

GÖTTINGEN INTERNATIONAL

# Newsletter

International news and activities

## Erasmus Mundus Action 2 Scholarships

The University of Göttingen participates in numerous Erasmus Mundus Action 2 projects, which enable academic mobility to and from South and South-East Asia, ACP countries, Caucasus, Middle East, Latin America, and South Africa.

In 2012-2013 a number of scholarships for students (undergraduate, Master, PhD levels), researches (including PostDoc) and staff are available for Göttingen. The scholarships include a monthly subsistence allowance during the fellowship period of 1000 Euro for Bachelor and Master students, 1500 € for PhD students, 1800 € for post-doctoral researchers and 2500 € for staff members. Travel costs are financed by the project and a worldwide insurance is included, covering travel, health, accidents and civil liability.

The opening dates or deadlines for applications are the following:

- ALRAKIS II (Central Asian and Caucasian regions): to be opened by mid November 2012;
- EXPERTS III (Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand): to be opened by mid November 2012;
- EU-SATURN (South Africa): application deadline 15.01.2013;
- SALAM (Yemen, Iran, Iraq): to be opened by mid November 2012;
- LOTUS III (China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand): application deadline 31.12.2013;
- PEACE (Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Brazil, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Panama): to be opened by mid October 2012;
- India4EU II (India): to be opened by mid November 2012;
- ANGLE (Angola, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Congo, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Fiji, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal, Trinidad & Tobago): to be opened by mid November 2013; and
- EMAIL II (Israel): to be opened by mid November 2013.

Please refer to the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 website for the specific project information, available number of scholarships, relevant fields of studies and partner universities involved: [www.uni-goettingen.de/erasmusmundus](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/erasmusmundus).

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## International Students as Subtenants

About 1000 new international students will begin their studies at the University of Göttingen this October. Of course, our Welcome Centre supports these students in their search for accommodation even before they arrive in Göttingen. Considering the increase in student numbers, this endeavour has become very difficult. For this reason, the Welcome Centre initiated the project "Internationale Studierende als Untermieter" (International Students as Subtenants) and asks all citizens of Göttingen for their support.

If you have a vacant, furnished room and would like to offer it to an international student, please contact the Welcome Centre.

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## Days of India

The University of Göttingen will host the "Days of India" on 14th and 15th of November, 2012.

60 years of diplomatic relations between India and the Federal Republic of Germany will be celebrated with cultural and academic events as well as with an info day on studying in India and studying about India. The "Days of India" are supported by the Indian Embassy in Berlin. All events will be free of charge.



Kathak dancer Deodatt Persaud

Wed. 14.11. Mensa am Turm

Info Day "India": Info stands on grants and financial support for studying in India, info on India-related study programmes in Göttingen.

Wed. 14.11. 7:30 pm, APEX

Modern literature and classical dance from India (Uday Prakash and Deodatt Persaud)

Thu. 15.11. 7:30 pm, Art House Cinema Lumière

Documentary film screening and discussion "The World Before Her" by Nisha Pahuja

13-15.11. Mensa am Turm

Indian dishes at the Mensa am Turm

For more detailed programme, please refer to [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/407982.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/407982.html)

## 'Embodying' the Experiences in Indo-European Encounters

From 23-24 November the Institute for Ecumenical Theology organises its yearly conference on India, with a focus on questions about body and feeling. The conference "Body, Emotion and Mind: 'Embodying' the Experiences in Indo-European Encounters" accompanies the Institute's research project on women in Andhra Pradesh in the context of German mission work, where German and Indian points of view are juxtaposed and where German and Indian partners support research.

The conference will take place at the Heyne-Haus, Papendiek 16, Göttingen.

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## International cultural evenings/Oceania, China

International cultural evenings take place in the Foyer International (Von-Siebold-Str. 2) twice a semester. These events aim at students who are interested in knowing more about studying abroad. In addition, the event is meant to introduce students to different cultures and to the beauty of foreign countries. Besides giving an overview of study programs, the event presents culinary specialties and cultural traditions of the countries in question.

In the upcoming semester the following countries will be presented:

Oceania – 29.10, 6-10 pm

China – 26.11, 6-10 pm

For more information, please refer to [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/165133.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/165133.html)

## Public Lecture Series: European Identity in the Wider World

In its upcoming lecture series, the Erasmus Mundus MA Euroculture will ask how Europe is seen from both the inside and from other parts of the world. Political scientists, scholars from Literary Studies, Theology and History will present their perspectives on Europe from India, UK, New Zealand, Spain, the United States and Germany.

The public lecture series is organized by Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Martin Tamcke and will be held starting from October 25, Thursdays from 14-16 in the ZHG 004.

