

## Content

Dear PhD-students, Supervisors and Project Partners,

In our first newsletter of 2014 we take a look at some results of the evaluation of GGG in summer/fall 2013, with a particular focus on the wishes and remarks – and how they should now contribute to further development of the GGG. Specifically, you find in this issue:

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**Your GGG-Team**

## Evaluation of the Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences

**Which wishes and preferences did you communicate?  
What should be improved now?**

**In the course of the last months, the GGG has analyzed previous experiences from five years: By surveying all members, data evaluation and joint discussions, it became apparent what has been established successfully so far and where potential for development can be seen.**

The evaluation of the GGG consisted mainly of four elements: an online poll of all graduating and supervising members in September 2013, the analysis of membership data and acceptance of GGG measures of the last five years, assessment by external experts as well as several debates on aims and measures of the GGG.

The quality and attraction of all GGG activities was analyzed:

- the qualification programs (like courses and the "Praxisforscher"),
- the funding possibilities (like the family-oriented finishing grants, support of conference organizations and travel grants),
- the interdisciplinary interconnection of PhD-students (e.g. in the PhD forum),
- the advisory service for PhD-students in case of crisis during dissertation or for questions concerning financing,
- the installation and supervision of new PhD programs,
- as well as the collaboration with the faculties for quality management during dissertation.

This evaluation was carried out by an accessory group that consisted of the PhD-representatives, the executive board, educational deans and employees. The process

was critically accompanied by an external group of experts from graduate schools of other universities and the PhD student group of the trade union GEW.

GGG indeed always evaluates its measures in the current year as well. However, this comprehensive evaluation offers us the chance to review quality, gaps and potential for improvement concerning the support of a PhD in social sciences from a broader perspective and to develop further measures. It has now become very clear how advanced the GGG is, how cooperation can be improved and which areas have to be developed further.

### Interim results and creative leeway

At this juncture, some interim results can be seen, which invite for further shaping of the GGG at which we would like you to participate. We are open to your wishes, ideas and further suggestions.

GGG's offers of courses, grants and counseling were assessed as very useful for the PhD-students. These strengths of the GGG in the areas qualification and counseling of PhD-students should therefore be assured and even better communicated.

In other areas, potential for development is visible, which will be concretized together with you, the presidential board, the faculties and the GGG executive board in the weeks and months to come:

In particular, access to research, teaching and life in Göttingen should be further facilitated for international PhD-students. For this purpose, the present Helpdesk for International PhD-students should be set on

Göttingen Graduate School  
of Social Sciences

## Contact

Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences (GGG)

Fon: +49(0) 551 - 39 12417  
Fax: +49(0) 551 - 39 10647  
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](http://www.facebook.com/GGG.de)

a broader basis with more opportunities for action. Additional measures will be to expand cooperation with Göttingen International as well as to secure German and English bilingualism more strictly.

Potential for development became also clear in the area of providing professional competencies for academic and non-academic career paths. Besides research, good scientific practice, self-competence and social competence as well as teaching skills are also crucial for this step. Here, the GGG (together with the Division for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and other cooperating institutions) offers a broad portfolio. As far as qualification and networking offers for PhD-students who aim at careers outside of academia are concerned, the already exist-

ing offers of the SME-network of the GGG and the mentoring program KaWirMento will have to be further evolved. In addition, based on the mentoring program WeWiMento, development directions for careers in e.g. university management, ministries and unions are being discussed.

The perception of GGG measures by the PhD-students, professors and the university departments as well as our communication with them should be improved, too. For this purpose, on the one hand, the information material of the GGG will be revised in 2014. On the other hand, GGG participates actively in local networks for counseling and promotion of young talents as well as in nationwide networks of graduate centers and PhD-students. Last but not least, the

cooperation of faculties with the GGG will be further developed.

While reading, you will notice that many of the measures are still being discussed and designed. The described development directions will turn into further measures in the following months. As PhD-students, supervisors and members of our university you are a part of this process. We are looking forward to your suggestions.

## Events

*The GGG is hosting different events to which we would like to cordially invite you. You can already make a note of the following events. Additional information will be provided on our website, in our leaflet, and by the team of the GGG.*

### International solidarity reloaded: April 2-4, 2014

In cooperation with the GGG, the Hans Böckler Foundation offers again a scientific conference by and for PhD-students from April 2-4, 2014. On the agenda are, amongst other topics, trade unions and other social movements between opportunities and challenges of globalization.

