

## Content

### **Dear PhD-Students, Supervisors and Project Partners,**

Spring is coming and so is this year's second GGG newsletter. In this issue we would like to inform you about how to get a job after receiving your PhD and we present the series "Looking into Science". This time the series focuses on the returns of education in Germany. Also you will find information about our scholarships and courses as well as a schedule of events and additional news for the third quarter.

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We hope you enjoy this issue!  
**Your GGG**

Göttinger Graduiertenschule  
Gesellschaftswissenschaften

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# Academic Career-Development

## Starting a Career after receiving a PhD

**PhD-students are not a homogenous group of future professors, but rather they are usually trying to get into a variety of professions within as well as outside the university. Our aim is to support them in pursuing their goals.**

After receiving their doctoral degree students have a lot of career opportunities within and outside the university. Professorships as well as positions in science management, enterprises, administration, and other organizations are just some of the areas where academics can find an occupation. The challenge here is to find a field of occupation that fits the individual profile and ensures the best conditions for the full development of talent and knowledge.

Writing a PhD-thesis is a great opportunity for students to practice their abilities to focus on one topic for a longer period of time and to systematically analyze a problem in order to develop strategies to solve it. These are the skills companies are looking for when they want to fill positions that require complex creative skills such as in team management. Growing numbers of employees at some companies require an additional mid-management level in order to optimize the workflow. Those positions can be very interesting especially for PhD-students. Already while writing a doctoral thesis, the corporation with enterprises

can give students an insight look on the latest practical research methods. And after receiving their PhD-degree students can use these experiences when working for these companies.

Science and practice should not be seen as mutually exclusive. Rather the process of earning a PhD-degree should include scientific as well as practical experiences, so that with the beginning of their professional careers students can rely on a profound amount of practical experience. Modern science cannot work without a project management, likewise do modern enterprises and political institutions rely on academic knowledge. Despite formal barriers have the transitions between both areas become increasingly fluent. These developments also have a growing impact on doctoral studies, even though the development of scientific competences in research and theory are still the main part of it. In addition though soft skills like cooperating, representing, and other practical competences have become increasingly important.



### **Paving the Way for your Career**

Preparing young academics for a professional career should therefor work on different levels. For an academic career the GGG offers support and supervision within our doctoral training program. These programs also aim to integrate students coming from abroad and offer help, support, and PhD-agreements. Students looking for a career outside the university will find support within the network of the GGG and the SME-network of the GGG.

