# Press release

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**Ludwig Schunk Foundation awards THM graduates**

**Six graduates receive awards for outstanding academic achievements and their voluntary commitment**

**Heuchelheim, 13 April 2018 – The Ludwig Schunk Prize has been awarded for the fifth time at the TH Mittelhessen: Six graduates received the award, each endowed with 1,000 euros, for outstanding academic achievements and their voluntary commitment.**

The award winners are Lukas Hofmann from Laubach (Department of Mechanical Engineering and Energy Technology), Felix Jelli from Linden (Department of Mechanical Engineering, Mechatronics, Materials Technology), Juliane Lieser from Lahnau (Department of Economics), Julian Reitz from Grünberg-Harbach (Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology), Jan Oliver Sänger from Frankfurt (Department of Industrial Engineering) and Jan Erik Schöpke from Wölfersheim (Department of Information Technology - Electrical Engineering - Mechatronics).

**Willingness to perform and voluntary commitment are rewarded**

"The Ludwig Schunk Prize is a sign that motivation and voluntary commitment are compatible and will also be rewarded," said Gunthard Sommer, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation, at the award ceremony. "He also pays tribute to the many successful collaborations between THM and Schunk. The award is dedicated to the company founder Ludwig Schunk, from whose company the Schunk Group has developed as an internationally active technology group with over 8,000 employees in 29 countries.

**Students' achievements "impressive"**

THM President Prof. Dr. Matthias Willems emphasized the combination of extraordinary achievements and voluntary work of the graduates: "It is impressive when students devote a lot of work to voluntary work and still belong to the best of their class. By awarding the Ludwig Schunk Prize, the foundation is not only showing its interest in the quality of academic education. It also promotes the willingness of junior staff to make high demands on themselves in terms of personal qualification and commitment to society".

Schunk and THM have a long-standing partnership in teaching, research and development. Students of the university complete internships at Schunk or deal with company topics in their bachelor or master theses. The company has been a partner in the dual StudiumPlus program for many years. The Ludwig Schunk Foundation is also one of the sponsors of the German scholarships (Deutschlandstipendium) at the THM.

The Ludwig Schunk Prize is open to the best graduates of the faculties of the THM in Giessen and Friedberg who offer study programmes in the fields of electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, industrial engineering and business administration. A jury consisting of representatives of the foundation and members of the university will decide on the award. Criteria are the final grades and the degree of the respective voluntary work.

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**Pictures:**

Press Picture Ludwig-Schunk-Prizes 2018\_1.jpg: "The Ludwig Schunk Prize is a sign that motivation and voluntary commitment are compatible and are also rewarded," said Gunthard Sommer, Chairman of the Ludwig Schunk Foundation.

Press Picture Ludwig-Schunk-Prizes 2018\_2.jpg: This year's winners of the Ludwig Schunk Prizes with representatives of Schunk and THM.

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**Schunk Group**  
The Schunk Group is an internationally operating technology company with more than 8,000 employees in 29 countries. The company offers a broad spectrum of products and services in the fields of carbon technology and ceramics, environmental simulation and air conditioning, sintered metal and ultrasonic welding. In 2016, the Schunk Group achieved a turnover of 1.1 billion euros.