[www.uni-goettingen.de/de/promovierendentagung-2014-internationale-solidaritaet-reloaded/364950.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/promovierendentagung-2014-internationale-solidaritaet-reloaded/364950.html)

### International GlobalFood Symposium: April 25-26, 2014

The aim of the symposium, which takes place in the Paulinerkirche in Göttingen, is to discuss up-to-date research results and political challenges in the context of changing agricultural and food markets, especially in developing countries. Everyone interested is cordially invited. Additional information about the event, the program and registration can be found at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/globalfood](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/globalfood)

### Welcome Day: May 7, 2014

If you just started your PhD or if you have questions concerning the dissertation or the GGG, the GGG Welcome Day is the right event for you. On Wednesday, May 7, starting at 4pm, the PhD representatives, members of the team and additional contact persons will answer your questions in the big seminar room of the SUB (floor 1). From the end of March on, you will find detailed information at the GGG website, see "News".

[www.uni-goettingen.de/de/aktuelles/42253.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/aktuelles/42253.html)

### "PraxisForum 2014 – Wir verbinden kluge Köpfe": June 3, 2014

Like every year on the eve of the „PraxisBörse“, the SME-network of the GGG invites you to the „PraxisForum 2014“ in ZHG 103. Also this year, scientists will give interesting insights into the state of research and point out links for cooperations with the regional economy. Registration is mandatory: [www.uni-goettingen.de/praxisforum](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/praxisforum) (in German)

### SME network of the GGG at the PraxisBörse 2014 in the ZHG: June 4, 2014

From 10am to 3pm, the PraxisBörse offers students, PhD-students and graduates the possibility to specifically inform themselves about companies and institutions as well as about fields of activity, job specifications and opportunities for entry and development. At the joint booth of the "Südniedersächsische Wirtschaft", small and medium-sized enterprises of the region offer, together with the SME-network of the GGG, insights into regional job opportunities. The GGG will furthermore again inform about prerequisites for and perspectives of a PhD: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419246.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419246.html)

### Interdisciplinary Methodological Week: July 28-31, 2014

This year's Methodological Week of the GGG takes place from July 28 to July 31 with a new concept. The program will be published by the latest at the beginning of May. Registration will be open from May 19 to June 15.

[www.uni-goettingen.de/de/212336.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/212336.html)

## Business and Science

### Functions and offers of the SME-network of the GGG

The exchange between science and practice as well as the linking-up of PhD-students of the GGG with small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) in Lower Saxony are the central responsibilities of the SME-network of the GGG.

In addition, employment prospects and career perspectives in the regional economy should be made accessible to members of the graduate school. The SME-network is a third-party-funded project of the GGG sponsored by ERDF.



### Offers for PhD-students, supervisors and regional enterprises

#### Practical Research Project ("PraxisForscher") (up to € 6,000)

Financing of PhD-students who do scientific projects with regional enterprises with the aim of increasing knowledge transfer and establishing practical relevance during dissertation (excellent spoken and written German is required). For further information: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419969.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419969.html)

#### Practical Work Project for Master students ("PraxisArbeit") (400 €)

Funding for practical theses to establish first contacts to regional companies and to initiate practical PhD projects at an early stage (excellent spoken and written German is required). For further information: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419968.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419968.html)

#### Travel grants (up to € 800)

Active participation at conferences abroad to promote intercultural and language competencies of PhD-students. For further information: [www.uni-goettingen.de/en/419950.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/419950.html)

#### "PraxisForum" event series

Series of events with short talks on company-related questions and subsequent opportunity for direct interaction and networking with relevant stakeholders of the region. The next "PraxisForum" will take place on June 3. For further information: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/praxisforum/422077.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/praxisforum/422077.html)

#### Publication series "Blick in die Forschung"

A generally understandable analysis and brief presentation of current business-related research results from different chairs in German. For further information: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419995.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419995.html)

#### Qualification courses for PhD-students

Improving the methodological competence and key qualifications for career perspectives outside of academia. The course offers of the SME-network and of the GGG can be found here: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419971.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/419971.html)

If you are interested in cooperation between companies and science or if you have questions concerning funding instruments, you are welcome to address the project coordinators of the SME-network:

Jaqui Dopfer: Tel. 0551 39 10646 and Christina Qaim: Tel. 0551 39 10630

[www.kmu-netzwerk.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.kmu-netzwerk.uni-goettingen.de)

## Qualification

### Our courses in the second quarter of 2014

Free places are left in the following courses of the second quarter. Enrollment can be done by writing to [ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de). You can find detailed information about our courses and additional courses for PhD-students offered by cooperating institutions at [www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de).

