

# newsletter



**DAAD**

Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



DAAD Scholars in a picture during the scholarship handing-over ceremony on 16th March, 2017 (Also in the picture are staff of DAAD IC Accra, representative of the Ghana Scholarship Secretariat.)

## DAAD In-Country Events:

- Falling Walls Lab Ghana 2017
- Women Advancement Forum; International Exchanges, Research and Academia (WAFIRA)
- Ghanaian-German Stammtisch (Networking Table)
- Freshmen session winter semester, 2017
- PhD proposal writing workshop 2017

## DAAD Programmes:

- DAAD Research Grant (short term / long term)
- Research stays for academics and scientists

## Other topics in this Issue:

- Testimonials : Study and Research in Germany

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## Dear Reader,

as the Director of the DAAD Information Center Accra, I shall end my tour of duty by the close of June, 2017. I have met many outstanding Ghanaian and African students and researchers during my stay here and I appreciate that a lot.

One of the notable developments in higher education over these recent years is the conversion of Ghanaian Polytechnics into Technical Universities with Germany as a major partner.

I hope many more academic staff of the newly inaugurated Technical Universities will take advantage of doctoral training programmes in the Ghanaian-German Governmental PhD scholarship programme.

Know about DAAD and other funding programmes through [www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de).

Follow us on our [Facebook page](#) or keep in touch with our center via email through [info@daad-ghana.org](mailto:info@daad-ghana.org). You can also subscribe to the DAAD Ghana Info-service. Just text **#DAADGHANA** to the short code 1942 on all networks.

Thank you for your cooperation and support!

I wish you all the best in your academic careers.

Berit Stoppa

Director, DAAD Information Center Accra

## Welcome to Germany



## Land of Ideas

## Falling Walls Lab Ghana 2017

The DAAD Information Center Accra in cooperation with the Goethe Institute and the Falling Walls Foundation organized for the second time, the Falling Walls Lab Ghana competition on 24th May, 2017.

18 competitors presented their idea and/or projects to the distinguished panel of judges in just 3 minutes just like it is done at the Falling Walls Lab finale in Berlin.

Dr. Frank George Bernasko emerged the winner with his topic: 'Breaking the Wall of Energy Crisis'. Dr. Bernasko will present his idea at the upcoming Falling Walls Lab in Berlin on 8th November, 2017. We wish him success in this competition and in his future endeavours.

The first runner-up was Mr. Eric Opoku Osei with the topic: 'Breaking the Wall of Examination Leakage in Ghana using ICT'. The second runner-up was Dr. Samuel Dodoo with the topic: 'Breaking the Wall of aCar Mobility'.



Falling Walls Lab Ghana 2017 Winners  
Mr. Eric Osei Opoku; 1st runner-up (left), Dr. Frank George Bernasko; Winner (middle), Dr. Samuel Dodoo; 2nd runner-up, (right)

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## Goethe Goes Global - Master Scholarships

Please visit website [www.uni-frankfurt.de/masterstip](http://www.uni-frankfurt.de/masterstip) for more information on relevant master degree programmes, requirements and application procedures.



## PhD proposal writing workshop: 24th &amp; 25th August, 2017



Register for the next PhD proposal writing workshop. Click on the link below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/sID4U9I2yFF3CvY73>

## DAAD Ghana Webinars

The DAAD Information Center Accra offers Web Seminars (webinars) on various subject specific and/general information on Studying or doing research in Germany. Visit:

[www.daad-ghana.org/webinar](http://www.daad-ghana.org/webinar)

## DAAD Scholarship for Courses with Relevance to Developing Countries

To get an overview of the scholarship programmes available, kindly visit [www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) and type in the keyword 'EPOS'.

## Helmut-Schmidt Scholarship programme

Find details here: [www.daad.de/ppgg](http://www.daad.de/ppgg)

## DAAD Scholarship

[www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de)

Search for DAAD funded programmes as well as scholarships from other German scholarship awarding Institutions.

