

Content

Dear PhD-students, Supervisors and Project Partners,

the year is coming slowly to an end, the days are shorter and more tranquil. Nevertheless, in the present newsletter, the GGG still announces many news and activities for 2013.

We wish you an interesting reading and some relaxed final weeks of 2013!

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Your GGG-Team

Election of the new PhD representatives starts now!

The PhD representatives speak up for the needs and ideas of the PhD-students and thus contribute to the work of the graduate school as well as to the development of the university. Now, the candidates present themselves, so that you can make a good choice during the election period between the 18th of November and 4th of December 2013.

The PhD spokesperson of the GGG represents the interests of the PhD-students in the field of social sciences within and beyond Göttingen University. The spokesperson has a full right to vote in the management board of the GGG and is involved in the central planning and organization processes for the GGG activities. He/She is the contact person for the very heterogeneous group of PhD-students and can bring their concerns and wishes to the attention of the faculty and the general public. The PhD representation consists of a spokesperson and his/her deputy and is annually elected by the PhD-students.

Examples of recent improvements achieved by the PhD representatives include the better funding opportunities for PhD-students, the improved advisory services of the GGG, the comprehensive English translation of all general information as well as the GGG website, the establishment of PhD representatives in the faculties and the very close cooperation between the respective PhD representatives and the GGG-team.

For further information about the elections, please refer to the GGG website: www.uni-goettingen.de/de/447778.html.

All PhD-students that are doing their PhD at one of the 5 member faculties as well as the students of the PhD programs accepted by the GGG are entitled to vote (www.ggg.uni-goettingen.de/programs).

The elections are held online. The access data is sent to you by email. If you do not receive any email with access data between 18th and 20th of November, please check your spam and get in touch with the GGG.

Candidates for the election of the new PhD representative

About

Sebastian Hübers

I do my PhD at the Faculty of Social Sciences in Sociology. In my PhD, I'm analyzing the career paths of female and male university leaderships. Above all, I'm looking at how their careers have been set up – by chance or on purpose – and how recruitment decisions in science are (really) being taken and reasons why there are still so few women in top positions in science. I studied Political Science with a focus on the EU, Sociology and Newer English Literature at the University of Tübingen and passed a nice study year in Pisa (Italy).

Information about the candidature of Sebastian Hübers

In my PhD I'm analyzing closely the structure of university as an organization and what influence this structure has on the career paths and possibilities in science. It is a fact that taking a career in science is a very strenuous and difficult path to take in Germany, today. I would like to represent

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the PhD-students to improve our situation at the GGG. I would like to find answers and better solutions i. e. to the following questions: How can the employment situation of research assistants be improved? Which kind of funding and financial support for PhD-students should be enlarged? How can the support of the 'thesis committee' be improved and simplified? How can we enhance the networking and scientific exchange of PhD-students working in the same field of study coming from different disciplines? Besides trying to find better solutions to these questions, I would like to enlarge the program of qualification measures for PhD-students, e. g. offer courses about employment rights (in science, research or other fields of work) in Germany and possibilities to research and work in other countries (e. g. other EU member states, the USA, Canada or countries in Asia).

About

I am an interdisciplinary working PhD candidate at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences. In my project I focus on the topic of valuing nature in qualitative, quantitative and monetary ways.

Before my PhD I studied and worked at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, with focus on human ecology. I did my B.A. in social sciences at the Leibniz-University in Hanover.

Information about the candidature of Maraja Riechers

Due to my interdisciplinary work I would like to create more platforms for networking and discussion between the faculties, departments and groups. There is a lot to gain from collaborative research, especially for PhD-students. This networking could be on different levels including students,

Maraja Riechers

PhD-students and post-docs. Interdisciplinary connections do not only increase the quality of research and publications but also strengthen the position of PhD-students as it leads out of isolation.

Also, I would like to strengthen the position of PhD-students and their rights in face of conflicts with or high dependency on supervisors. The work of the current PhD representatives should be kept going to create a sense of coherence for the staff and students. Additionally, the current financial situation for many PhD-students is precarious. Many students face at least once the problem of financial insecurity – be it in the first semester, the publication period or for the full course of their PhD. When elected, I would like to see if there are possibilities to improve this situation. This may be possible by widening the information on available grants and increasing the help with grant writing or likewise.

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.

