

GÖTTINGEN INTERNATIONAL

Newsletter

International news and activities

The University receives seal of quality in the audit “Internationalisation of Higher Education”

The University of Göttingen has received the quality seal of the audit “Internationalisation of Higher Education”, initiated by the German Rectors’ Conference (HRK). The award of the seal took place on 11 December 2012 during the HRK-Conference “Successful Internationalisation” in Bonn. The audit, in which the University of Göttingen had already participated in the pilot phase as one of the first universities in Germany, provides support in the strategic planning and implementation of internationalisation goals. The award of the seal recognises the many initiatives and offers introduced by the University of Göttingen in the area of internationalisation.



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Göttingen receives funding from the DAAD for promoting the U4 Network

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) has awarded Göttingen University grant money totalling up to 935,000 Euro for four years to promote the U4 Network and intensify the cooperation between the partners. The approved grant money will allow intensifying the research and the research-orientated teaching practices first of all in the following four thematic clusters: "(Bio)medical and Pharmaceutical Sciences", "Science and Technology", "Humanities", "Social Sciences and Law".

A large proportion of the funds applied for will be channelled into mobility options for students and researchers. Moreover, short-term exchanges for a total of 17 mutually organized summer schools and stays at international specialist conferences will be financed by the U4 partners.

Additional workshops will foster the identification and intensification of focal points of cooperative research and help establish further joint degree programmes, during which special "Staff Training Weeks" will be offered for continuing education in administration. In addition, the already existing start-up support programmes for young academic talents at all four universities should be expanded and further developed in order to make the framework conditions for applications for third-party funding or their own positions easier.

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Funding for international conferences in Göttingen

In 2013 the International Office will support the organization and management of international conferences in Göttingen with a total of 8,000 Euro. Funding will be given to events held in Göttingen, which aim at supporting young academics.

The financial means are provided by the Klaus Inhülsen Foundation that was founded in 2008 and sponsors outstanding law students as well as projects contributing to the internationalization of the university.

Klaus Inhülsen (1 January 1938 – 1 December 2010) accomplished his degree in law between 1959 and 1964 in Munich, Geneva and Göttingen. From 1964 until 1966 he was a research fellow at the Institute of international law (Institut für Völkerrecht) in Göttingen.

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Financial support for research stays of German scientists in Japan

In cooperation with the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), the DAAD promotes, under the bilateral academic exchange programme, German PhD scientists for a short research stay at universities and selected research institutions in Japan. It is expected that the German scientists should establish contacts with colleagues from Japanese universities or selected research institutes and arrange with them the intended visit in terms of time and content.

Application deadline: until 15/03/2013 at the latest for the sponsorship period from 01/10/2013 - 03/31/2014, and until 15/11/2013 at the latest for the sponsorship period from 01/04/2014 - 30/09/2014.

You can find more information about the application and selection process at <http://tinyurl.com/b7nk8ou>.

There are more funding opportunities from the JSPS office at <http://tinyurl.com/btgxhhy>.

Career counseling for female PhD students and postdocs

Last December, 27 female junior scientists were welcomed as mentees in the third round of the English-speaking Dorothea Schlözer mentoring program (www.uni-goettingen.de/mentoringzuk). One third of the mentees are international PhD students and postdocs. In the next 18 months, they will have a chance to meet with a senior professor from an adjacent field in a different faculty in order to discuss their questions relating to an academic career. In addition, the mentees will take part in an extensive training scheme and in networking events designed to foster their competence and confidence and to open up new career perspectives.

The mentoring program is part of the University's Dorothea Schlözer-programme. With measures including grants, mentoring, and coaching and with funds totaling more than two million Euros so far, the Dorothea Schlözer-programme has supported female scientists at different stages of their academic careers since 2009.



The next call for applications will be opened in March 2013. For more information, please refer to www.uni-goettingen.de/schloezer.

Staff Training Week – Europe as a guest in Göttingen

Within the framework of the Erasmus Lifelong Learning Programme, and for the 7th time, Göttingen University organises a staff training week for the administrative staff of European partner universities.

