

## Contents

Dear PhD students, supervisors and project partners,

soon there will be the representative committee elections for PhD students of the social sciences. In this issue we will report about the important role of that position in co-determination and its further benefits together with the current spokesperson and the deputy PhD students' spokesperson of GGG.

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**Your GGG-Team**



Göttinger Graduiertenschule  
Gesellschaftswissenschaften

## Contact

Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences (GGG)

Fon: +49(0) 551 - 39 12417

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

Internet: [www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/GGG.de](https://www.facebook.com/GGG.de)

## My University – My Graduate School. Co-determination Depends on Participation!

**How supportive the conditions are for you as a PhD student depends also on the extent to which you speak up for your interests in university. As part of the PhD students' representative committee you have the possibility to improve your university, gain new experience and build networks in the academic setting. Therefore, GGG wants you to run for an office in the next GGG PhD students' representative committee.**

As a PhD student you are, on the one hand, already a scientist; but on the other hand, you depend on a professor's good supervision. You decide on how you design your scientific work and at the same time you fulfill a study program, providing you with professional exchange with other PhD students and preparing you for your further career. The realization of your PhD project depends on many factors: do you have a reliable financing? Do you work at an institute, do you have a scholarship or are you doing your PhD on a part-time basis? Are you represented by the non-professorial staff representatives in the committees? Or are you not represented at all or by student committee members, who cannot know your situation as a PhD student that well? Are you part of a team and are you well supervised? Or do you have to wait a long time to get an appointment for a talk about your work? Do you spend sleepless nights because you miss professional exchange or because you don't have financing for your dissertation's next phase? Are you well advised on a methodical level? Is it possible to prevent scientific misconduct in your working environment

or do you think about making a call for misconduct public?



### Your University – Your Co-determination

These are just some of the questions that PhD students might be confronted with in the course of their PhD. As a rule of thumb: the better your network and the better your PhD conditions, the greater the chances to successfully complete your PhD. How supportive the basic conditions are depends on many external factors that you as a PhD student can influence in committees and networks. To further enforce co-determination, the federal state of Lower Saxony resolved the participation of PhD students in the form of a PhD students' representative in an advisory capacity in the faculty committees and in the university senate in December 2015.<sup>1</sup> This university-wide PhD students' representation is to be elected for the first time in the beginning of 2017.

<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Education and Culture in Lower Saxony: reforms to the „Niedersächsisches Hochschulgesetz“, available online at [http://www.mwk.niedersachsen.de/themen/hochschulrecht\\_niedersachsen/nhg-19107.html](http://www.mwk.niedersachsen.de/themen/hochschulrecht_niedersachsen/nhg-19107.html) (27.10.2016).

GGG has always had a PhD students' representation since its founding and we thus wish to encourage you to run for election as a candidate.

As a PhD student representative at GGG you are an important contact for PhD students of the social sciences and their representation within graduate school, university, and in public. During the one-year term you are an authorised member of the GGG board, which enables you to help shape GGG's further developments, e. g. funding measures.

Improvements that were achieved due to the PhD students' representation's initiative over the last years are e. g. expanded family-friendly support measures for PhD students, improvements on GGG's advisory services and a close cooperation between the respective PhD students' representation and the GGG team.

### How do you benefit from that?

As part of the PhD students' representation you help shape GGG and the university – e. g. in discussions about selection criteria for support measures. You will get to know how a university is run and which factors have an impact on what decisions. You will build a network, learn more about the PhD project conditions of others and about decisions and procedures at the university. This commitment will also have a positive impact on your resume when your future employers search for positive features besides degrees and grades.

Julia Gumula and Rüdiger Hesse report on their experience and on their personal benefit from being a PhD students' representative:

### Julia Gumula's experience:

„My time as a PhD students' spokesperson enabled me to grow as a person and as a member of academic life. I had the chance to participate in committee meetings and actively shape them. I learned the ways of academic self-government – which I think was an important experience.

