

GÖTTINGEN INTERNATIONAL

# Newsletter

International news and activities

## New Guide for International Students

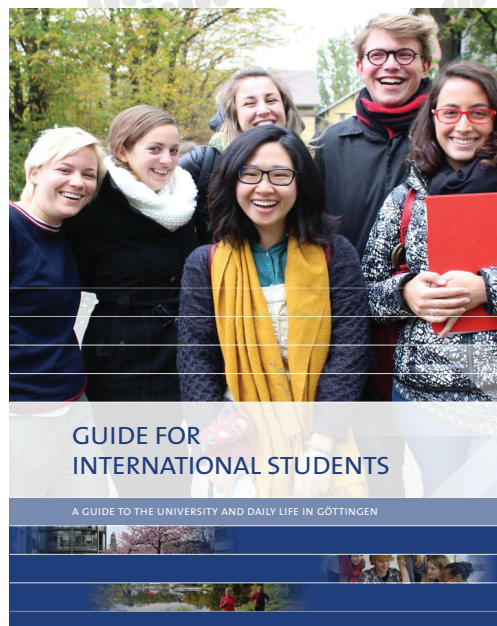
The International Office presents the new Guide for International Students that will help newly admitted international students not only with the first formalities but also to get to know Göttingen and their new university better. Throughout its 70 pages, the guide offers practical information on the city's and university's infrastructure and leisure activities as well as advices on how to organise their stay in Göttingen.

You can order the copies of the guide at the International Office. The online version is available at [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/48483.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/48483.html).

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## New Regulations: Foreigners' Funding in BMBF-Financed DAAD Programmes

The DAAD informs that as of 2015 the pool of applicants within the DAAD programmes will be extended: from now on foreigners who are integrated in the German higher education system can get funding as well. Up to now, only those foreign nationals could get funding who belonged to the group of people entitled to receive BAföG support (§8 BAföG).

Now, however, students and university graduates enrolled in a course of studies at a German university aiming at graduating from one can apply. The same counts for PhD students wanting to apply for an "Outgoing-DAAD-scholarship". Receiving funding in the home country is generally excluded.

Exempted from this regulation, of course, are international students with an "Incoming-DAAD-scholarship" as they have the opportunity to use their scholarship for a specified period of time abroad, outside of Germany, and therefore cannot apply for an "Outgoing-DAAD-scholarship".

These new regulations are initially valid for a two-year test period. After this test period the BMBF will decide on a removal of the new regulation's time limit.

You will find more information at: [www.daad.de/ausland/studieren/bewerbung/de/59-bewerbung-um-ein-stipendium/](http://www.daad.de/ausland/studieren/bewerbung/de/59-bewerbung-um-ein-stipendium/).

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## Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Study Abroad Scholarships

Students and staff from the University of Göttingen have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to stay at a partner university in Asia, South America, South Africa or the Caucasus.

In addition to travel and insurance costs, such scholarships include a lump sum towards living costs of 1,000 €/month for Bachelor & Master students, 1,500 €/month for PhD students, 1,800 €/month for Post Docs and 2,500 €/month for staff.

For more information, please visit <http://www.uni-goettingen.de/erasmusmundus>

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## Emeritus and Retired Professors and University Lecturers as Guest Lecturers Worldwide

The Johann Gottfried Herder Programme supports and assigns German emeriti to universities around the world. The programme is aimed at emeritus and retired German professors and university lecturers from all fields, even retired managers from business and administration in certain cases, who are interested in a long term (at least one semester) teaching experience at a guest university.

The programme has a special interest in appointing emeritus professors and university lecturers to DAAD programmes which can be carried out by or in cooperation with German universities abroad.

Additionally, emeriti are invited to apply with their own project proposals for international universities worldwide. As a prerequisite for funding, the proposal should contain a dedicated focus on culture, science or developmental politics.

The application deadline for winter semester 2015/2016 is the 28th of February, 2015. Further information can be found under: [www.daad.de/jgh-stellen](http://www.daad.de/jgh-stellen).

## New Staff at the International Office



The International Office of the University of Göttingen is happy to welcome Ricarda Blumentritt who joined the team in January 2015.

Ricarda Blumentritt took up office as research manager for European Education and Mobility programmes.

She is responsible for supporting all project phases within the "Erasmus+" programme and the "Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions".

Previously, Ricarda Blumentritt worked at the Research and Development Department of the Göttingen State and University Library and worked in her last position as a research manager for European Education and Mobility programmes at the EU Office of the University of Göttingen.

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## InDiGU - Cultural Evenings

Since winter semester 2014/2015, in the framework of the project "Integration & Diversity at the University of Göttingen", the Foyer International offers cultural evenings, which give all those interested, both students and employees, the opportunity to get to know other cultures, without ever having to leave Göttingen.