### Qualifying for an Academic Career

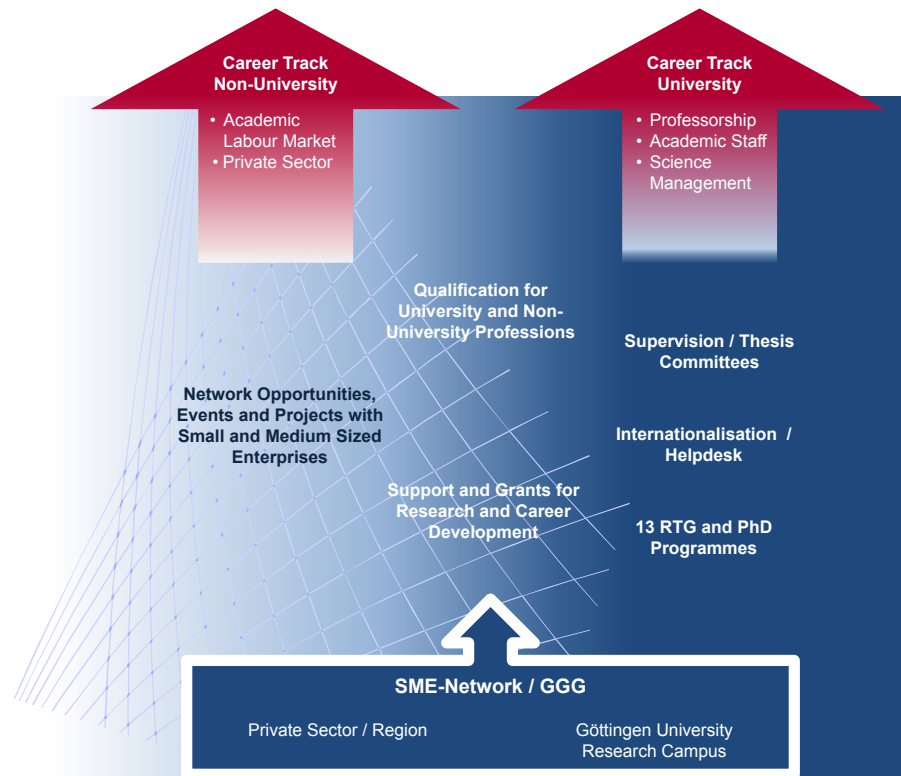
All our measurements and training programs support both career options by offering various forms of support (including financial funding) for research and international exchange as well as practical projects. As a result qualifications of PhD-students have become much more diverse. Today the University of Göttingen supports the development of scientific skills like scientific communication and academic didactics as well as practical competences such as career development, leadership skills, time management, and presentation techniques. In addition PhD-students can learn how to organize and participate in international meetings. Against the backdrop of a changing approach towards the general idea of an academic career, becoming a professor now is not the only ultimate goal anymore. Rather professional careers, entrepreneurship, science management, and careers in administration have become more and more attractive. Courses and trainings that look to prepare students for these career types have also become increasingly popular and constantly gain positive feedback.

### Qualification Portal for PhD-Students

Together with the Graduate School for Social Sciences (GSGG), the Dorothea-Schlö-

zer-Program, the Equal Opportunities Office, and other mentoring programs the GGG presents its Qualification Portal for PhD-students online at ([www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de)) as well as in our annual booklet. By doing so we want to give students easier access to our

offers and by the same time improve the organization of our courses and the courses offered by our partners. With all these measures we want to support students of social sciences to prepare them for their professional careers as soon as possible.



## Do you know...?

Since November 2011 **Jan H. Höffler** and **Anna-Christin Ransiek** are the new PhD-representatives at the GGG.

Jan H. Höffler works as research associate at the Chair of Statistics and Econometrics. Within the scope of a competition for research oriented learning and teaching he gives students an understanding of his research topic: the replication of empirical studies.

Anna-Christin Ransiek is a PhD-student in Sociology. She teaches at the Center of Methods in Social Sciences where she is also involved in the consultation for students on qualitative methods.

Jan H. Höffler and Anna-Christin Ransiek already improved the integration of foreign students with their initiative to provide more information in English.

They also pursue to establish PhD-representatives at each faculty, each research training group and each PhD-program of the GGG. This shall help PhD-students to represent their interests and to better share their experience in the various subunits of GGG. Moreover they intend to improve the networking of PhD-students by creating an interdisciplinary PhD-forum. By continuing the questionnaire which was established by the former PhD-representatives to evaluate the need of PhD-students they also intend to provide a basis for the evaluation of supervision.

You can contact

Jan H. Höffler via phone: 39 7237 or via e-mail: [jhoeffl@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:jhoeffl@uni-goettingen.de)

Anna-Christin Ransiek via phone: 39 12884 or via e-mail: [aransie@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:aransie@uni-goettingen.de)

# Business and Science

## Looking Into Science

With the release of this issue of the GGG's newsletter we will start a new series named "Looking into Science". In this section we will inform you about new developments and studies on which research-teams of the university's social sciences are currently working on. This way you will be provided with valuable information about the practical and economic values of these studies as soon as possible. Therefor summaries of the

latest dissertations will be presented including evaluations of their economic impact and meaning. Hereby we want to give enterprises the chance to benefit from the latest studies and to use these results in a practical way. But we also want to create and encourage personal contacts between members of the university and the economy.