How do committees reach a democratic decision? How much does the PhD students' vote really count in contrast to the professors' votes? I was very surprised that the PhD students' vote really matters e. g. in the GGG board, where co-determination is part of the daily routine.

I was also allowed to take part in job interviews at GGG, which really enhanced my own expertise both as a candidate and as a selecting person.

I really advise anybody who is interested in commitment to social matters and at the same time wishes to represent PhD students' interests to run for office in the election for a PhD students' spokesperson.“

### Rüdiger Hesse's experience:

„As the deputy PhD students' spokesperson I participated e. g. in GGG board meetings and was thus able to actively bring the PhD students' needs into the debates. This was especially important for me when it became clearly evident that decisions once taken can be altered again if this proves to be more supportive for the PhD students. And I also enjoyed board meetings very much as the professors were much more relaxed than usual. Furthermore, I was involved in several working groups and worked sustainably together with PhD students' spokespersons of other graduate schools and colleagues from the State and University Library of Lower Saxony (SUB). Thus, the university's extensive institutional structure became obvious to me as well as the necessity for constant cooperation with different status groups, especially with those who are part of the university teachers' group. I strongly recommend this opportunity for commitment to social matters to anybody and in particular to those who wish to actively stand up for PhD students' interests.“

### Take the chance!

The PhD students' representation consists of one spokesperson and their deputy and is elected annually by all PhD students. If you wish to run for office in the next PhD students' representation election, you are invited to get in touch with GGG from now on! All GGG PhD students and members of PhD programs and Research Training Groups accepted by GGG can be elected if they are entitled to vote (see [www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de/programme](http://www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de/programme)).

Should you have any inquiries or if you are interested in running for office, please get in touch with GGG via [ggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg@uni-goettingen.de) or call Mike Bielib (0551 39 10952). Online elections will take place from March 1 until 27, 2017. The new term of office will last from April 2017 until March 2018.

For detailed information regarding the PhD students' representation's tasks and opportunities, please refer to [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/447778.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/447778.html) or:

- the current GGG PhD students' representation:
  - Julia Gumula (PhD students' spokesperson)
  - Tel.: +49 (0)551 39 6171
  - Mail: [julia.gumula@psych.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:julia.gumula@psych.uni-goettingen.de)
  - Rüdiger Hesse (deputy spokesperson)
  - Tel.: +49 (0)551 39 4432
  - Mail: [ruediger.hesse@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ruediger.hesse@wiwi.uni-goettingen.de)
- GGG office:
  - Mike Bielib
  - Tel.: +49 (0)551 39 10952
  - Mail: [ggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg@uni-goettingen.de)

## GGG News

### New speaker of the GGG board



On November 02, 2016, Prof. Dr. Thomas Kneib was elected as the new GGG board speaker.

He is responsible for PhD programs in GGG and succeeds Prof. Dr. Christine Langenfeld, who retired as GGG board speaker after being elected by the Federal Council to the Second Senate of the Federal Constitutional Court in July 2016.

We are very grateful for her commitment to GGG and really looking forward to the future cooperation with Prof. Kneib!

[www.uni-goettingen.de/en/40756.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/40756.html)

### Next PhD students' representatives election in GGG

As has been stated in the editorial, the next PhD students' representatives election in GGG will take place in March 2017 – and this is your chance to run for office! Are you interested in actively helping shape GGG's work for PhD students? Then register as a candidate until January 17, 2017! This issue's editorial contains information on how active participation works in practice and what the tasks of a PhD students' representative are.

For further information on the tasks of PhD students' representatives please refer to:

[www.uni-goettingen.de/en/447778.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/447778.html)

We are looking forward to having you as a candidate!

