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Dr. Natalie Lewandowski leads the Area Business and Project Management at the High-Performance Computing Center Stuttgart (HLRS) and is Head of the Project Controlling & Management Office (PCMO) which coordinates both national and large-scale European projects in the area of high-performance computing and associated technologies. She is Deputy Project Manager of EuroCC project, aiming to establish 33 National Competence Centres in HPC+, and the corresponding CSA CASTIEL. She has received her Ph.D. in Computational Linguistics/Experimental Phonetics from the University of Stuttgart in 2012 and has worked both in and outside of academia since. Natalie Lewandowski has extensive experience as a scientist in the area of speaker interaction phenomena, as a lecturer in phonetics and cognitive science, and as research project manager, including her Postdoc time at the Collaborative Research Center SFB 732 (DFG) on *Specification in Context* and at a private foundation supporting research, education and social projects in the state of Baden-Württemberg.

Presentation title:

“Shaping the interaction of NCCs and SMEs – experiences from the EuroCC and CASTIEL projects”

Abstract

In my presentation, I will pinpoint the differences between HPC users from academia, big industry and SMEs, with a particular focus on the latter group, as they are a vital aspect of the activities within the National Competence Centres in HPC and associated technologies (HPC+). All 33 NCCs are currently in the process of acquiring or widening the necessary capabilities to support these user types in the best possible way.

Through the experience in the EuroCC project, it became clear that the NCCs need to be also able to speak the language of the SMEs in order to succeed. The particular challenge lies in dealing with a user group which partially has low or nearly no expertise in the use of HPC+, but is very solution-focused. Still, there is a high amount of untapped potential in the uptake of certain SME-domains, which can be only explored by a well-established interaction mechanism between NCCs and the SMEs.