## Educational Returns in Germany

**Companies looking to survive the current lack of skilled specialists have to find ways to train their own employees, to prepare them for future tasks. Hereby the financial benefits of further education are of major importance, this already applies for school-leaving qualifications.**

### Results Overview

A recent doctoral thesis by Anja Gelzer shows that education results in higher salaries, this already includes the type of high school diploma. Ms Gelzer is member of the Faculty of Economics at the University of Göttingen and wrote her thesis under the supervision of Prof. Bizer. The study shows that a higher level of school-leaving diploma results in a significantly higher financial return compared to vocational training. In the past the reduction of returns has been greater for "Hauptschule"-graduates compared to the returns of "Realschule"-graduates or students who received their "Abitur". Students who undergo a vocational training to start a career as skilled manual workers have to expect lower income returns compared to students with higher qualifications. While additional vocational training usually does not result in higher payments, an additional academic degree significantly increases financial benefits.

### Relevancy for SME

Decisions regarding education are rarely based just on individual choices. Companies should continuously overthink the costs and outcomes of investments in education. A lot of companies though react too hesitantly regarding investments in additional training. Seen from an economic standpoint and looking at a globalized market, specialized and qualified employees guarantee innovations and success. At the same time ongoing vocational training and additional qualification measures are becoming more important as part of human resources policies. On the one hand the need for skilled workers has to be covered which becomes more and more important

regarding the demographic changes. On the other hand studies like the one mentioned above can help to convince employees and show them how they can benefit from getting better degrees and additional training.

Both employers and employees should benefit from such measurements. The individual educational return can also be described as private interest rate and companies usually reward additional degrees with higher salaries. Experience shows that SMEs very often are not able to compete with the wage level of bigger enterprises. Here the concept of educational returns fails to show how skilled and specialized workers can be attracted offering them other incentives such as job security, flexible working hours, home office programs, a better work environment, and more responsibility.

### Additional Information

The dissertation (in English) "Studies on the Returns to Education in Germany" by Dr. Anja Gelzer (ifh University Göttingen), published as EDiss (electronical Dissertation) by the SUB (Göttingen, 2012) can be found at: <http://webdoc.sub.gwdg.de/diss/2012/gelzer/gelzer.pdf>

The report that includes the methods and the theoretical approach plus detailed results (4-5 pages) can be found on our homepage at: [www.kmu-netzwerk.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.kmu-netzwerk.uni-goettingen.de)

### Contact

PhD-students working on similar studies and interested in getting their work published in the same way, are welcome to contact us.

If you are interested in building up corporations between a companies and university or if you have questions regarding funding and support please contact the staff of the SME Project Coordination:

Jaqui Dopfer Tel. 0551 39 10 646 or Christina Qaim: Tel. 0551 39 10 630 [kmu-netzwerk@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:kmu-netzwerk@uni-goettingen.de)

The report about the succesful „PraxisForum 2012 – Wir verbinden kluge Köpfe“ can be found at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/praxisforum](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/praxisforum)

# Qualification

## Courses offered during the third Quarter

The GGG divided the year into four quarters. You can sign up for courses six weeks before the start of a new quarter. For additional information go to: [www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de).

Starting now you can sign up for the following courses by sending an email to: [ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de)

05.07.+ 06.07.	Einführung in „Citavi“	Dr. Norbert Winnige
13.07./14.07. + 27.07./ 28.07.	Schreibwerkstatt II „Schreibwerkstatt“	Ella Grieshammer
23.07. + 24.07. + 25.07.	Time Series Analysis with R – Part 1 (Linear Time Series Models)	Dr. Oleg Nenadić, Julia Furche
06.09. + 20.09.	Praktische Grundlagen der Mitarbeiterführung	Dr. Sabine Hoier
10.09. + 11.09.	Success and Motivation „Strategische Kompetenz im Selbstmanagement“	Wilbert L. Olinde
28.09. + 05.10.	Hochschuldidaktik II „Aktivierende Methoden“	Hannes Mehner
29./30.06. + 06./07.07.	Schreibwerkstatt III „Textwerkstatt“	Dr. des. Melanie Brinkschulte