## We proudly present

### Serena Müller

*Serena Müller has been responsible for PhD Funding Guidance of the GGG as parental leave substitute of Dr. Kristin Gehr since the beginning of September 2016.*



She studied Social and Cultural Anthropology in Münster and completed several practice-oriented stays and study trips to Indonesia. She worked at the Indonesian Embassy in Berlin after her studies before she started doing research with the DFG project "The Constitution of Cultural Property" as a research assistant at the University of Göttingen in 2011. In the context of her PhD she focused on indigenous people in different regions of Indonesia in their struggle for recognition and specific rights and stayed at the ANU in Canberra for scientific exchange for several months. Encouraged by the mentoring program WeWiMento, she has become interested in science management, in particular the areas of young researchers promotion and international issues. In the field of PhD Funding Guidance she advises (future) PhD students (and early postdocs) on funding opportunities.

Therefore: Come visit me in case you have questions about scholarships and other funding options, or send an e-mail to [serena.mueller@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:serena.mueller@uni-goettingen.de). You will also find further information on the PhD-funding guidance's website: [www.ggg-foerderberatung.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.ggg-foerderberatung.uni-goettingen.de).

As of 2017 Serena Müller will also take on some tasks in the support of international PhD students at GGG from Judith Kaschner. She will thus be present at different events for international PhD students at Göttingen University. She is the contact person for international students concerning questions on the PhD process and on everyday life in Göttingen and is looking forward to you contacting her and will happily answer your questions and consider your suggestions.

## Events

*We kindly invite you to events taking place within the GGG framework or with GGG involvement. Further information and times will be promptly available on GGG website, in brochures and at the GGG team. Please already note the following events:*

### **GGG goes SoWi GO! on November 15 and 16, 2016**

At this year's SoWi GO! on November 15 and 16, the Faculty of Social Sciences invites their PhD students to inform themselves about a variety of career options. On the first day, Dr. Britta Korkowsky (GGG) and Martin Ertelt (Studienbüro SoWi) will inform about requirements and perspectives of a PhD in Social Sciences at 2:15 pm.

[www.uni-goettingen.de/en/193334.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/193334.html)

### **Lecture on publication opportunities on November 16, 2016**

Together with the Göttingen State and University Library of Lower Saxony (SUB), GGG will host an information lecture on different publication opportunities provided at Göttingen University on 16.11.2016 from 5 pm until 6:30 pm in the major conference room of the Convention Centre at the Historical Observatory. For information and registration (until today, November 14!) please refer to: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/548231.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/548231.html).

There will be two more lectures on this topic in cooperation with SUB in the forthcoming year 2017. The first event is set for February 2017. You will find information about place and date in due time on GGG's website and via email. Lectures are held in English.

### **Study Financing Day on November 23, 2016**

Like last year, GGG will participate in this year's study financing day with a booth. The day is organized by Göttingen University and Studentenwerk Göttingen and will take place on November 23 in the foyer of the central student refectory. Serena Müller (PhD Funding Guidance, GGG) and Dr. Sabine Heerwart (GSGG) will give a presentation about funding opportunities for PhD students in social sciences and humanities at 12 am in Clubraum 4. Further details and schedules will be announced in due time on the website: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/523866.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/523866.html)

### **Excursion to Ludolfshausen (Friedland) on November 26, 2016**

In this winter semester, the Helpdesk for International PhD students wants to continue the proven cooperation with the initiative "Show your village!" and invites international PhD students (but also Germans) to excursions to the smaller villages near Göttingen. It will be possible to get into direct contact with inhabitants, exchange views and gain intense insight into living in rural areas. The next event will take us to Ludolfshausen on Saturday, November 26. Further information and registration can be found at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/550877.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/550877.html)

### **GGG at the Faculty of Law's Career Day on December 7, 2016**

At this year's Career Day at the Faculty of Law on December 7, PhD students of law can get information about different career opportunities and get in touch with companies. Together with PhD students, Susanne Herrmann (Office of Student Affairs' speaker) and Dr. Bettina Roß (GGG) will inform about ways and perspectives of doing a PhD in law between 11 am and 12 am. Furthermore, GGG will be available at their information booth for the whole day, starting at 10 am until 3 pm. For further information please refer to: [www.myjobfair.de/fakultaetskarrieretage/fakultaetskarrieretage-2016/07-12--georg-august-universitaet--goettingen--juristische-fakultaet/](http://www.myjobfair.de/fakultaetskarrieretage/fakultaetskarrieretage-2016/07-12--georg-august-universitaet--goettingen--juristische-fakultaet/)