Administrative employees also play an important role in the internationalisation process of higher education institutions. The offer of such a training week is an excellent way to support this development. The goals are to learn from each other, to develop skills, and to share experiences that promote the creation and expansion of partnerships at the administrative level. By now, many partner institutions that take part in the European educational programme offer these training weeks. The offers can target particular groups, for example IT specialists, librarians and secretaries, or they can serve the needs of a potpourri of different groups.

From 06-10 May 2013 the staff of the International Office of the University expects some 20 guests from countries like Finland, Greece, Italy, Spain, Poland, Turkey and Cyprus. It will be supported by, among others, the IT department and the Student and Academic Services team. Institutions interested in an exchange of experience and in participation for 1-2 hours on one of the days can contact Karen Denecke by 15/3/2013.

Contact:

Karen Denecke

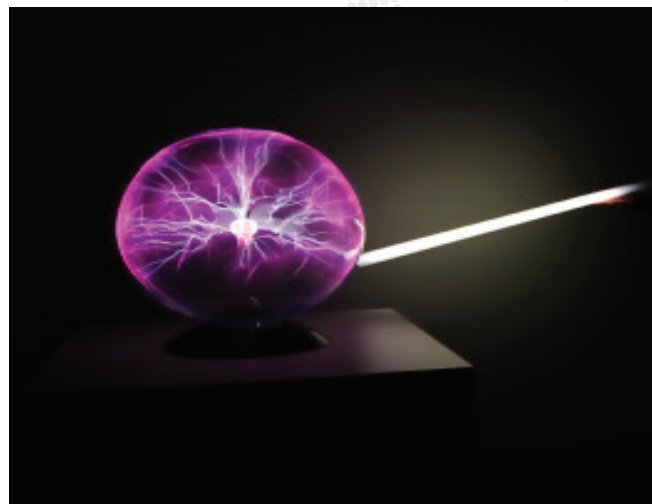
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EuroPhysicsFun 2013 in Göttingen

This year's European conference of physics shows, EuroPhysicsFun 2013, will take place from 9-13 April 2013 in Göttingen. About 50 participants from all of Europe will attend, representing physics shows, science exhibitions and science education institutions. The focus will be the exchange of ideas on physics experiments, practicing presentation techniques, discussions on the communication of science with journalists from the New Scientist, London, and such new media as social networks. In addition, considerations regarding security aspects and first aid in the unlikely event of accidents will also be included.

Highlights will be the physics show by the award-winning "Physikanten", famous in Germany, and the presentation by an astronaut from the International Space Station (ISS) on Friday, 12 April at 7 p.m. in room ZHG011 in the Zentrales Hörsaalgebäude, the central auditorium building, (free of charge for children and students). There will also be the physics show by all conference participants on the science stage at the PHAENO exhibition in Wolfsburg on Saturday, 13 April at 10 a.m.



The host will be Prof. Dr. Arnulf Quadt, II. Physikalisches Institut. Further information can be obtained from <http://wiki.europhysicsfun.org>

Neurizons 2013

From May 22 - 25, 2013, the interdisciplinary Neurizons Conference will take place in Göttingen. Titled "Solving the brain puzzle: Building minds from molecules", the conference is organized by the students of the IMPRS Neuroscience programme and brings together neuroscientists from a wide range of disciplines.

Apart from interesting lectures, the Conference will

provide unique opportunities for direct communication of young and more advanced scientists from many different institutions and nationalities in the interdisciplinary field of neuroscience.

The programme, as well as the dead-lines for registration are available at www.neurizons.uni-goettingen.de.

Conference "Construction, Technology and Environment in Farm Animal Husbandry"

The Association for Technology and Structures in Agriculture (KTBL) and the Max-Eyth Society for Agricultural Engineering within the Association of German Engineers (VDI-MEG), together with the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University of Göttingen invite the public to the 11th International Conference on "Construction, Technology and Environment in Farm Animal Husbandry" September 24-26, 2013, at the Vechta branch of the University of Göttingen. The target of the conference is the presentation and intensive discussion of scientific and empirical advances in knowledge within this broad subject area.