### And this is how it works:

Every workshop can be attended by 10 to 16 people. We have a “first come first serve” policy. Four weeks before the course starts your registration will be seen as binding. Detailed information about the courses and how to sign up can be found at: <http://www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de>

To sign up for a course please only use the following email address:

[ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de)

### Openings 2nd Quarter

We still can offer you open spots for the course “Vom Thema zur Struktur – wissenschaftliche Argumentation für Juristinnen und Juristen” (<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/306380.html>), which will take place on May 24, 2012. To sign up for this course please send an email to [ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de)

## On our own Account

Please notice that with the publication of this newsletter the registration period for our upcoming courses has started. PhD-students interested in signing up for courses offered by the GGG during the 3rd quarter can register now.

This newsletter is issued quarterly and provides information for PhD-students and advisors. It can be received via email or you can go to [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/aktuelles/42253.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/aktuelles/42253.html).

The next newsletter will be published August 13th 2012. Our goal is to provide you with basic information about the promotion process, as well as to establish a close contact between you and the GGG, in order to keep you updated on all our offers. If you want to know more about us do not hesitate to contact our staff members (see team) and also check out our project information online.



# Sponsorships

The Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences provides funding and scholarships for PhD-students of social sciences. An overview about the latest offers can be found on our homepage at: [www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de/GGG-Foerderung](http://www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de/GGG-Foerderung)

Right now the following grants and scholarships are available:

Grant	Timespan	Time Offered	Amount of Funding	Target Group
GGG Family Grant	4 – 6 Months	See News	1.200 – 1.300 € per Month	PhD-students with children under the age of 12
Forum for PhD-Stu-dents	Flexible	Annually, starting 2012	Flexible, depends on costs; Speakers	PhD-students looking for networking opportunities
Organization of an International Conference	Funding for 6 Months (43 hours per month plus material costs)	See News	WHK (plus 1.840€ material costs)	PhD-students looking to enhance their key qualifications by organizing an international meeting
3 Grants for Practical Work ("Praxisarbeit")	Flexible	Starting 2012	400€ each	Students looking to start a PhD-research project about SME
4 Grants Practical Research ("PraxisFor-schung")	Each 6 months max	Starting 2012	about 25% of a Scientific Assistant Position	PhD-students looking to start a research project about SME
1 Grant for Travel Expenses to an International Conference	One grant for each trip	Offered continually by faculties	400€ per trip	PhD-students looking to enhance their key qualifications

## Events

The GGG is hosting different events and would like to cordially invite you to join us during the following events. Additional information about times and locations will be provided on our homepage, in our flyer, and by the team of the GGG.

### May 23rd: Trip for international PhD-students to Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe

The Bergpark Wilhelmshöhe is the largest mountain park in Europe. It offers various highlights such as waterworks, castles, amazing views, and of course the Hercules Statue which with its 70 meters looks down over the city of Kassel. To sign up for this trip and for additional information please contact Anne Wiese until May 16th [helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de)

### June 13th: International Summer Party of the GGG presented by Stibet

We would like to cordially invite PhD-students and guests to join us for our annual summer party in the garden of the

Historical Observatory. During this event you will have the chance to meet other PhD-students in a relaxed atmosphere. We would like to ask you to bring some additional side dishes and things you would like to put on the grill. To sign up for this event and for additional information please contact Anne Wiese until June 7th [helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de)

### October 15th – 18th: 7th Methodenwoche of the GGG

The registration period for this year's Methodenwoche starts July 2nd and ends July 22nd. The program as well as additional information and application forms will be uploaded during the end of May at: [www.methodenwoche.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.methodenwoche.uni-goettingen.de)

## Fast Facts

### Lecture Series

As part of the lecture series "Dynamiken von Raum und Geschlecht" the following lectures will be presented:

• "Aktuelle Positionen in der Raumtheorie" presented by Prof. Dr. Stephan Günzel  
June 4th 2012, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. VG 2.104

