

# DAAD Ghana Newsletter, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2008

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Today's topics:

## DAAD PROGRAMMES

- (1) 12 GHANAIAN STUDENTS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY PROGRAMMES IN GERMANY
- (2) TOP TEN INTERNATIONAL MASTER'S DEGREE COURSES MADE IN GERMANY
- (3) UPDATES ON DAAD SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT REQUIREMENT
- (4) THE ID-E BERLIN CONFERENCE DISCUSS BACHELOR PROGRAMMES MADE IN GERMANY
- (5) APPLICATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN FUELLING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA – A SESAM WORKSHOP HELD IN ACCRA, SUPPORTED BY DAAD.

## MISCELLANEOUS

- (6) THE NEW CENTER FOR GERMAN STUDIES OPENS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA
  - (7) NEW PROGRAMMES IN BIOTECHNOLOGY
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### (1) 12 GHANAIAN STUDENTS AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY PROGRAMMES IN GERMANY

On May 16<sup>th</sup> 2008, the Deputy Head of Mission of the German Embassy, Mrs. Jana Orłowski, handed over DAAD scholarship award letters to a number of Ghanaian students. They had successfully passed a rigorous selection process according to their academic achievements and were awarded scholarships worth 156.000 Euros by the DAAD – the German Academic Exchange Service – to pursue their Master or PhD studies in Germany. The DAAD is the major German organisation running more than 200 government-sponsored programmes in support of academic co-operation and exchange between Germany and abroad. Worldwide, per year more than 50.000 international and German students and scientists are sponsored by the DAAD.

Scholarships for pursuing an International Master Programme with specific relevance to developing countries have been granted to Mr. Dery Joseph Nyeady and Ms. Rita Esinu Sewornu for a stay at the Technische Universität München, Ms. Eunice Yacoba Eshun for a stay at the Technische Universität Dresden, , Mr. Felix Ntim, Mr. Felix Eyahanyo and Mr. Nathaniel Antwi for a stay at the Technische Universität Darmstadt.

Scholarships to pursue their PhD have been granted to Mr. Joseph Abazaami, Mr. Eric Oduro-Ofori, Mr. Alexander Marful and Ms. Kafui Ocloo.

Two other scholarships have been awarded to Angele Biao and Yawo Agle for participation in German Language and Literature summer courses in Germany.

The DAAD Information Center congratulates all scholarship holders and wishes them a successful study and research stay in Germany.

More information on study and research opportunities in Germany is available from the DAAD Information Center in Accra where large numbers of young Ghanaian school leavers and professionals have already taken advantage of its free information service about high-quality courses offered by German institutions of tertiary education, mainly on International Degree Programmes, which are predominantly taught in English.

The Information Centre, which is unique in West Africa and a symbol of the fruitful cooperation between Ghana and Germany, can be contacted via email [daadghana@yahoo.com](mailto:daadghana@yahoo.com) or the center's website at <http://www.ic.daad.de/accra>

## **(2) TOP TEN INTERNATIONAL MASTER'S DEGREE COURSES MADE IN GERMANY**

The Foundation for German Science and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) has recently distinguished ten postgraduate courses from certain tertiary institutions in Germany as Top 10 Masters's Degree Courses made in Germany.

These were postgraduate course offered by the Charité Medical School, Berlin, the Technical University of Dresden, The University of Hannover, The University of Hoheheim, The University of Leipzig, The University of Munich and the University of Saarland as well as the University of Applied Sciences, Weihenstephan.

Apart from the quality label 'Top 10 Master's Degree Courses made in Germany' each institution will receive a cash prize of 20,000.00 Euros as well.

These courses were selected based on their innovative concepts, the high-quality apprenticeship and the high degree of internationalization. There were 76 applications from 63 colleges in 13 federal states out of which the top ten courses were selected.

The awards will be presented to the various programmes at a ceremony on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June, 2008 by the Project Director of the International Studies and Educational Partnership, ISAP (a programme of the DAAD) at the Seminaris Congressional Park, Bad Honnef.

## **(3) UPDATES ON DAAD SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT REQUIREMENT**

The age-limit of 32 for all PhD scholarships (36 in some cases) has been revised for the 2009/2010 intake. In place of the age limit, it is now a requirement that, at the time of application, generally no more than six years should have passed since the applicant gained the last degree. All other requirements for all doctoral programmes remains the same:

- Applicants must already have obtained a Bachelor's Degree graded at least Second Class, Upper Division.
- Applicants must already have obtained a Master's Degree.

For further information on requirements for PhD scholarships, click on the following link:  
<http://www.daad.de/stipendien/en/index.en.html?land=145>

#### **(4) THE ID-E BERLIN CONFERENCE DISCUSS BACHELOR PROGRAMMES MADE IN GERMANY**

The workshop series International Dialogue on Education Berlin (ID-E Berlin) is a joint initiative of the British Council Germany, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the German-American Fulbright Commission, the Australian Group of Eight and the Canadian Bureau for International Education in Berlin.