### **Diversity lecture series "Normality – Power – Education" winter semester 2016/17**

The current lecture series "Normality – Power – Education" is part of the series "All Equally Different!?" Diversity in theory and practice". The individual lectures analyze the development and reproduction of normality from different perspectives. They question how and by what normality at the university develops, how it is alterable and which inclusions and exclusions are produced for whom. We would like to point out the talk given by Lars Schmitt "„Gehör' ich überhaupt hierher?" – „Soziale Herkunft' im Studium und wie damit umgegangen wird". The lecture takes place on December 7, 2016 from 6:15 pm to 7:45 pm in room VG 4.101. Further information on the lecture series can be found at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/diversity-vortragsreihe](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/diversity-vortragsreihe)

### **Christmas bakery on December 12, 2016**

In cooperation with Foyer International the Helpdesk for International PhD students wants to give you the chance for some hands-on experience with the German tradition of Christmas cookie baking and other culinary Christmas treats. Join us for a delicious and fun evening on December 12! We will start at 6 pm at Foyer International, Von-Siebold-Str. 2. Please register in advance with [helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de).



## News in brief

### Workshop "May the job be with you – How to succeed in an international job interview" on November 24, 2016

The Career Service and the interpool personal GmbH organize a workshop for international and German students, to get a direct insight into different selection processes in an international environment – inside as well as outside of your home country. By practicing a live interview simulation and a mock Assessment Center you gain a deepened understanding of the different recruitment elements and learn about cultural differences and similarities in selection processes. Further information and registration can be found at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/548742.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/548742.html)

### First "Open Science Göttingen Meet-up" on Dezember 06, 2016

The State and University Library of Lower Saxony (SUB) invites all (PhD) students and junior scientists interested in Open Science to the first "Open Science Meet-up" on 06.12.2016 from 2 pm until 5 pm. SUB is the venue, Platz der Göttinger Sieben 1. We kindly ask all those interested to register online at: <https://goo.gl/forms/7JvlgBZzBnOoKgR32>

### Lecture on writing PhD assessments on December 07, 2016

The division for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education organizes for Postdocs, Professors and all who are interested the German lecture "Dissertationsgutachten erstellen – Anregungen für die eigene Praxis" with Prof. Dr. Thilo Schmitt (University of Bremen, head of "Philosophischer Fakultätentag") on December 07, 2016 from 12 am to 2 pm. It takes place at room 3.117 / 3.119 (wing I, 3rd level) at Waldweg 26. Please register by e-mail with [lea.brandt@zvw.uni-goettingen.de](mailto:lea.brandt@zvw.uni-goettingen.de) before November 23.

### Carrels in SUB especially for PhD students

From now on, PhD students are invited to book one of the 57 carrels in SUB – from one week up to half a year. You will be able to work undisturbed there, store books and working devices overnight and share frustrations with colleagues of other disciplines in the recreation room. For further information and reservation form please refer to: [www.sub.uni-goettingen.de/index.php?id=1493](http://www.sub.uni-goettingen.de/index.php?id=1493)

### LIFT OFF – Competition for innovative ideas of business start-ups

For the first time the Start-up Consultation at Göttingen University organizes the LIFT OFF founding competition in this winter term. Take part in the competition with your idea for or your already existing start-up and benefit from interesting events, experts and win cash or material prizes. Further information can be found at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/547939.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/547939.html)

### Event series How to Start-up!

Expert knowledge for people interested in setting up their own business. Lectures, panel discussions and progress reports by practitioners about business model development, law and taxes for entrepreneurs, marketing and competitive analysis, and financing. For further information and dates please refer to: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/547932.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/547932.html)