Contributions to the BTU Conference 2013 in Vechta are expected to address current and future developments in the subjects of architecture/building design, production technology, information and process technology. Other subjects will be farm business and labour management, processes supporting animal welfare and environmental protection, measures for quality control and byproduct utilisation from farm animal production.

The conference programme and further information about the event are available at www.btu-conference.com

New partnerships of the University

In 2012 a total of 38 partnership agreements on university, faculty and institutional level were initiated and signed. 25 of these agreements regulate the exchange of students and scientists; the other 13 agreements concern the establishment of joint study programmes (2) and the general scientific co-operation (11).

At university level three Memorandum of Understanding (student and scientist exchange) were signed with Victoria University (Australia), Osaka University (Japan), Shahid Beheshti University (Iran) as well as a framework agreement with Stellenbosch University (South Africa).

For more detailed information on these and other international co-operations of the University of Göttingen, please refer to www.uni-goettingen.de/de/60545.html.

Information on exchange possibilities for students and scientists can be found at www.uni-goettingen.de/de/60918.html.

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BMBF funded transregional research network with focus on India and East Asia

The University of Göttingen has announced the launch of the "CeMIS-CeMEAS Transregional Research Network (CETREN)". Funded with a 1.2 million euro grant from the BMBF, CETREN will produce and sustain intellectual and institutional collaborations between existing area studies centres at the university: the Centre of Modern Indian Studies (CeMIS) and the Centre for Modern East Asian Studies (CeMEAS).

CETREN will foster collaborations between disciplines and area studies, thus contributing to the production of innovative "place-based" knowledge in the social sciences and humanities.

For more information please refer to www.uni-goettingen.de/en/422555.html

Interdisciplinary partnership for strengthening global health

Physicians and veterinarians, geographers, biologists, agricultural and forestry scientists, theologians, economists, and social scientists from seven faculties at the University of Göttingen develop joint solutions for the improvement of maternal and child health and for the prevention of infectious diseases in developing and emerging countries. Increased knowledge transfer and research with partners from the South (Ghana, India, Tanzania, Indonesia and other countries in South America, the Middle East and Central Africa) are the main objectives.

A joint lecture series by the members of the Göttingen International Health Networks will be prepared for the 2013 winter semester. For more information about the activities of the "Göttingen International Health Network", see the 1st Annual Report at <http://gihn.net>.

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University welcomes international researchers and their families

With a traditional Christmas reception, the University welcomed its international researchers and their families on 14 December. The annual event is growing in popularity: For the first time the University's Welcome Centre greeted more than 300 guests. The supporting programme included various Christmas booths in the courtyard of the historical observatory. For the more than 60 children among the guests, the programme included activities like baking bread on a stick, a make-up station and a visit from Santa Claus. University President Prof. Dr. Ulrike Beisiegel welcomed the guests.

The Welcome Centre is the central service point of the University of Göttingen for international researchers, and currently supports about 330 researchers from 60 countries.

Welcome Centre events tips:

Easter crafts for the whole family, 20 March, 3 to 5 p.m.

International Stammtisch, 15 March, 7 to 9 p.m.

Registration: welcome@uni-goettingen.de



Welcome meeting for DAAD-scholarship holders

On February 14, 2013 the annual welcome meeting for DAAD-scholarship holders was held in the Great Hall of the University (Aula). The vice president of University of Göttingen Prof. Dr. Casper-Hehne, the director of the International Office Dr. Muuss and Mr. Binfeld on the part of DAAD welcomed 167 scholars from 59 countries, who were given the chance to study and research in Göttingen thanks to DAAD scholarships. After the official greeting there was a panel discussion with six grantees, who talked about their impressions and experiences in Göttingen as well as their future plans. Afterwards the DAAD-prize, which rewards outstanding academic achievement and social commitment, was awarded. This year the prize was received by Tabitha Kate Price, who works on her doctorate thesis "Variation in Vervet Vocalisations (Chlorocebus aethiops): Insights into mechanisms of call production and call perception" at Cognitive Ethology Lab in Göttingen since 2009. The evening was rounded off by a reception held at restaurant Bullerjahn in cellar of Göttingen's old town hall.