Through the contributions of international participants the series aims to enrich the debate on science, research and higher education policy in Germany, to place German perspectives in a global context and to learn from positive examples from other countries.

This conference looked at different concepts of Undergraduate education in Australia, Canada, the UK and the US. At the centre of the debate were questions concerning the general nature of the first degree, how teaching and research are integrated and how this influences the development of curricula for undergraduates. Additional topics were the international comparability of the Bachelor degree, the interconnection between Bachelor degrees and professional degrees as well as the question of employability, i.e. how the Bachelor degree is integrated into the labour market in other countries.

It was the aim of the workshop to look at best practice examples as well as the newest trends and changes. This conference contributed to a more differentiated understanding of the nature and philosophy of the undergraduate degree in Germany.

For further information, click on: [http://www.daad.de/ID-E\\_Berlin/](http://www.daad.de/ID-E_Berlin/)

#### **(5) APPLICATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN FUELLING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA – A SESAM WORKSHOP HELD IN ACCRA, SUPPORTED BY DAAD.**

SESAM/ARTES Alumni from the University of Flensburg, Alumni from University of Oldenburg and a group of some DAAD alumni with support from German Academic Exchange Programme and University of Flensburg organized a memorable 1<sup>st</sup> SESAM/ARTES African Alumni Workshop in Accra, Ghana, from May 05-09, 2008. The theme for the workshop was “APPLICATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN FUELLING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA.” This workshop was organized in collaboration with the College of Engineering and the Energy Centre, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST). Immense support was received from DAAD office in Accra, Ghana notably the country director Dr. Heike Edelmann-Okinda. Partners for the workshop in Ghana were the Ministry of Energy, Ghana Institution of Engineers and Energy Commission.

In all 18 Alumni from 10 different African countries attended. The new director of SESAM (Sustainable Energy System and Management) Professor Dr. August Schlaepfer and Dr. Dieter Klein both from German were also present.

Some of the topics discussed at the workshop were:

“Strategies adopted by DAAD to motivate ‘energy and environment alumni’ play important roles in the development of the energy sector of their various countries.” by Dr. Heike Edelmann-Okinda.

“Climate change – impact on developing countries and possible coping strategies.” by Prof. Dr. A. Schlapfer.

“Lessons learnt from the dissemination of PV home system for off-grid power in rural areas.” by Prof. F. O. Akuffo.

“The development of the energy centre of KNUST in becoming one of the core centre for energy development in Ghana and Africa.” by Prof. Brew-Hammond.

“Policies being adapted by the Government of Ghana through the Ghana Energy Commission to enable the RE private business sector to take up the challenge as engine for the promotion of RE in Ghana.” by Dr. A. K. Ofosu-Ahenkorah.

“Government Policies and Framework Which Should Be Put In Place To Propel Commercial Production And Application Of Biodiesel As An Alternative To Diesel Fuel In The Phase Of Escalating Crude Oil Price, Using Ghana As A Case Study” by Mr. Kofi Marfo.

“Status of biofuels in Ghana - Trends in development of test methods, standards and national policy.” by Dr. Moses Mensah.

The 5-day programme was rounded up with a farewell dinner where certificates were handed to participants by Professor F. W. Momade-Provost of College of Engineering, KNUST. Closing remarks was given by Professor Dr. August Schlaepfer-Director of SESAM and the vote of thanks was given by Frau Barbara Klein.

## **(6) THE NEW CENTER FOR GERMAN STUDIES OPENS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA**

The German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier opened a center for German and European studies at the University of Haifa on Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. Steinmeier told students and professors that the center was intended to cement cooperation with Israeli institutions and provide detailed knowledge of modern Germany and Europe. The center is the second German Center in Israel after the one established at Jerusalem's Hebrew University in March. The University of Haifa was formed in 1963 and today counts 17,000 students.

Steinmeier, who was winding up a tour of the Middle East, also called for the establishment of a German school to serve as a meeting point for German and Israeli children as well as those of other nationalities.

## **(7) NEW PROGRAMMES IN BIOTECHNOLOGY**

The Biotechnological Center (BIOTEC) of the Technical University of Dresden introduced 4 semesters International Master of Sciences Programmes in the following disciplines:

- Molecular Bioengineering
- Nanobiophysics.

These courses are thought entirely in English. They are both interdisciplinary as well as research-oriented. The objective of these courses is to open graduates to attractive occupations in research and development in Biotechnology, Biomedicine and Bionotechnology.

For further information go to [WWW.BIOTEC.TU-DRESDEN.DE/TEACHING](http://WWW.BIOTEC.TU-DRESDEN.DE/TEACHING)

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### **OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays 16.30-18.30 at the Goethe-Institut (next to NAFTI, East Cantonments)

Thursdays,

Fridays 14.30-18.30 at the Goethe-Institut (next to NAFTI, East Cantonments)

Tuesdays 9.00-12.00 at the German Embassy (Main Building, North Ridge)

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