The full programme can be accessed here: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/ringvorlesung-euroculture/413492.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/ringvorlesung-euroculture/413492.html)



## Excursions for international students

Every semester the University offers international students trips to German cities of political, cultural and historical interest. German students are also welcome to participate; however, on some trips the participation of German students is limited to 20 % due to the lack of funds. The excursion program in winter semester 2012/2013 is as follows:

Bergen-Belsen	03.11.2012
Köln	09.-11.11.2012
Ökendorf Sieben Linden	01.12.2012
München	30.11.-02.12.2012
Lüneburg	08.12.2012
Wolfsburg	15.12.2012
Marienborn	12.01.2013



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## OpenAIRE Final Conference in Göttingen

The final conference, "Enlightenment in the Knowledge Society – From Pilot to Service", of the FP7 project, OpenAIRE (Open Access Infrastructure for Research in Europe), will take place in Göttingen from 21-22 November.

The 2-day event, which will open with a video statement from Máire Geoghegan-Quinn, EU commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, focuses on the presentation of OpenAIRE's results to members of the European Commission and to representatives of all EU member states. Additionally, the conference will present a picture of the open access landscape in Europe and will offer perspectives ranging from researchers' views on scientific information, to the role of data infrastructures, research institutions and funders.



OpenAIRE is based on the Open Access Pilot, which was launched by the European Commission in August 2008. The pilot commits researchers to deposit their research publications in an institutional or disciplinary Open Access repository, thus allowing worldwide access to these. The EC has funded the 3-year-project (December 2009 – November 2012), which unites 38 project partners from 27 European countries, with a budget of more than 4 million Euros. The Göttingen State and University Library carries out the scientific coordination involved. Project management and final conference organisation is carried out in cooperation with the University's EU Office.

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## Workshop „New Developments in Stable Isotope Geochemistry“

From 29-30 November international scientists will convene to discuss new developments in isotope geology. Advancements in the field of quantum statistical treatments of isotope fractionation and mass spectrometry have led to rapid developments in the field. The application area spans from climatology, atmospheric chemistry and geoscience to biology.

The "Workshop on new developments in stable isotope geochemistry" will take place in the conference center located at the historic observatory of the University. For further information please refer to <http://134.76.75.241/Isotopenworkshop2012/Isotopenworkshop2012/Home.html>

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## Conference on "Prophecy in Inter-religious Perspective"

From 8-10 November the international network "Rewritten Bible" will be a guest at the Institute for Ecumenical Theology with a conference on prophecy in inter-religious perspective. For years workshops have taken place alternately in Germany and Finland. Along with professors, doctoral students will present their insights from all sides. The project will be supported by the DAAD and the Finnish Academy of Science.

On 8 November Prof. Jaakko Hämmen-Anttila from Helsinki, Finland's foremost Islam scholar, will give an evening lecture entitled "The Prophet Muhammad and the Arabian Prophecy" (7 p.m., ZHG 004), which deals with Mohammad's understanding of prophecy and especially with original Arabian prophetic traditions. The lecture is open to the public. For more information, please refer to [www.uni-goettingen.de/oekumenische-theologie](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/oekumenische-theologie)

## News from the U4 Network

October 2012 was rich of events in the U4 network.

On 7-8 October, the fifth U4 Rectors Meeting took place at the University of Groningen. During this two day meeting all thematic clusters and working groups presented their achievements, their work-in-progress and their future ambitions to the gathered rectors. The U4 roadmap for 2013 includes the establishment of an interdisciplinary research forum on energy, boosting the U4 student and graduate exchanges, taking up on the U4 benchmarking exercise and continuing the initiatives of the U4 students in sports and culture. A special focus for the future of the U4 network will be in innovative graduate education. All partners agreed that this area of activity offers a most promising field for the cooperation of the four renowned research universities.

Shortly after, on 11-12 October in Uppsala, a second meeting of the U4 Leadership Programme took place. Top executives of all four partner universities gathered to discuss strategic management connected to 'Tradition and Renewal - Leading Top Quality Universities'.

Less than one week later (12-14 October) some 50 social scientists from the U4 network universities (comprising professors, Post Docs and PhD students) gathered in

Göttingen for a conference. In what was termed a "bazaar conference" (focusing more on existing research than a single topic) they were looking for common research interests and seeking to establish areas for future cooperation. Some 35 presentations were given over the three days, ranging from market regulation, Europeanization, and governance to analyses of political institutions and legal matters, and participants learned about each others' work and discussed shared areas of interest. The four universities intend to continue the successful format for intensifying cooperation next year, most likely in Groningen or Gent, then with a combination of panels about the new areas of cooperation and a continuation of open panels.

February 2013 will see a second edition of the U4 workshop on International Perspectives in Teaching & Learning in Groningen. The workshop is targeted at coordinators of international study programmes and tackles the special issues of organization and teaching for international students.

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## TROPENTAG in Göttingen

This year's TROPENTAG, the largest European conference for scientists, students and development specialists working in Tropical Agricultural and Natural Resource Management, took place in Göttingen from 19-21 September. The event was jointly organised by the Faculties of Agricultural Sciences, and Forest Sciences and Forest Ecology, Göttingen and the Faculty of Organic Agricultural Sciences, University of Kassel (Witzenhausen). More than 750 people from 80+ countries participated in the conference that provided a platform for discussing and planning new research and development initiatives under the theme of "Resilience of Agricultural Systems Against Crises".

This is a particularly relevant theme in today's world with most of the 2 billion poorest people who face on-going food insecurity being smallholder farmers living in tropical environments.