### Winter term offer of the Göttingen Centre for Gender Studies in 2016/2017

In the course of its Gender Lab on "Body modifications", the Göttinger Centre for Gender Studies (GCG) organizes a number of events in the ongoing winter term. Besides lectures starting from 27.10.2016 on, there will be discussions and readings. For a full overview over events and GCG cooperations please refer to: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/489412.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/489412.html)

### Göttingen University takes part in the Diversity Audit

Göttingen University has successfully applied for the Diversity Audit. Together with ten other universities it will go through an accompanied organizational development process throughout the next two years. It is the audit's aim to support the universities in creating an atmosphere that enables students and employees to be successful in their work. Göttingen University strives to develop processes and structures in studies, teaching, research and administration as well as their university culture in a way that acknowledges the diversity of students and employees. After signing the Diversity Charta in June 2015 and appointing a vice president, who is also responsible for equal opportunities and diversity, the university takes another step towards an organizational structure and culture characterized by mutual respect and appreciation. [www.uni-goettingen.de/diversity-audit](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/diversity-audit)

### Exclusive access to the international online tool Goin-Global for finding information on employment worldwide

The Career Service of Göttingen University offers access to a career development tool for students and graduates who want to pursue international career opportunities – in Germany and abroad. It allows to research career opportunities on the international job market and contains worldwide job and internship listings (updated daily) as well as country-specific information about applying and working abroad. Exclusive access via eCampus (Login: <https://ecampus.uni-goettingen.de>, choose "Links")

# Qualification

## Our courses in the first quarter 2017

Registration has started for the following first quarter courses in 2017 at [ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de).

For detailed information on our courses and other PhD student courses offered by cooperating institutions please visit [www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de).

Date	Topic	Referee
14.02. & 02.03. & 23.06.2017	Selbst- und Zeitmanagement während der Promotion und in der Zeit danach	Dr. Sabine Hoier
23.03. & 24.03.2017	Slidewriting – Optimize Your Own Academic Presentation	Dr. Markus Burger
31.03.2017	Kompetent bestehen. Mit Selbstsicherheit in die Disputation (Workshop für Doktorandinnen)	Dr.in Saskia Schottelius

**And this is how it works:** The GGG divides the course year into four quarters. You can sign up for courses of a quarter six weeks before the quarter starts. 12 to 16 PhD students can participate in a particular course. Places are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Four weeks before the course starts, application is considered binding. You can also find detailed information on individual courses and the application procedure at:

[www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de)

Please send your application exclusively to [ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de).  
Please consider the applicable registration procedure.

## CfW: Call for Wishes (Week of Methods 2017)

Dear PhD students of the GGG!

We are already planning the Week of Methods 2017 (17.07.-20.07.2017). As every year each workshop will theoretically reflect on a certain methodological approach and will not be designed as a mere practice course. When thematically arranging the program, we endeavor to meet your needs best.

Therefore, please, let us know the social science methods you would like to become acquainted with or to deepen your knowledge in through the interdisciplinary discussion during the Week of Methods.

We are very much looking forward to your numerous answers at [ggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg@uni-goettingen.de) until the end of November. Of course, we are always open to additional wishes and ideas!

## Courses on teaching methods in higher education for PhD students and new teachers

We would furthermore like to draw your attention to the following courses of the Division for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Göttingen, which target especially PhD students:

Date	Topic	Referee
25.11.2016	„...plötzlich lehren!“ Meine Rolle als Lehrende*r	Angelika Thielsch
20.02. & 21.02.2017	Vom Rat-Suchen zum Beraten – Meine Rolle als Berater*in	Dr. Jutta Wergen

Further information and registration can be found at:  
[www.uni-goettingen.de/en/365991.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/365991.html)

## Support measures

The Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences provides funding and scholarships for PhD students of social sciences. These measures will be announced on the GGG website in the course of the year:

[www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de/GGG-sponsorship](http://www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de/GGG-sponsorship)

The following funding options are available for the coming months:

