

DAAD Ghana Newsletter, 15.December 2007

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(1) GERMAN SUCCESS IN THE EUROPEAN ERASMUS-MUNDUS-PROGRAMME

German Universities surpassed themselves in the first round of the Erasmus-Mundus-Programme (2004-2008), which is run by the EU, being engaged as a co-ordinator or partner in 50 out of 103 selected programmes throughout Europe.

The Erasmus-Mundus Programme is a trans-national programme that allows excellent and highly qualified students to pursue their entire studies for a Master degree in at least two different EU-countries, sponsored with generous scholarships, and to finally obtain a double or a joint degree of the respective universities. 23 Master Programmes were selected for Erasmus-Mundus in 2007, 13 amongst them with German participation.

In the second round, which will commence in 2009, the EU will sponsor not only European Master Programmes and students, but also joint PhD-Programmes and PhD-aspirants.

For more information about the Erasmus-Mundus-Programme please contact the DAAD as the German national information and counselling board or

visit <http://ec.europa.eu/erasmus-mundus>

The Year-2007-List of successful Erasmus-Mundus-Master-Programmes with German participation:

1. EU4M- European Union Master's Course in Mechatronic and Micro-mechatronic Systems (Coordinator: Hochschule Karlsruhe für Technik und Wirtschaft)
2. Interdisciplinary Master Course in International Cooperation and Urban Development (Coordinator: TU Darmstadt)
3. ASC-Master of Science in Advanced Spectroscopy in Chemistry (Partner: University Leipzig)
4. MACLANDS: Master of Cultural Landscapes (Partner: University Stuttgart)
5. MCEMESV-Master Conjoint ERASMUS en Étude du spectacle vivant (Partner: University Frankfurt)
6. IMHS-International Master in Horticultural Science (Partner: TU Munich)
7. EMBC-Master of Science in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation (Partner: University Bremen)
8. EMAE-European Master in Applied Ecology (Partner: University Kiel)
9. EMMEP-Erasmus Mundus Minerals and Environmental Programme (Partner: RWTH Aachen)
10. GIM-Master of Science in Global Innovation Management (Partner: University Hamburg-Harburg)
11. MATHMODS-Mathematical Modeling in Engineering; Theory, Numerics, Applications (Partner: University Hamburg)
12. EMTTLF-European Master in Transnational Trade Law Finance (Partner: University Frankfurt)
13. EUMAINE-European Master of Science in Nematology (Partner: University Bielefeld)

(2) AFRICAN GOOD GOVERNANCE NETWORK

Many young Africans are being trained at German Institutions of Higher Education, and when they return back home, they take very often a key-role in the transformational processes for the rule of law, democracy and prosperity in their countries. The "African

Good Governance Network" (AGGN) is a Scholarship- and Training-Programme of the DAAD for students from sub-Saharan Africa, and its objective is to support the transformation of leadership in African countries. German Institutions of Higher Education, DAAD-sponsored African Centers of Excellence and other scholarship awarding organisations can nominate candidates for a network-membership, and 10 new members will be admitted to the AGGN annually.

(3) CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

The Center for Development Studies in Bonn (ZEF) trains prospective executive officers. Many PhD-candidates at the ZEF are DAAD-scholarship holders: "The combination out of interdisciplinary approaches, discussions with research fellows from various countries and empirical field-research at the ZEF is unique", summarizes Khalid Yousif Khalafalla. He is one out of the 167 PhD-candidates who completed their PhD-projects at the ZEF so far, another 140 candidates are registered currently.

For more information please visit <http://www.daad-magazin.de/07640/index.html>

(4) SEARCH FOR INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

German enterprises are preferably employing graduates who were exposed to foreign cultures during their studies and internships. Hence, German students consider practical experience a key factor for their future careers. For more than 50 years DAAD finds internship opportunities for German and international students, being the national agency for the network of the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE).

DAAD searches currently for internship opportunities in German enterprises that will host prospective engineers and natural scientists from 80 countries for a 2 to 12 months internship stay in Germany.

The value for the enterprises is obvious since it helps them in making contacts abroad. After returning home the young foreigners can be employed or will remain a good contact abroad for them.