• "Jumping Scales: Zur Multiskalarität geographischer Geschlechterforschung" presented by Prof. Dr. Anke Strüver  
July 9th 2012, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. in room 4100, Mönchebergstr. 19 in Kassel

**Stipends for Postdocs**

The Daimler Benz Foundation is offering stipends for young academics who received their doctoral degree. The program is open for all topics and to all academic disciplines. Postdocs who are looking to apply for this program have to be members of a German university or a scientific institution. Also they should already be working on a research project. Another requirement is that the doctoral degree should not have been received more than two years ago. Deadline for applications is November 2nd 2012

For more information go to:

<http://www.daimler-benz-stiftung.de/cms/index.php?page=postdoc-stipendium>

Contact:

Daimler und Benz Stiftung

Susanne Hallenberger and Dr. Jörg Klein

Tel. +49 (0)6203 1092-0

E-Mail: [info@daimler-benz-stiftung.de](mailto:info@daimler-benz-stiftung.de)

**News****Announcement – Grants for Conferences between July 2012 – June 2013**

The SME network of the GGG is offering grants for the organization of international workshops and meetings between July 2012 and June 2013. For each event we can offer 1000 € for travel expenses, 840 € for catering, as well as the payments for the position of a research assistant (WHK, 6 months, 43 hours per month). If you are interested and if you would like to apply with a team (minimum 3 PhD-students, if possible from different areas of studies) we would like to invite you to apply for this grant until June 21st 2012. For more information, additional documents and forms (finance plan) go to:

<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/downloads/103158.html>

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact the team of the GGG.

Jaqui Dopfer Tel. 0551 39 106 46

Christina Qaim Tel. 0551 39 106 30

**2012 GGG Family Grant**

The GGG this year offers up to four graduation stipends for PhD-students with children in need for financial support at the end of their PhD. Students of social sciences that are members of the GGG and that are enrolled at the University of Göttingen can apply for this stipend if they have one (or more) child under the age of twelve. To apply for this year's stipends please consider the two deadlines which are June 15th 2012 and September 30th 2012.

If you have any questions please contact:

Dr. Bettina Roß Tel. 0551 39 124 17

Manuel Thiel Tel. 0551 39 109 52

Additional information can also be found at:

<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/355598.html>

**Application Doctoral Stipend for Biodiversity and Society**

You can now apply for a position within the new doctoral program "Biodiversity and Society". Application deadline is June 3rd 2012. For more information go to:

<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/146780.html>

**Conference Announcement and Call for Abstracts – Biodiversity and Society**

We would like to invite you to participate in the conference "Biodiversity and Society" which is going to take place November 14th – 16th 2012 in Göttingen. We would also like to invite you to send us your abstracts if you are interested in presenting a topic during this event. Abstracts can be handed in until June 15th 2012. For more information go to:

[www.uni-goettingen.de/biodiversitaet-gesellschaft](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/biodiversitaet-gesellschaft)

**Forum for PhD-Students of Social Sciences**

You are currently working on your PhD-thesis and you want to meet other PhD-students? You want to discuss your research topic with other doctoral

candidates or increase your knowledge with the help of guest lecturers? The GGG supports smaller groups of PhD-students of social sciences and helps them to get together with other PhD-students in order for them to benefit from each other's experiences. The GGG helps you in bringing together PhD-students interested in forming a group, finding dates and places to meet, supporting the organization of the first meetings (if help is needed), and financial funding for expenses and guest lecturers (as far as possible).

Since we just started this project we are open for your ideas on how to improve working conditions for PhD-students. Our goal is to build a network for PhD-Students by organizing meetings on a regular basis. If you have questions, ideas or if you want to start your own forum please contact us:

[ggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg@uni-goettingen.de)



# Team

We are here to support you

## Office Administration



**Dr. Bettina Roß**

*Chief Administrator*

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## SME-Network of the GGG



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This Newsletter will be sent to all members of the GGG.

In case of questions or remarks, please contact [ggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg@uni-goettingen.de).

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