools in the region around Ebeleben, Thuringia, put their (driving) skills to the test. In the new edition of the "Hands-On Technik" competition, or HOT for short, the ten teams had to prove their skills in navigating remote-controlled tractors through various routes as quickly and accurately as possible.

In advance, all participating schools received the kits from the Claas-Foundation, which the school students then assembled in class.

The students then competed in three disciplines with their electrically powered tractors. The slalom course was all about speed, the obstacle course called for skill and the agricultural course required the small tractors to pass narrow obstacles and park backwards in a barn.

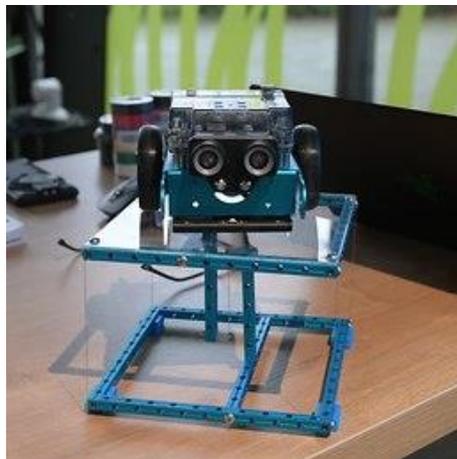
mBots in the classroom

When teachers learn - training on robots

Programming a robot so that it does what it is supposed to do - this is what 20 teachers from various secondary schools, comprehensive schools, intermediate schools and grammar schools in the districts of Gütersloh and Warendorf learned at a training course organized by the Claas-Foundation in Harsewinkel.

The teachers already had some experience, as they all use the small robot vehicles from MakeBlock successfully in the classroom.

The training serves as preparation for the further introduction of mBots into the school curriculum, whether in technology or computer science lessons, or in the afternoon project groups. The mBot promotes project-oriented learning, which is becoming increasingly important in schools. A competition in the summer rounds off the initiative.



When fully assembled, the mBot2 puts on a friendly face.

+++ News in brief +++

We welcome Christian Radons, member of the CLAAS Group Executive Board and responsible for Service and Sales. He joined the Board of Trustees of the Claas-Foundation in 2023.



Georg Eggenhaus, Head of CLAAS CEMOS Development Harvesting Machinery, has been a volunteer on the SFZ Board since November 2023 and has taken on the role of Treasurer.

Further information at sfz-os.de



Winners of the "Förderpreis der Wirtschaft" experienced an exciting "Tag der Landtechnik" at CLAAS in Harsewinkel. In September, young people were honored for outstanding academic achievements in STEM subjects at the University of Paderborn for the 17th time.

Student Research Center on tour – How do you program a combine harvester? Twelve students from the SFZ Osnabrück with a focus on 3D printing and robotics visited CLAAS in Harsewinkel in May. "It was a successful event all round," reported Dr Andreas Brunnert, Director SF Electrics/Electronics at CSE. "After a combine harvester had been explained in detail in the Technoparc, the next step was not only to show how combines are programmed, but also to give the 'SFZ-ers' the opportunity to come into contact with our programming environments themselves."