Presentation and Information at the SoWi GO! on 19th of November 2013

On this years SoWi GO!, you can get information about the options and framework conditions of doctoral studies in the field of social sciences. On Tuesday, 19th of November, at 02.00 p.m., the GGG will offer an information session for PhD-students with a subsequent question session from 03.00 to 03.45 p.m. www.uni-goettingen.de/de/193334.html

Presentation and information at the career day of the Faculty of Law on 4th of December 2013

At the fourth career day of the Faculty of Law, the GGG together with the dean's office offers a keynote speech about the framework conditions, offers and perspectives of doctoral studies in the field of law. The presentation by Susanne Herrmann (dean's office), Alper Tasdelen (PhD-student), Kristin Schöder (GGG) and Bettina Roß (GGG) is scheduled from 11.00 to 12.00 a.m. During the whole career day, the GGG will also answer questions about your coming or ongoing doctoral studies at its own stand. www.myjobfair.de/index.php?page_id=277

Consultation hours for female students and PhD candidates

In a personal conversation with Prof. Dr. Christine Langenfeld (director of the Institut für Öffentliches Recht of the Faculty of Law and member of the GGG management board), female students and PhD candidates are informed about chances, barriers and strategies for equal access to sciences. In the winter term 2013/2014, the consultation hours are scheduled on Wednesdays between 10.00 and 12.00 a.m. Please register first in the secretary's office of Prof. Langenfeld (enomiko@gwdg.de, Tel.: 0551/397384) www.uni-goettingen.de/de/222407.html

10th of December: PraxisForum – Speed-Dating with Businesses (Registration by 24th November 2013)

PhD-students and chair representatives, with good command of spoken German, who want to build up a connection between their work and the regional economy, are given the opportunity to talk to business representatives. Conversation topics are agreed in advance. Everybody interested is invited cordially. Please register online for this event by 24th November 2013 by sending an e-mail to kmu-netzwerk@uni-goettingen.de. Further information will be provided on the following website: www.kmu-netzwerk.uni-goettingen.de.

Qualification

From now on, new courses for 2014 are available online

For an overview of the courses for PhD-students in 2014 offered by the GGG and cooperating institutions, please refer to www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de. The annual printed course booklet for 2014 is sent to you in January and will then also be available online.

Our courses in the first quarter of 2014

From now on, you can register for the following courses of the first quarter by sending an e-mail to: ggg.kursanmeldung@uni-goettingen.de. For detailed information on our courses and on additional courses for PhD-students for 2014 offered by cooperating institutions, please go to: www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de.

Date	Topic	Referent
13.02. + 14.02.2014	Die eigenen Stärken überzeugend präsentieren – Bewerbungsstrategien für die Wissenschaft	Dr. Margarete Hubrath
19.02. + 26.02.2014	Intercultural Training	Prof. Dr. Gardenia Alonso
28.02. + 21.03. + 09.05.2014	Zeit- und Selbstmanagement während der Promotion und der Zeit danach	Dr. Sabine Hoier
17.03. - 20.03.2014	Regression with R	Nadja Klein / Alexander Sohn

And that is how it works: The GGG divides the year into four quarters. You can register for courses six weeks before the start of a new quarter. Every workshop can be attended by 10 to 16 PhD-students. We have a „first come, first serve“ policy. Four weeks before the course starts, your registration will be considered as binding. Detailed information about the courses and the registration procedure can be found at:

www.qualiportal-promovierende.uni-goettingen.de

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

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

In addition, we would like to draw your attention to the following courses of the division for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education of the University of Göttingen, which are specially addressed to PhD-students:

Date	Topic	Referent
27.01. + 28.01.2014	Und plötzlich soll ICH sagen was richtig ist... vom Rat-suchen zum Beraten	Dr. Jutta Wergen
17.02. + 18.02.2014	Stressfrei in die Lehre starten	Dr. Christiane-Maria Drühe

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

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	15.01.2014	€ 1,200 - € 1,300 / month	PhD-students with children under the age of 12 or who care for other family-related persons while they are completing their dissertation
Team Teaching	WS 2013 / 2014	15.01.2014	½ lectureship plus training	PhD-students who want to enhance their lecturing competencies in practice together with an experienced lecturer as well as by training
WeWiMento	1 year (starting in April 2014)	End of January 2014	Mentoring, courses	PhD-students and post docs who are interested in a profession in scientific management
Summer school	flexible	flexible	depending on available resources	PhD-students who would like to attend an international summer school with a direct reference to their PhD thesis
Forum for PhD-students	flexible	flexible	depending on expenditure	PhD-students who are looking for networking opportunities
Grants for practical work	several weeks	flexible	maximum € 400 each	M.A.-students who are working on a research project in cooperation with SMEs
Grants for practical research	up to 6 months	flexible	funding of a scientific assistant position of about 25%	PhD-students who are conducting a research project in cooperation with SMEs
Travel expenses grant for an international conference	flexible	Conference travel	maximum € 400 or € 800 per funding	PhD-students who broaden their key qualifications by participating in a conference abroad