On three evenings this past winter semester, the Foyer International was transformed into an intercultural teletransporter, which let those interested travel directly to South Korea, Brazil, and Indonesia. Participants obtained exciting information about the country and the study offerings.

Together with representatives of the individual countries, participants danced, ate, laughed, and had the opportunity for exchange and to get to know one another.

In summer semester 2015, the culture evening will be continued, thanks to the great response and great feedback. Everyone is warmly invited to travel to Bangladesh, Chile, Ghana or Scandinavia.

Dates and information about the next cultural evenings can be found online on the Foyer International website: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/2554.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/2554.html).

## InDiGU-Tandem Evening

Whoever has sat on a tandem bike, knows that cycling together is not that easy. It takes confidence, balance and a little time. However, once a common cadence is found, going forward gets easier and you need less effort.

A study partnership beyond nationalities works just the same. Language, cultural differences and different life experiences make it difficult to find a common cadence. We from the project "Integration and Diversity at the University of Göttingen" want to create a colorful student in Göttingen.

To get there, we cordially invite all the students to the InDiGU-Tandem Evening on April 20th at 6.00 pm at the ZHG Foyer. In a relaxed atmosphere, the students will have the possibility to find a tandem partner and learn about all aspects of the InDiGU-Project.

Please feel free to forward this information to your students. For more information about the InDiGU-Project, visit: [www.uni-goettingen.de/indigu](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/indigu).

## Workshop on Tropical Forest Monitoring in Jakarta

For decades, the destruction of tropical rainforests has been an urgent global problem with significant negative effects on global climate and biodiversity. Since Indonesia is currently the country with the world-wide highest deforestation rate, they are now the focus of this global discussion.

Numerous international initiatives have the goal of supporting developing countries to counteract forest destruction through the use of positive incentive schemes like, for example, compensation payments. For this purpose, reliable information on the development of forests is necessary; this is the central research topic of the Chair of Forest Inventory and Remote Sensing (AWF) at the Faculty of Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology.

The AWF works in close cooperation with multiple Indonesian universities. After the completion of a DFG-funded project in Central Kalimantan, the AWF has now initiated the "International Workshop on Forest Carbon Emissions", which will be held in Jakarta from the 3rd to the 5th of March 2015. The central question of the workshop is how to generate reliable information on the national efforts to slow down deforestation and forest degradation which is relevant for international policy processes that strive at mitigating climate change.

The workshop is organized in cooperation with the Indonesian planning institution BPPT, Bogor Agricultural University (IPB) and the Indonesian REDD-Agency, which reports directly to the Indonesian president. The Indonesian Minister of Environment and Forest, Ms. Siti Nurbaya, and the Director General of the International Forest Research Centre CIFOR, Dr. Peter Holmgren will give opening speeches.

The excellent academic relations between the Forestry Faculty of the University of Göttingen and its Indonesian partners, which have been developed over decades, has facilitated the planning of this workshop just as much as the numerous alumni of the Göttingen Forestry Faculty, who now hold key positions in science and politics in their home country of Indonesia.

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## Postdoctoral workshop "Livelihoods"

In the framework of the postdoctoral program "Livelihood Management, Reforms and Processes of Structural Change" funded by the Volkswagen Foundation, the Göttingen coordination team consisting of Prof. Dr. Eva Schlecht (Faculty of Agricultural Sciences) and Prof. Dr. Nikolaus Schareika (Department of Anthropology) met with eight scientists from different African countries in a one-week workshop at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

The aim of the workshop was to discuss the progress of the empirical work in the funded research projects. Guest lectures by Dr. Rachel Wynberg (University of Cape Town) and Professor Ben Cousins (University of the Western Cape) dealt with questions of resources management in the context of current developments in South Africa. Prof. Dr. Andreas Buerkert (University of Kassel) discussed individual career planning and pointed to challenges and opportunities of international scientific exchange from an African perspective.

The visit of an action research project on traditional medicinal plants allowed insights into the world of the highly marginalized herbalists of Cape Town. A meeting with fishermen from Lambert's Bay on the west coast of South Africa pointed to the difficult balance between national environmental policies and local livelihood strategies. At the same time, these field trips provided scope to discuss methodological aspects of research on livelihood systems.

In November 2015, the fellows will meet for their third workshop at the University of Göttingen and present their

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## Guest Professors in International Management

In 2014, the Faculty of Economics received DAAD funding for a guest chair in the field of "International Management". By creating this guest chair, students and researchers of the faculty have the possibility to benefit from an exchange with internationally recognized professors and internationally oriented courses in English.

The visiting professorship will be established in summer semester 2015 at the Department of Business Administration. Every visiting professor will stay for one semester in Göttingen, teaching two lectures (one at the bachelor, one at the master level), one seminar (at the master level), a doctoral colloquium and supervise theses in this area.