The DAAD services in the IAESTE programme is free of charge for the employer, who will only pay the trainees a moderate allowance.

Ghanaians who are interested in the IAESTE-Programme should contact the IAESTE Ghana secretary:

IAESTE Ghana, Registrar's Department, Student Affairs Office

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

Kumasi, Ghana

Mr. Isaac Adu-Brenya, Phone: +233 51 60331, Email: iaestegh@yahoo.com

For more information visit <http://www.iaeste.de>

(5) DAAD REPRESENTATIVE WISHES TO EXPRESS HER THANKS

The DAAD representative wishes to express her thanks for the many welcome greetings that were sent to her by newsletter readers and friends of the DAAD. Though she was not able to reply on the individual mails she is confident that her thanks will reach the recipients through this channel.

(6) RE: SUB – PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR INTEREST IN RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTER

Are you still interested in receiving our DAAD newsletter? – Our database for DAAD newsletter recipients has grown over the years, and some of you might no longer be interested in our activities, some addressees may even feel bothered by our regular newsletter mails.

Therefore we are updating our database for DAAD newsletter recipients:

Please confirm your interest in further receiving the DAAD newsletter with an Email to daadghana@yahoo.com , adding “Re: Sub” as indication that your response is in reference to this request.

You will be put on our updated list of recipients then and receive the newsletter as usual.

We would appreciate if you could provide us with information on your name(s), age, sex and place of residence, though this is not a prerequisite for further receiving the newsletter.

If you are no longer interested in receiving our newsletter you do not need to do anything – you will be automatically taken from the recipients list.

(7) STUDY AND RESEARCH IN GERMANY – SYMPOSIUM BY DAAD AND GOETHE-INSTITUT, JANUARY 12TH, 2008

Offered in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut and the German Embassy, the symposium will provide detailed information on all issues concerning studying in Germany. All SSSC holders, students and professionals are welcome.

(8) DAAD ALUMNI WORKSHOP IN ACCRA: „SPORTS AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT – HOW DO THEY CONTRIBUTE TO ONE ANOTHER?” ON JANUARY 25TH/26TH, 2008

Physical literacy is considered to be a life skill, amongst others such as health/ HIV-AIDS-awareness and literacy, and the UNESCO programme “Education for all” put physical literacy on its agenda as one of the main objectives in education.

The DAAD representative in Ghana, Dr. Heike Edelmann-Okinda, will open the workshop and give general information on the various DAAD-Alumni programmes and the benefits for DAAD-Alumni.

The programme will be continued with a plenary speech of Mr. Dumon, Executive Director of ICSSPE, on “Sport and Physical Activity as Part of Social Development”. Work groups will discuss controversial issues on the said topic and will present their results in a plenary session.

Invited are DAAD-Alumni, who have been funded by DAAD for a period of at least 3 months and who are now resident in Ghana. If you qualify for participation, please con-

tact the DAAD Information Center at daadghana@yahoo.com, indicating "Re: Alumni-Workshop", and request for the registration forms.

(9) JOB VACANCY: DAAD PROGRAMME OFFICER

The DAAD is a joint organisation of the German institutions of higher education and student bodies. Its aim is to sponsor academic cooperation between Germany and other countries in many ways; one of them is to provide information about study and research possibilities in Germany and about scholarships for international postgraduates who intend to further their studies at a German institution of higher education.

We are currently looking for a Programme Officer (part-time; 20 hrs/week) to assist us in this task. The ideal applicant will have

- a good university degree,
- a good level of German and English,
- recent first-hand experience of higher education in Germany and
- familiarity with usual office software and the internet.

The Programme officer's tasks will include advising visitors of the Information Centre on academic opportunities in Germany, arranging, organising and conducting information events, organising marketing activities, fund raising and general office/secretarial duties. Please send your CV and a letter of motivation, both written in German, to daadghana@yahoo.com, adding "Job Vacancy" as indication that your response is in reference to this advertisement.

Please note that only applicants who are on the short-list will be contacted (Interviews are likely to be held at the beginning of January).

