



Carla Cimatoribus, Italy

...enjoying the combination of theory and practice in the German Southwest

International PhD Programme Environment Water (ENWAT), Universität Stuttgart
<http://www.phd.envwater.uni-stuttgart.de>

It was by sheer chance that Carla Cimatoribus chose Stuttgart when she applied for a Marie Curie Fellowship. The now 29 year old doctoral candidate looked through the topics offered all over Europe and then made her choice. "At first I didn't know that Stuttgart was so strong, considering both the industrial environment and the university," she comments. Environmental protection had interested her since her studies in chemical engineering in Padua. She was immediately excited when she discovered the EnWat (Environmental Water) programme on the Internet. "In Italy the studies were more theoretical, here in Stuttgart we have a strong focus on practice which I like very much."

The young woman has built an anaerobic digestion reactor herself and put it into operation. 40 litres of waste at a time can be fermented and transformed into energy – Carla's main work now is to simulate and calculate. Once her dissertation is finished she is sure to get a good job in the booming Baden-Württemberg industry and following this? "I could imagine striving for an academic career. The working conditions and the equipment at the University in Stuttgart are very good", says Carla. Apart from the good reputation of the University, she appreciates the cleanliness and lack chaos, safety and peace – even in a bigger city such as Stuttgart. And, above all: "The industrial environment here is just fantastic."

The EnWat programme, with a duration of three years, in Civil and Environmental Engineering is for postgraduates only. Thirty international students are working on their doctoral degrees and they enjoy organising private activities and parties whilst working hard.

Rainer Enzenhoefer, course director of the EnWat programme, explains: "We aim to thoroughly prepare doctoral students for their research in classes and workshops which are taught by faculty members or guest speakers. In addition, doctoral candidates have to participate in the doctoral seminar where the progress of their research is discussed with all doctoral candidates of ENWAT and their supervisors. With the recruitment of a co-advisor, as well as the preparation of a research proposal and framework early on in the programme, the candidate is also better equipped for her/his study in ENWAT". ENWAT is consecutive to the M.Sc.

programme Water Resources and Engineering Management (WAREM). In addition to WAREM, there are several M.Sc. programmes at the Universität Stuttgart such as Air Quality Control, Solid Waste and Waste Water Process Engineering (WASTE), Physics (PHYSICS), Computational Mechanics of Materials and Structures (COMMAS), Information Technology (INFOTECH), and Infrastructure Planning (MIP)."

"The fact that people from all over the world come together at the Universität Stuttgart to work on global environment problems makes a lot of sense," says Carla.

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Baden-Württemberg

The German Southwest.