

PADS Excellence Initiative Started

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Problems in research and industry grow more and more complex. More than ever, they require a close exchange of young talent, scientists, and experienced industry leaders. Therefore, the Chair of Process and Data Science at RWTH Aachen University initiated PADS Excellence to connect excellent students, researchers, and professionals.

Last Friday, PADS Excellence publicly launched with hosting its first symposium. Chairholder Prof. Wil van der Aalst gave a keynote speech and discussed future trends in Process Mining. The research perspective was complemented by the keynote of Peter Budweiser, Site Lead of the recently founded Celonis Lab in Aachen, who provided insights of the application of Process Mining and its value creation in practice.

Several PhD students presented their state-of-the-art research progress, including open research projects and engaging discussions about future collaborations. We concluded the day with a personal exchange over some Dutch food and German drinks. Thanks to all attendees for the great opportunities to get to know each other and to bond between students, research, and industry. We are especially pleased to induct our top performing students to the PADS Excellence Honors Class and awarded them their Honors Class certificates during the symposium. The certificate attests their outstanding performance in Process and Data Science related courses and rates them among the top 5% of our students.

PADS Excellence is composed of the chair's former graduates, employees, and Honors Class. We organize regular scientific and networking events for our members to facilitate the growth of long-term relationships. For active student members of the network, we additionally provide an open master thesis offer.

Right now, PADS Excellence already comprises over 100 members with academic backgrounds from over 50 universities, more than 30 current employers, and over 40 individuals that have co-authored scientific contributions. Given the fact that the Chair of Process and Data Science was created in 2018, we appreciate this very remarkable development of our initiative. In the next years, we aim to grow and facilitate a large network of our alumni and excellent students moving into research and industry.