GMDS — only scientific society that jointly represents currently around 2000 members of 4 disciplines:
(1) of Medical Informatics
(2) Biometry
(3) Epidemiology
(4) Medical Bioinformatics
• Aim: development of subject-specific methods and application in collaboration with various medical domains

Background

Support of Young Scientist within the GMDS
• Establishment of the Presidential Commission for the Support of Young Scientists to face the need for junior staff that has increased due to the acceleration in medical digitization
• Focus: inspiration of young talents, including the nearly 10% undergraduate GMDS members and development of strategies to assist their personal and academic growth
• Target groups: pupils, students, doctoral candidates, as well as postdocs.

General Support

Financial Assistance
• Low-threshold access to GMDS community: young talents can become members of GMDS free of charge or reduced fee
• Provision of financial support for students and young scientists to attend the annual meeting of the association.

Honing Outstanding Performance
• Sponsorship awards for excellent theses
• Best-Paper-Award for exceptional contributions at the annual GMDS meeting

Point of Contact
• Operating a website and a Twitter channel for questions and suggestions, as well as for updating about current activities
• Providing information material (see Figure 1) to raise awareness of the benefits of GMDS and to attract new members

Online Lecture Series
• Series of lectures offered on topics relevant to research
• Online format once a month during the semester
• 45 minutes talk + 15 minutes of discussion
• Content includes
  • basic topics (e.g. abstract writing, data visualization and predatory journals)
  • advanced topics (e.g. clean coding or reproducibility of numerical experiments)
• Speakers from the GMDS community including academia and industry as well as international invited speakers
• Regular audience of 20 – 60 viewers
• Usually recorded to establish a sustainable knowledge base, available to all GMDS members

Summer Schools & PhD Symposia

Summer Schools
• Open to all interested parties, but primarily aimed at students
• Focus on networking and integration into the GMDS community
• Composed of:
  (1) Presentations from the respective disciplines, the fields of activity and possible areas of work
  (2) Soft Skills Workshop

Doctoral Symposia
• Aimed at doctoral students in the first half of the doctoral phase
• Composed of:
  (1) Presentation of doctoral thesis and discussion
  (2) Acquisition of competences relevant to the doctoral thesis
  (3) Social events to exchange experiences in a relaxed setting

Outlook

• Identified focus areas based on a GMDS-wide member survey (see Graph 1): Meetup formats
• Strengthening the connection with other young promotion groups on European level, e.g. yEFMI

Graph 1:
Feedback as part of a GMDS-wide member survey on the question of which formats/channels are considered important for the promotion of young scientists (N=188; multiple answers possible).