(10) NEW COURSE IN GOETTINGEN: INTERCULTURAL GERMAN STUDIES

A new Master course on "Intercultural German Studies / German as a Foreign Language" commences at the Georg August University in Goettingen with the winter term 2007/2008. German and foreign Bachelor graduates can apply; application deadline for the winter term 2008/2009 intake is for non EU-citizens April 30th, 2008.

For more information please visit www.uni-goettingen.de/interkulturelle_germanistik

(11) GOETTINGEN STUDY PROGRAMME "MOLECULAR MEDICINE"

The Goettingen Study Programme "Molecular Medicine" is aiming at an in-depth education in the translation of basic knowledge within molecular biosciences into applications regarding the prevention, diagnostics and therapy of human diseases. The Faculty of Medicine has a long tradition and is further expanding its programs, the establishment of an M.Sc. Program as well as a Ph.D. Programme in Molecular Medicine represents only the most recent effort of this kind.

Established research foci are represented by clinical and basic neurosciences, as well as research on the molecular basis of cardiovascular diseases. In addition, current efforts are aiming at a focus on cancer research, in particular the molecular regulatory processes pertaining to cancer as well as development and stem cell biology. Other major research topics include Biochemistry, in particular intracellular compartmentalization and protein modifications, as well as infectious diseases and immunology, Cutting edge

technology platforms are exemplified by facilities for transcriptome and proteome analysis; animal models including *Drosophila*, *Xenopus*, and rodents; life confocal microscopy; high content screening of cell morphology by automated microscopy and fluorescence activated cell sorting; and in vivo imaging. The programme is aiming at the education of PhD students in these disciplines and technologies.

Candidates are expected to carry out a high-profile research project in one of the aforementioned disciplines. They will be supported by stringent supervision, thesis committees, methods courses and informal counseling. Overall, the programme is aiming at the thorough education of young scientists who address medically relevant problems with a sound background in basic sciences.

Key Features:

- From BSc to PhD in 4 years
- From BSc to MSc in 1.5 years
- Intensive course program throughout first Master Program year
- Cutting-edge research projects

Application:

- Online pre-registration before January 15th (required for the written test)
- Written test at the end of March (not mandatory but will increase chances of acceptance)
- Full applications required before May 30th.
- Start of the M.Sc. Programme in Molecular Medicine in October of every year.

For further information on curriculum and application please visit www.molmed.humanmedizin-goettingen.de

(12) INTERNATIONALISING GERMAN UNIVERSITIES

Germany has successfully internationalised its universities and holds the third position on the list of most popular places to go for studying abroad – number one being the USA followed by the UK. First-class all-round services for international students help them to quickly integrate into the German universities.

“KUSTOS” at Humboldt University Berlin and “Connecta International” at University Muenster, two excellent university programmes for the integration of international students, were recently awarded a 15.000 Euro prize from the Foreign Office for their efforts in taking care of foreign students. However, integration can only be successful provided that the international students have a sound command of German, underlines Dorothea Rueland, the Deputy General Secretary of DAAD.

University graduates from non EU-countries can extend their stay in Germany after graduation up to one year and try to permanently be employed. In comparison to this, in France they can only stay up to six months after graduation, whereas they are not allowed to stay a single day after graduation in Denmark.

Students who were exposed to foreign countries are much more actively associating with international fellow students at their home universities and therefore even acquiring intercultural competencies at home.

Nearly all of 3000 surveyed German students study together with international fellow students. This helps them not only to develop intercultural competences, but it also contributes to their interest in internationally oriented courses.

The relation between personal experience abroad and international engagement applies also to lecturers. Courses that are conducted by internationally exposed lecturers are more likely to be internationally oriented. Study and research stays abroad seem therefore to be an important prerequisite for further internationalising German universities.

(13) WRITE POSTCARDS

How to get acquainted with the Germans, once you are in Germany? DAAD scholarship holders told their freshmen fellows about their experiences. The Brazilian Marcelo Pre-coppe advised the newly arrived DAAD scholarship holders in Bonn to write postcards to the Germans: "If you want to establish good relations to the Germans, write postcards to them – they love it! Send postcards to your fellow students and to your professors even while you are here in Bonn!"