## Women Advancement Forum; International Exchanges, Research and Academia

In March 2017, the Women Advancement Forum: International Exchanges, Research & Academia (WAFIRA) - Ghana came off for the second time in Kumasi. This programmatic capacity-building workshop was conceptualized as a 3-day-training programme for female academics and researchers in 2014 and continued in 2016 with enhanced delivery in collaboration with universities in Nigeria, Benin, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Togo. The theme for WAFIRA 2017 was "Passive Role Playing vs Active Career Advancement: A Look at Women and their Academic Careers".

The three-day workshop offered all participants and facilitators great opportunities for networking and set the ball rolling for future mentoring collaborations.

The representative of the Vice-Chancellor of KNUST, the Vice-Chancellor of Koforidua Technical University, two keynote speakers (from Ghana and Germany), two additional keynote speakers, workshop facilitators and participants, invited guests and organizers of the forum participated in the workshop. The expert from Ghana delivered a keynote on 'Navigating the Academy: Appropriating Traditions, Strengthening Collaborations and Connecting Globally' while that of the expert from Germany was on 'Developing leadership skills through mentoring'. Additionally, there was a keynote address by a DAAD Alumna and lecturer at KNUST, Department of Planning on gender related issues on the host campus.



A group picture showing participants at the WAFIRA 2017 workshop

As part of the activities on the following two days the DAAD Information Center Accra presented on 'PhD and Research Opportunities in Germany' as well as DAAD Alumni work. The Ambassador for the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation delivered a presentation on 'Funding Opportunities of Alexander von Humboldt Foundation'.

## Ghanaian - German Stammtisch (Networking Table)

A "Stammtisch" is an informal and friendly meeting to discuss any topic. It may happen on regular basis at a specific venue. This is really common in Germany and the main idea is to encourage networking and just some fun time. The DAAD Information Center along with a few DAAD and Germany alumni would like to invite anyone interested in meeting people who studied in Germany or learn the German language or German native speakers.

This will be a great opportunity to refresh your German or get your questions answered on various topics like, studying in Germany, scholarship opportunities among others. You do not need to speak German though.

As a Germany alumnus, you may also meet colleagues with similar professional background and may find that important professional connection for a career upgrade.

The next Stammtisch is on;

**Date: 7th July, 2017.**

**Time: 6.00 pm - 7.30pm**

**Venue: Afrikiko Restaurant**



Look for the table with the Alumniportal Deutschland Logo. See you there!

## Freshmen session winter semester, 2017

Prospective students with admission to the coming winter semester in German universities are invited to join our next freshmen session on 27th July, 2017.

This session will offer an orientation on your first bureaucratic steps in Germany, immigration and registration procedures, cultural life,

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student accommodation options, travel and cultural life among others.

You may have the opportunity of meeting other students going to your same university town or same institution.

**Date:** 27th July, 2017

**Time:** 4.00pm till 5.15pm

**Venue:** DAAD Information Center Accra (located within the premises of the Goethe Institut, East Cantonments, Accra)

## PhD proposal writing workshop 2017

The PhD proposal writing workshop is a platform especially made for prospective PhD candidates to fine-tune their research proposals for their research stays in Germany. This year, it will be a two-day event (**24th and 25th of August 2017**) at the University of Ghana.

Participants at the workshop will be coached by seasoned researchers and other DAAD and Germany alumni who have successfully completed their research stays in Germany. This workshop also introduces participants to the vast research landscape of Germany, available funding opportunities as well as 'how to find a research supervisor'.

Interested participants who have attained a masters degree are invited to attend. Prior application is mandatory.

Please use the following link and complete the application form by **4th of August 2017**.

**application link:** <https://goo.gl/forms/sID4U9I2yFF3CyT73>

We will confirm your participation/otherwise by 10th of August 2017.

## DAAD Research Grants (short term / long term)

### • Bi-nationally supervised doctoral degree programmes

This grant is for PhD candidates pursuing their doctoral programmes in their home country to undertake a research phase at a state or state-recognised institution of higher education or a non-university research institute in Germany as part of a doctoral programme. Their research proposal must be coordinated with the academic supervisors at the home university and in Germany.