In accordance with the university strategy, a particular focus is set on the Asian region: each winter term we will invite one researcher who is from this area or researching about Asian business and management.



As the first visiting scholar, Prof. Jaime Alfonso Perez Bonache from the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid will come to Göttingen in April 2015.

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## Introduction to English Contracts and Torts Law

For the third time, Dr. Stelios Tofaris (Girton College, Cambridge) and Dr. Matthew Dyson (Jesus College, Cambridge) will return to Göttingen in May and June 2015.

Kindly supported by the Hannover Rück-Group and organised by Professor Körber, they will offer an introduction to English contracts and torts law.

In addition to allowing them to broaden their horizons beyond German law, the participants will have the opportunity to acquire the necessary certificate for a subject-specific foreign language exam.

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## Lecture Series on the Future of Academic Information



"Big Data, Little Data, Open Data" is the title of a public lecture to be held on Monday, March 23rd, 2015, at the University of Göttingen by Christine L. Borgman, Professor and Presidential Chair in Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

The Göttingen State and University Library (SUB)

will organise the lecture in cooperation with Göttingen eResearch Alliance.

The lecture in English commences at 18:00 in the Historical Library Building at Papendiek 14. It will launch the "Göttingen Lectures on Academic Information Futures", a new lecture series organised by the SUB.

In the series, renowned experts will report on a broad spectrum of topics relating to scientific information infrastructures, including current demands placed on science and academia, the organisation and further development of digital offerings, and strategic questions about the future.

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## International Research Profits from Cloud Application by DARIAH-DE

The Max Weber Foundation and the project DARIAH-DE consolidate their cooperation on the further development of digital research infrastructures.

Since autumn 2014, more than 120 researchers at the Max Weber Foundation have made use of a cloud storage application developed within DARIAH-DE and hosted by the Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliche Datenverarbeitung Göttingen (GWDG). With this cloud storage application, researchers are able to work collaboratively on their data and to store them.

Incorporating the researchers' practical experience leads to a user-driven advancement of the application. Besides data security and data integrity, the easy handling of the system plays a major role.

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## Digital Research Infrastructures: EU Project with a Contribution from Göttingen Becomes Legal Entity

Since 2008 the EU project DARIAH-EU (Digital Research Infrastructures for the Arts and Humanities) has been offering a digital research infrastructure for the arts and humanities. DARIAH's vision is to enhance and support digitally-enabled research for the digital arts and humanities research community in Europe and beyond.

At a DARIAH's high-level launch on the 17th of November 2014 in Paris, the DARIAH-ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium) was established as a legal entity by the European Commission with 15 founding members, Germany among them.

France is the host country of the DARIAH-ERIC. The national project DARIAH-DE is coordinated by the Göttingen State and University Library. For further information see: [www.dariah.eu](http://www.dariah.eu) and <https://de.dariah.eu/>.



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## Film: Digital Knowledge Spaces

The digital humanities are inspiring new research questions, approaches, and discoveries in the humanities. The new film "Digital Knowledge Spaces" introduces innovative projects from various disciplines in the humanities, demonstrates the role of infrastructure institutions such as academic libraries in the context of the digital research process, and provides an overview of both academic teaching and a vivid digital humanities community.

The film was produced by the projects DARIAH-DE and TextGrid, which are funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and coordinated by the State and University Library.

Link to the film: [http://youtu.be/qedGW\\_c-nBQ](http://youtu.be/qedGW_c-nBQ)

## Science Set Free: OpenAIRE in Horizon 2020

Open access (OA) to research results is recognized by both funders and research institutions as a vital mechanism for both innovative and fair scholarship. The European Commission (EC), as a significant research funder, now has a strict OA policy in place: if you get funded by the EC in its new funding programme, Horizon2020, make your research open access.

The project OpenAIRE 2020 consists of 50 partners who will collaborate for the next 3.5 years to provide the technical infrastructure for gathering publications and related datasets. As well as supporting open access, the partners will research peer review, metrics, gold open access, and the legal considerations of data-sharing.

The involvement of the University of Göttingen's Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) ensures the embedding of the project into the international scholarly landscape.

A new aspect of Horizon 2020 is the launch of the EC's Open Research Data Pilot. The OpenAIRE network offers applied training on the management and publication of research data.

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## Peter Yates Lecture Award for Göttingen Scientist

Prof. Dr. Kai Tittmann from the Göttingen Center for Molecular Biosciences was awarded the Peter Yates Lecture 2014 in recognition of his contributions in the field of enzyme catalysis by the University of Toronto, Canada.

The Honorary Lecture, which was given for the first time to a European scientist, included a one-week research stay at the University of Toronto.

Prof. Tittmann was therefore able to set up new scientific cooperation with his specialist colleagues from the University of Toronto.