The Chinese DAAD scholarship holder Zhenggang Zhu thinks: "Germans are very friendly, though it is not easy to become friend with them – but their friendships last for good."

(14) LOCAL CURRENCY FUND FOR INVESTORS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

A local currency fund provides insurance to cover exchange rate risks for investors in developing countries. In the past, investments in Africa were often impeded by a lack of insurance coverage for local currency or exchange rate risks. The launch of the Currency Exchange Fund N.V. (TCX) on 5 September 2007 is a major step towards implementing the G8's decision at Heiligendamm on „developing long-term local currency financing and suitable insurance instruments for coverage of exchange rate risks“. It will especially benefit the African continent. TCX was established with the active participation of the Dutch government and Dutch bilateral aid agency FMO and other institutions, notably the German federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, KfW Entwicklungsbank (KfW Development Bank) and the German Investment and Development Corporation (DeD). The fund's initial capitalisation of around 320 million US dollars is being provided by both public development financiers and private investors. Its initial transaction capacity to cover local currency loans will reach up to 1.2 billion US dollars annually. The fund provides insurance (hedging) against exchange rate risk in developing countries' local currencies, thereby creating incentives for local banks and development financiers to extend long-term investment loans to borrowers (mainly employment-intensive small and medium-sized enterprises and smaller local public utilities) in local currency for the first time. Africa is part of a global initiative here, and due to the still low level of development of local currency markets in many African countries, is likely to benefit to a particularly high degree.

(15) AFRICAN EXPORT PROMOTION ON THE INTERNET

East Africa is keen to step up its efforts to provide market information worldwide with a view to boosting its exports. A number of East African export promotion organisations have therefore now launched a new website which provides detailed export market information for local produce such as flowers, fresh fruit and vegetables, fishery products and textiles which are priority export sectors. Trading companies in the East African community that are keen to gear their activities towards overseas demand can now ac-

cess the latest information about export opportunities for their goods and services via the new website – at no cost to themselves.

The portal www.eacexport.com provides information about export opportunities, product demand trends, potential purchasers' contact details, prices, and conditions for access to foreign markets. Search functions make it easier to access the required information. According to Florence Kata, the Executive Director of the Uganda Export Promotion Board, one of the most important aspects of the website is that it allows businesses to obtain information from 30 Ugandan, Kenyan and Tanzanian experts with detailed knowledge of international trade.

Uganda's world market share of exports of organic products, for example, has greatly increased and is now the highest in Africa, although the continent still only produces 1% of organic products worldwide.

(16) STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF AFRICA'S WOMEN

Germany takes the view that women's economic empowerment makes a key contribution to reducing poverty, realising fundamental human rights and promoting sustainable development in Africa.

Together with other partners from the South and North, Germany has therefore committed to more targeted efforts aimed at strengthening women's economic and political empowerment, notably with the „call for Action“ adopted in Berlin, the outcomes of the 8th Africa Partnership forum and the G8 process, and the EU council conclusions on gender and employment.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) not only champions this cause through political dialogue; it also promotes the implementation of these political commitments through practical action on the ground, thereby also contributing to the targeted implementation of the Paris Declaration at all levels. With the funding of a background study on women's economic empowerment, the BMZ, in cooperation with GTZ, is supporting Africa's own reform efforts in this area. The study is being prepared by NEPAD in cooperation with the African Union and UNECA, and is intended to form the basis for a comprehensive and coordinated strategy for partners from the South and North. In addition, the BMZ hosted a one-day conference titled „Enterprise Development – African and Global Lessons for more effective Donor Practices from Women's Perspectives“, which took place in Accra on 4 November 2007. The conference focused on how „better business environments“ can be created for women entrepreneurs. The conference aimed to facilitate exchange about existing and planned approaches and explore opportunities for donor harmonisation and the use of synergies. Information about the conference can be found at: <http://www.enterprise-development.org/events/>

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Visit us during our office hours for more information and up-to-date information material.

OFFICE HOURS

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

Thursdays 14.30-18.30 at the Goethe-Institut

Fridays 14.30-18.30 at the Goethe-Institut

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