### • Doctoral training programme in Germany

This grant is for PhD candidates pursuing their entire doctoral programme at a state or state-recognised institution of higher education or a non-university research institute in Germany. This grant is offered for individual projects under the supervision of a university teacher or academic adviser or for participation in a structured doctoral study programme in Germany.

### • One-year grant

This grant is purposely for a research project or course of continuing education at a state or state-recognised institution of higher education in Germany or a non-university research institute, which is being carried out in coordination with an academic adviser in Germany for a period of 7 months to usually 10 months; the length of the grant is decided by a selection committee and depends on the project in question and the applicant's work schedule.

### • Short-term grant

This grant is purposely for a research project or course of continuing education at a state or state-recognised institution of higher education or a non-university research institute in Germany, which is being carried out in coordination with an academic adviser in Germany for a period of one month to a maximum of six months; the length of the grant is decided by a selection committee and depends on the project in question and the applicant's work schedule.

Application opens in July, 2017 Deadline: by 31st October, 2017 Please check [www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de) for specific information and application instructions.

## Research stays for academics and scientists

The aim of this particular programme is to support short-term research stays and thus promote the exchange of experience and networking among colleagues. University teachers and established academics and scientists who have usually completed a doctoral degree and work at a university or research institute in their home country can apply. One applies for research stays at state or state-recognised institutions of higher education or non-university research institutes in Germany. A research stay can also take place at several host insti-



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tutions. The stay is usually for a period of one to three months. Visits to conferences and congresses are not funded. The application will open from July, 2017.

**Deadlines:**

October 31, 2017 for stays starting April 2018

April 1, 2018 for stays starting August 2018

For details, visit: [www.funding-guide.de](http://www.funding-guide.de)

**Testimonials: Study and Research in Germany**

**Maxwell Akansina**

**Aziabah:**

**Studying in Germany - The PhD Experience**

"The excellent academic and learning environment at the Berlin Graduate School

of Social Sciences (BGSS) where I was Guest Researcher was simply amazing and exacted the best out of me. German academic institutions are indeed par excellence and that is the most exciting thing to discover about them. Well-equipped libraries and laboratories, excellent working environments, very approachable academic supervisors/advisors and a lot more."



**Darlington Kwabena**

**Wiredu: A Report on my Study Experience in Germany**

"I pursued a degree program in Governance and Public Policy offered by the

Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Passau. The program was research-intensive so that all examinations were in the form of seminar papers and class presentations. I found this assessment system to be particularly ideal because it afforded me sufficient time to conduct research on relevant topics of my own choosing, rather than

to sit for 'correct-answer' examinations which I tended not to like very much."



**Eistine Boateng:**  
**Studying in Germany: did fate bring us together?**

"I am an Anato-

mist and I wanted to learn molecular biology, studying in the University of Giessen has given me more than I'd thought and I'm relatively confident that this education has prepared a foundation for me to learn more and reach higher heights in my scientific career."



**Ephraim Sekyi-Annan: The Ph.D. 'marathon' in Germany - My version**

"Pursuing a Ph.D. in Germany has been enriching, as it has exposed me to a mixed bag of experiences in the German scientific, academic and socio-cultural environments. The competence I have acquired over the period and the positive attitude I have learnt from

the Germans would go a long way to shape my work attitude back at the CSIR-Soil Research Institute in Kumasi, Ghana and to enhance my delivery."

For further testimonial reports of students and researchers, visit:

[www.daad-ghana.org](http://www.daad-ghana.org) (go to 'Reports Section').

**Introductory Sessions on Study & Research in Germany:**

**1st Thursday of every month (except January) from 4pm-5.30pm at the Goethe Institut.**

Participation in this session is mandatory prior to individual consultation unless you already have admission to a German University.

**Office hours for individual consultation at the DAAD Information Center Accra (located at Goethe Institut):**

Mondays 15:30–18:30h

Thursdays 09.00–11.00h

Fridays 14:30–18:30h

**Telephone:**

+233 (0)500990939 or +233 (0)261090939

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