Date	Topic	Referent
15.05.2014	Wissenschaftliches Argumentieren für promovierende Juristinnen & Juristen	Dr. Stephan Peters
12.06., 13.06. & 20.06.2014	Individuelle Perspektiven - Wege nach der Promotion	Dr. Christine Bäumler / Sabine Gossner
19.06. & 20.06.2014	Gute wissenschaftliche Praxis und ihre Problemfelder	Helga Nolte / PD Dr. Dr. Gerlinde Sponholz
25.06., 26.06. & 27.06.2014	Academic Writing: Effective Strategies for Publishing in English	Frank Lauterbach

**And that is how it works:** The GGG divides the course year 2014 into four quarters. You can sign up for courses six weeks before the start of that respective quarter. 12 to 16 PhD-students can participate in a particular course. Places are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Four weeks before start of the course, your registration is considered as binding. You can also find detailed information about individual courses and the application procedure at:

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

Please only use the following email address for registration: [ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de).  
Please consider the applicable registration procedure.

### 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 ([www.uni-goettingen.de/en/365991.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/365991.html)):

Date	Topic	Referent
28.04.2014	Zwischen Lehre und Promotion: Zeit haben und nehmen	Dr. Jutta Wergen
26./27.05.2014	Zielsicher und stimmig Gespräche steuern in Seminaren und Sprechstunden	Monika Hülskemper
20.06.2014	„...plötzlich lehren!“ Meine Rolle als Lehrende/r	Angelika Thielsch

## Sponsorships

The Göttingen Graduate School of Social Sciences provides funding and scholarships for PhD-students of social sciences. The respective measures will be published 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
GGG Family Grant	4 – 6 months	30.06.14	€ 1,200 - 1,300 per month	PhD-students with children under the age of twelve or who look after care-dependent family members and therefore need time for finishing their PhD
Research Assistantships	3 months at 20 h	30.06.14	€ 308 x 3 months WHK	Foreign PhD-students who carry out a three-monthly research project
Grants for practical work	several weeks	June 2014	Maximum € 400	Master students who prepare a research project in cooperation with SMEs
Grants for practical research	up to 6 months	June 2014	Funding of a scientific assistant position of about 25%	PhD-students who do a research project in cooperation with SMEs
Travel allowance for attendance at an international conference	flexible	June 2014	Maximum € 400 (EU) or € 800 (non-EU) per funding	PhD-students who broaden their key qualifications by participating in a conference abroad
Summer school	flexible	flexible	Depending on available resources	PhD-students who would like to attend an international summer school that offers direct benefit for their PhD thesis
Forum of PhD-students	flexible	flexible	Depending on expenditure	PhD-students who want to network in a professional context

## On our own account

Please note especially that enrollment for the current courses is already possible since February 17. There are free places left for some courses of the GGG for which you can register at [ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de).

This newsletter is published quarterly. It is available to the PhD-students and supervisors of the Faculty of Social Sciences as well as to all interested parties. The newsletter is provided online ([www.uni-goettingen.de/de/aktuelles/42253.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/aktuelles/42253.html)). You can also obtain it by e-mail. The next newsletter will be published on May 19, 2014.

This newsletter is supposed to inform you about fundamental issues regarding doing a PhD, contribute to a closer contact between you and the GGG team and thus help you to be informed in time about the offers of the graduate school. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact our team (see last page of the newsletter). Of course, you can also find additional information regarding the different projects online.

## News of the GGG

### New contact person at the Helpdesk for International PhD-students

For almost six years, Anne Wiese has been the contact person for PhD-students from abroad, has facilitated their start, established contacts, answered questions and organized excursions as well as get-together. Since Anne Wiese has now successfully finished her own PhD thesis and immediately obtained a new position, the new person at the Helpdesk will be starting in April.