Erasmus Mundus Action 2 staff mobility

Every year the University of Göttingen welcomes colleagues from the partner universities from all around the world, who use the staff exchange opportunities of the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 projects. In February 2013 Dr. Nurul Khumaida, Deputy Director of Research and Strategic Issues and Lecturer at the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture of the Bogor Agricultural University has spent 4 weeks in Göttingen.

During her visit to the University of Göttingen, she was associated with two offices at the University of Göttingen: The Research Department and The International Office. First of all, Dr. Nurul Khumaida aimed to learn about research management, strategic planning, technology transfer, and other related matters. "Our University has lots of cooperation projects with Göttingen, we encourage our students to go to Göttingen either for a Master or PhD programme and many faculty members of our University hold degrees from the University of Göttingen. Therefore it was very important for me to come here and see with my own eyes how the University functions, to talk to the administration staff, to the scientists and to meet the students."

She visited a number of laboratories, which deal with agriculture-related issues, green houses and the X-Lab.



Exploring possibilities of collaboration between the scientists from those labs and IPB staff is another target she pursued. "This was a very enriching and inspiring experience for me. I go back to Bogor with many new project ideas, which hopefully will be implemented in cooperation with the University of Göttingen."

For further information about the mobility and exchange opportunities within the frames of the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Programmes, please refer to www.uni-goettingen.de/de/311785.html.

TEP-Macofor – an exchange project with Canada for forestry students

Canada is a particularly interesting country for foresters. Aside from the high forest cover and breath-taking views of forest landscapes, it is interesting for European students to learn about Canadian forest management, which is significantly different from the German and European methods. Within the framework of the EU-Canada programme of the EACEA (the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the European Union) we successfully applied for the TEP-Macofor project (Transatlantic Exchange Partnership, "Managing and conserving Forest Ecosystems" project), which allows students from three European universities (Göttingen, Prague and Brasov) to participate in exchange semesters or summer excursions (in 2011-2013) to three Canadian partner universities (Laval, Edmonton and Vancouver Island University). A total of 17 students from Göttingen took part in the exchange; another four students will take part in the summer excursion in 2013.



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Introduction days for foreign students

The Team of International Student Services organises introduction days for international students, which will take place on April 4-5, 2013 in the "Foyer International" (Von-Siebold-Str. 2). The introduction days are supposed to help new foreign students orientate themselves at the University of Göttingen and in the city of Göttingen.

A team of student tutors will show them the campus, the faculties and will introduce them to leisure facilities. Furthermore, there is a pub evening and a lot more! This is a great opportunity for foreign students to get to know the city of Göttingen and the University, to become familiar with their "new home" and to meet other people.

Registration: International Student Services (Von-Siebold-Str. 2) during the office hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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International cultural evenings

Twice a semester students and university staff, who are interested in getting to know more about studying and living abroad, have an opportunity to take part in international cultural evenings which are being organized in the "Foyer International" (Von-Siebold-Str. 2). Different countries are being presented from various facets, including history, politics and culture. The programme usually includes an overview of study programmes, field reports from Göttingen students, as well as culinary specialties and cultural traditions of the countries in question. Thanks to the direct contact to the students from the presented countries, participants have a chance to get first-hand information about life and people abroad.

In 2013 the following countries will be presented:

Korea – 27/05, 6-10 pm

Baltic States – 24/06, 6-10 pm

Brazil – 28/10, 6-10 pm

Scandinavia – 25/11, 6-10 pm



For more information, please refer to www.uni-goettingen.de/en/165133.html

Impressum

Publisher:

President of the Göttingen University

The International Office

www.uni-goettingen.de/international_office

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