Sustainably producing food and fibre in the face of climate change, population growth, urbanisation and social change requires innovative and systems-based research to help people living in rural and urban areas build resilient and food-secure livelihoods. These topics were addressed by several renowned keynote speakers, more than 100 talks and 360 posters over the 3 days. The proceedings and blogs can be found at [www.tropentag.de](http://www.tropentag.de).



## German Forest Scientists Develop a Model Region for a Carbon Crediting System in Forests

At the end of August, the Lin2Value Scientists from the Faculty of Forest Science and Forest Ecology in Göttingen and their Sino-German project partners visited Shitai County in the province of Anhui. In this context, the Deputy Director-General of the Anhui Provincial Education Department visited our University in the end of September and a formal Memorandum of Understanding between the Anhui Agricultural University and the University of Göttingen was signed. Master students of the Anhui Agricultural University are invited to conduct their thesis in collaboration with the Lin2Value Project.

The goal of the Lin2Value project is the improvement of sustainable and multifunctional land use systems in China. A strong focus is placed on the enhancement of carbon stocks and other environmental services by developing adapted silvicultural alternatives. As example for subtropical China, the study area is located in the forests of Shitai County. An optimized carbon sequestration with the help of improved silvicultural strategies will be developed within the Lin2Value Project.

Results are expected within the next three years, both from scientific research and practical application. For Shitai County, GIS based forest maps will be developed and local foresters will be trained in the practical use of those maps in the near future. Additionally, new forest management concepts will be developed and a baseline for the trading of carbon credits from forest management will be produced. With the help of new long-term research plots to monitor a sustainable forest development, a sound basis for long-term research will be established to develop Shitai County as a demonstration site for subtropical China.

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## Project INBIOSOIL is coordinated by the University of Göttingen

**INBIOSOIL**

Innovative biological products for soil pest control

The INBIOSOIL (Innovative Biological Products for Soil Pest Control) project, funded by EU, started in July 2012. The project aims at developing new co-formulations, using biological control agents (entomopathogenic fungi and nematodes) in combination with attractant lures. The products generated by the project will enable alternative pest control strategies to complement conventional chemical-based pesticide use. These innovative formulations will be of benefit for both organic and conventional farming systems.

The scientific coordination of the project is carried out by the Department of Crop Sciences, Section Agricultural Entomology at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University of Göttingen.

The administrative project management is based at the EU Office of the Research Department at the University of Göttingen.

The project's duration is 36 months; it is funded in line with the 7th European Framework Programme under the rubric "Environment". The overall funding is 4.9 million Euros. The project consortium consists of 15 partners from 8 European countries, including research groups from scientific institutions as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

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## The Intensive Programme on “Relations between the EU and the Emerging Global Players”

The summer school programme entitled “Relations between the EU and the Emerging Global Players” took place at the Faculty of Economic Sciences from August 20-31, for the third and last time this year. Financed by the European Union as an “ERASMUS Intensive Programme”, during the course 47 students and 13 professors from 12 European partner universities met for two weeks to analyse together the economic and political relations between the European Union and selected emerging market economies, especially China and India. In addition to scientific lectures and student presentations, the intensive discussion sessions with participating professors were a focal point, as were the lessons on practical issues and sharing of experience during round table talks with company representatives.

An additional highlight of this year’s Summer School was the “Model European Union” simulation game. For one day participants simulated a European Council summit and learned, in line with reality, that common solutions to global problems, e.g., the current debt and financial crises, are not only an economic challenge, but above all, a political one.

The partner universities are now planning to implement the programme with new topics and at new venues.



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## The Intensive Programme on „Hadron Collider Physics”

The Intensive Programme on hadron collider physics, HASCO, took place in the II.institute of physics in Göttingen from 16.-27.July 2012. It is the first and only European school of that kind aimed at undergraduate students.



61 European students and 20 lecturers from 20 European universities and from CERN spent two weeks with lectures on the latest topics on physics at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), in particular with electroweak and strong physics, physics of W-bosons and top-quarks, detectors and accelerators and of course with the Higgs-boson and its recent discovery in early July 2012. The students also gave seminar presentations themselves, passed a written exam and received ECTS credits for their successful participation. The HASCO school 2013 is already in preparation.

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[www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMU-VxYJRNo&feature=plcp](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMU-VxYJRNo&feature=plcp)

## IARD Weekend Seminar on Career Perspectives

From 14 -16 of September the Chair of Agricultural Policy with the support of the DAAD offered a weekend seminar "Professional perspective and reintegration of the IARD students in the job market".

The seminar targeted the current students of the Master programme in International Agribusiness and Rural Development (IARD) and international students from Latin America. During those days, the students had the opportunity to attend presentations from the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and Centre for International Migration and Development (CIM) giving them practical suggestions on how to set up their professional reintegration at their home countries. Furthermore former students, currently working in their home countries and abroad, came to offer their views concerning their jobs and experiences after completing the programme.



The next weekend seminar of the IARD Study Program will be held in spring 2013. For more information, please refer to [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/411703.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/411703.html)

## Impressum

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