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## Göttingen Computer Scientists Receive the Best Paper Award

Mayutan Arumathurai, Jiachen Chen, Edo Monticelli, Xiaoming Fu, and K. K. Ramakrishnan have received the Best Paper Award for their paper titled "Exploiting ICN for Flexible Management of Software-Defined Networks" at the 1st ACM SIGCOMM Conference on Information Centric Networking (ACM ICN 2014) held in Paris in September 2014.

In computer science, unlike many other fields, conference papers are rigorously reviewed; top conferences have low acceptance rates and are considered more important than journals.

The research focused on how Information Centricity based Networking (ICN), a new networking paradigm, could be used to enhance Software-Defined Networking (SDN) by shifting the focus to "what" service is required instead of "where" the service is available. This research could impact how users access popular services such as Facebook,

Twitter and YouTube in the future by facilitating the flexible and reliable placement of virtualized middlebox services.

Dr. Mayutan Arumathurai, Jiachen Chen, Edo Monticelli and Prof. Xiaoming Fu belong to the Computer Networks Group of the Institute of Computer Science at the University of Göttingen and Prof. K.K. Ramakrishnan is a faculty member at the University of California (Riverside).

The work was done as part of the EU-Japan GreenICN project titled "Architecture and Applications of Green Information Centric Networking" ([www.greenicn.org](http://www.greenicn.org)) and the Volkswagen Foundation and State Lower Saxony's Project titled "Simulation Science Center" ([www.simzentrum.de](http://www.simzentrum.de)).

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## U4 Rectors' Meeting in Göttingen

The annual rectors' meeting 2014 took place on the 23rd-24th of November in Göttingen.

Within the framework of the rectors' meeting, the university directors, the cluster chairs and the student representatives took the opportunity to present their work-in-progress and discuss further actions.

The outcomes for 2014 are very positive. Highlights of the past year have been the fifth successful edition of the "Antiquity" Winter School, the thriving cooperation project "Ageing Brain" the start of the 2nd cycle of the Academic Leadership programme, the mobility boost under the DAAD-project, the first sessions of the U4 peer review and the growing number of bottom-up initiatives in all clusters.

Furthermore, more and more U4-projects explore the possibilities for external funding. Also, special attention was given to the U4 student network. To foster the cooperation on the level of PhD studies, the rectors have signed a framework agreement to promote joint activities in doctoral education.

The next rectors' meeting will take place at Uppsala University in November 2015.



You will find more information on the new U4 website [www.u4network.eu](http://www.u4network.eu).

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## Second Göttingen Economy Day China

In continuation of the event series "Göttingen Economy Day China", the scientific symposium "PR China: Science and Economy jointly moving on" took place in the Aula of the University on the 2nd of February 2015.

After welcome addresses by University President Prof. Dr. Ulrike Beisiegel and Mr. Volker Rieke, Head of the Department of European and International Cooperation in Education and Research of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Prof. Dr. Jochem Heizmann, member of the management board of the Volkswagen AG, responsible for China businesses, and president and CEO of the Volkswagen Group China, delivered the keynote speech "China's automotive market – challenges for the automotive industry".

The programme furthermore comprised a panel discussion with well-known China experts on the topic "Future challenges for the sustainable cooperation with the PR China". Finally a reception provided opportunities for intensive discussions.



The public event was well attended and offered the participants up-to-date and first-hand information about the German-Chinese relations in economy and cooperation.

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## Scientific Visit of Dr. Anitha Peter

Dr. Anitha Peter from the University of Agricultural Sciences in Bangalore visited the Karlovsky Lab (Molecular Phytopathology and Mycotoxin Research) in August to September 2014. Dr. Peter and Göttingen laboratories are involved in two joint research projects. The first is a project on food safety in rice with a special focus on subsidised rice in the Indian state of Karnataka.

The second project is part of a larger initiative to study urban/rural interface in the suburbs of Bangalore, which includes agricultural, economic and social aspects and is led by Prof. Bürkert (University of Kassel-Witzenhausen) and Prof. von Cramon-Taubadel (University of Göttingen).

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## Bangladeshi National Day in Göttingen

The Bangladeshi community in Göttingen and the Foyer International celebrated together the Victory Day of Bangladesh on the 16th of December, 2014.

Dr. Kamal Chowdhury from the Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry in Göttingen addressed the guests in a brief speech describing the suffering and sacrifices by the citizens of Bangladesh towards achieving independence after the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971, which lasted nine months. Everybody commemorated the sacrifices of the freedom fighters and civilians of Bangladesh.

The cultural programme included the national anthem, as well as graceful Bengal dances and songs. At the end of the stunning cultural programme, the Bengal community invited everybody to taste the Bengal cuisine, which was also highly appreciated by the international guests.



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## Imprint

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