

## New partnership in online mode - Polytech to hold an online meeting with RWTH Aachen University

On April 8, Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University held a joint video conference with a university in Germany – Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen (RWTH Aachen University). The first contacts were established in the framework of the Forum "[Polytech Days in Berlin](#)". In the spring a representative delegation from RWTH Aachen University was supposed to visit SPbPU, but due to the pandemic the plans have been changed. Nevertheless, the mutual interest of two universities was so high that even bearing in mind all restrictive measures the employees of the respective departments decided to share the ideas and make the first steps towards joint projects.



On behalf of SPbPU Vyacheslav SHKODYREV, Director of the Higher School of Cyber-Physical Systems and Control and Marina BOLSUNOVSKAYA, Head of the Laboratory of Industrial Systems for Streaming Data Processing as well as the representatives of the International Office and SPbPU Institute of Computer Sciences and Technology took part in the video conference. The University of Aachen was represented by Dr. Matthias BROCKMANN, Managing Director in Cluster of Excellence, Simon STORMS, Head of Department Automation and

Control, and Aleksandra Müller, the Research Associate, Department Automation and Control.

The parties demonstrated the projects that the research teams are implementing at the moment, and discussed the possibilities for cooperation and carrying out a joint project based on the Cluster of Excellence Internet of Production at RWTH Aachen University.

*“The profile of the Polytechnic University is very close to ours. We see a lot of common features for collaboration. You have very interesting developments in the field of cyber physical systems and control, algorithms and systems for data analysis. Also today we saw that you are using the same technologies as we are - for example, FPGA technologies”, – Dr.-Ing Matthias Brockmann underlined.*

The Polytechnic University and RWTH Aachen University really have a lot in common. In particular, universities are conducting active research in such areas as artificial intelligence, industrial robotics, and many others. Based on the results of the meeting, the parties identified the following promising opportunities for collaboration: organization of scientific internships for Master’s and PhD students, participation in conferences, implementation of joint research projects on the range of topics, organization of network partnerships between laboratories and the development of joint Double Degree programs. As well, Russian and German colleagues mutually supported the idea of holding an online conference for PhD students of both universities. The parties expressed their willingness to start implementing ideas in the near future – for now, however, in the online mode.

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