Funding measure	Duration	Application deadline	Funding amount	Target group
Family oriented finishing Grant	4 – 6 months	15.01.17 & 30.06.17	1.200 € plus child benefit	PhD students caring for children under the age of 12 or relatives in need of care and thus needing more time to complete their PhD thesis
Research Assistantships	3 months à 20 h	15.01.17	€ 308 pre-tax x 3 months academic assistant	Foreign PhD students who carry out a threemonthly research project
Conference trips	flexible	31.01.17 & 30.06.17	max. 70% of expenses	PhD students actively participating in an international scientific conference (via Göttingen International)
TeamTeaching	1 Semester	20.02.17	tandem and qualification	PhD students who look for support for their first teaching experience
KaWirMento	1 year	29.02.17	mentoring and qualification	PhD students and Postdocs aiming at a career in economy
Dorothea Schlözer Mentoring Program	1 year	30.06.17	mentoring and qualification	Female PhD students and Postdocs aiming at a career in academia / professorship
Emergency and bridging Grant	4 – 6 months	flexibel	1.200 € plus child benefit (if required)	PhD students who get in unpredictable financial need they are not responsible for and need support to complete their PhD thesis
PhD students' forum	flexible	flexible	depends on the expenses	PhD students wishing to network professionally

## On our own behalf

Please keep in mind that once this newsletter is issued, the registration period for the next courses has started: It is now possible for PhD students to register for the GGG courses in the first quarter of 2017.

This newsletter is published four times a year. It is available for PhD students and supervisors of social sciences, and all interested. The newsletter can be found online ([www.uni-goettingen.de/en/42253.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/42253.html)) or received via e-mail. The next newsletter will be published on February 13, 2017.

This newsletter shall inform you about the basic issues of doing a PhD and contribute to a closer contact between you and the GGG team, thus making it easier for you to be up to date about the services offered by the graduate school. For more information please feel free to contact the team members (see last page of the newsletter) and visit the different projects online.

## Team


**Dr. Bettina Roß**
*Executive Director*

Conceptual questions and issues for the future, PhD programs, advice for PhD students, funding and general questions.

Tel.: 0551 39 12417

 e-Mail: [bettina.ross@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:bettina.ross@uni-goettingen.de)

**Silvia Wagner**
*Financial Administration*

Contact person for applications, grants, funds management, invoices and forms.

Tel.: 0551 39 10629

 e-Mail: [silvia.wagner@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:silvia.wagner@uni-goettingen.de)

**Dr. Britta Korkowsky**
*Project "Building Bridges for PhD students"*

Contact person for (future) first generation PhD students, qualification courses and Week of Methods.

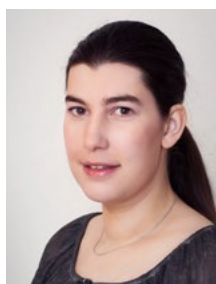
Tel.: 0551 39 20904

 e-Mail: [britta.korkowsky@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:britta.korkowsky@uni-goettingen.de)

**Mike Bielib**
*Diversity Concept*

Contact person for diversity issues, participation in the project "Building Bridges for PhD students", qualification courses and newsletter.

Tel.: 0551 39 10952

 e-Mail: [mike.bielib@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:mike.bielib@uni-goettingen.de)

**Judith Kaschner**
*Helpdesk for International PhD students*

Support for international PhD students, newsletter, research assistantships, qualification courses and organization of intercultural events.

Tel.: 0551 39 20905

 e-Mail: [helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:helpdeskggg@uni-goettingen.de)

**Christin Carlsen**
*Student Assistant*

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

**Dr. Kristin Gehr**
*PhD Funding Guidance*

(currently in parental leave)


**Serena Müller**
*PhD Funding Guidance*

(Parental leave substitute)

Advice on PhD funding (individual support), qualification courses and support for internationals.

Tel.: 0551 3920449

 e-Mail: [serena.mueller@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:serena.mueller@uni-goettingen.de)

## Imprint

**Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences (GGG)**

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

 Internet: [www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de)

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).

Translation: Wiebke Blanck

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