The Helpdesk will continue and extend the present offer. Among other things, we plan to create a brochure covering the first steps as a PhD in Göttingen. From April on, you will find further information at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/58616.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/58616.html)

### Mentoring – a success story

Since 2013, the GGG offers several mentoring programs together with the mentoring coordination unit and the Graduate School of Humanities. Besides the established Dorothea Schlözer Program for women who aim at leading positions in science, there is now also mentoring for all PhD-students and Post-Docs who intend to work in companies (KaWirMento) or in science management (WeWiMento). Both formats have been well accepted. A special success was the networking of mentees with experienced mentors from enterprises and the university. The next applications will be possible in August 2014 (for Schlözer mentoring), in October 2014 (for KarWirMento) and in January 2015 (for WeWiMento). [www.uni-goettingen.de/mentoring](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/mentoring)

## At a glance

### Seminar for lecturers “Working in international Classrooms”

!! New Date: Monday, May 5, 2014, 10:00-17:45 / Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 9:00-13:00 !!

The seminar analyses diverse teaching and learning cultures and academic expectations in their complex and international settings. The interactive format of the seminar allows the participants to develop policies and techniques of teaching delivery, learning activities, intercultural classroom relations, assessment, and support strategies for their own international classrooms.

This seminar is part of the series of events “Gender & Diversity in Science” and addresses lecturers (especially of programs instructed in English).

Enrollment until April 21, 2014 and further information: [www.uni-goettingen.de/gender-diversity-science](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/gender-diversity-science)

### Next round of funding with Dorothea Schlözer Scholarships 2014

Also in 2014, the university and the university medicine will award PhD and research scholarships to particularly qualified junior scientists. Application is carried out via an online portal and is possible from March 1 to May 31, 2014. Beginning of funding will be October 10, 2014. Detailed information can be found at: [www.uni-goettingen.de/de/122481.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/122481.html)

### Start-up consulting of the Göttingen University

You are looking for information regarding self-employment, are thinking about setting up business or did already do so? The consultancy service for start-ups provides advice and support with regards to creating business plans as well as preparing talks with investors. For additional information, contact addresses as well as for a registration form for counseling, please visit: [www.uni-goettingen.de/existenzgruendung](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/existenzgruendung)

### Survey on career development

You have already finished your PhD successfully or this milestone of your career development is imminent? Then please participate in the online poll “ProWi+: Career development and career success of junior scientists” of the Department for Industrial/Organizational and Social Psychology of the Technische Universität Braunschweig and learn how you can organize your career successfully and healthy. Enroll at [www.prowi-studie.de](http://www.prowi-studie.de) and win one of ten vouchers worth 100 euros.

## Team

### Office Administration



**Dr. Bettina Roß**  
*Executive Direction*

Contact person for conceptions, PhD-programs, consulting, support for doctoral students, funding, and general questions.

Tel.: 0551 39 12417  
e-Mail: [bettina.ross@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:bettina.ross@uni-goettingen.de)



**Claudia Kohrell**  
*Financial Administration*

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

Tel.: 0551 39 10629  
e-Mail: [claudia.kohrell@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:claudia.kohrell@uni-goettingen.de)



**Dr. Manuel Thiel**  
*Project Consultance*

Contact person for measures of qualification, public relations, and general questions.

Tel.: 0551 39 10952  
e-Mail: [manuel.thiel@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:manuel.thiel@uni-goettingen.de)



**Dr. Kristin Schröder**  
*PhD-Funding Guidance*

Contact person for providing advice for individual PhD-funding.

Tel.: 0551 39 20449  
e-Mail: [kristin.schroeder@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:kristin.schroeder@uni-goettingen.de)

### SME-Network of the GGG



**Jaqui Dopfer**  
*Coordination SME-Network*

Contact person for business contacts, travel grants, and additional measures of the SME-Network.

Tel.: 0551 39 10646  
e-Mail: [jaqui.dopfer@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:jaqui.dopfer@uni-goettingen.de)



**Christina Qaim**  
*Coordination SME-Network*

Contact person for business contacts, courses, and additional measures of the SME-Network.

Tel.: 0551 39 10630  
e-Mail: [christina.qaim@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:christina.qaim@uni-goettingen.de)

### International Helpdesk of the GGG



**New contact person in April 2014**  
*International Helpdesk*

Support for international PhD-students, organization of intercultural events.

## Publishing Information

### 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)

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### SME-Network of the GGG

e-Mail: [kmu-netzwerk@uni-goettingen.de](mailto:kmu-netzwerk@uni-goettingen.de)  
Internet: [www.kmu-netzwerk.uni-goettingen.de](http://www.kmu-netzwerk.uni-goettingen.de)