On our own account

Please be aware that all coming courses are open for registration after the publication of this newsletter: From now on, PhD-students can register for the courses offered by the GGG in the first quarter of 2014.

This newsletter is published quarterly and is available to all 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) or you can order it by email.

The next newsletter will be published on 17th February 2014.

This newsletter is supposed to provide information about the basic questions of writing a PhD-thesis, as well as to develop and maintain a closer contact between you and the GGG-team. Hence, it enables an easy and flexible access to all courses and events of the graduate school. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact our team (see last page of the newsletter) or the persons in charge of the various projects, which can be accessed online.



News of the GGG

Evaluation of the GGG

The evaluation of the measures and achievement of objectives of the GGG is running at full speed at the moment (please see newsletter 01|2013 for background information). The multifaceted results of the late summer online survey with PhD-students and supervisors about their satisfaction and wishes are currently analyzed and will be published at the beginning of 2014 (e.g. in the newsletter). Furthermore, the existing measures were discussed in an expert hearing on 7th November in which external experts as well as PhD-students, the university's president, the deans, the dean of studies, the management board and the employees of the GGG participated. Among other things, it became apparent that the GGG is very successful regarding its service orientation as well as its offered qualification programs and sponsorships. In addition, needs for improvement were revealed, e.g., regarding the integration of external PhD-students, the support of international PhD-students, professors, and the support of PhD supervisors. Besides, supporting the career progress of PhD-students – e.g. by establishing contacts between PhD-students and local enterprises via the SME-network of the GGG – also turned out to be an important field of work that should be developed further in the near future.

The discussion on the future tasks of the GGG and the co-operation between the GGG and the faculties will be continued during the next months, with the aim of further increasing our members' satisfaction with the GGG.

New mentoring schemes for PhD-students

The GGG supports PhD-students on their preparation for different university-internal or external career paths. In addition to

the existing course program, since 2013, the GGG in cooperation with the mentoring coordination office offers several mentoring schemes for a career in sciences, in scientific management and for the first steps in a private business environment (for detailed information please see newsletter 03|2013). The mentoring schemes are all created for one year. For next year, the schemes are advertised again. For background information and application deadlines, please refer to the website of the mentoring scheme: www.uni-goettingen.de/mentoring.

New PhD-student forum of the GGG

The East Asia Research Salon is a venue for PhD-students in the field of East Asian Studies to meet, network and show their work. It brings together a new generation of young scholars and established researchers to create a vibrant hub of scholarly exchange and collaboration. The Salon provides PhD-students with the opportunity to present their work to senior faculty members and one another. Participants will receive feedback on their dissertations from participating senior scholars, faculty members and peers. The CeMEAS East Asia Research Salons are small group gatherings taking place 3-4 times per semester. They are hosted by a young and inspiring faculty member. The Salon wishes to develop an intellectual environment for spirited debate and mutual exchange of ideas in the field of East Asian Studies. <http://cemeas.de/east-asia-research-salon/>

The East Asia Research Salon is a PhD-student forum supported by the GGG which aims to build up a network of small groups of PhD-students. If you want to create such a forum yourself, please contact the GGG-team. For more information, please refer to: www.uni-goettingen.de/en/351999.html.

At a glance

Series of events, 'Obstructive states' (Behindernde Zustände)

Obstructive States – is the title of a series of events titled 'All equally different?! Diversity in theory and practice' („Alle Gleich Anders?! Diversity in Theorie und Praxis"). The presentations and workshops of the series all critically discuss fundamental concepts and terminology, provide legal explanations or even give concrete impulses to avoid obstructive states in a university environment. www.uni-goettingen.de/diversity-vortragsreihe

Dorothea Schlözer Programme

The term for the next application round of the Dorothea Schlözer Qualification Programme for doctoral and post-doctoral researchers starts in December 2013. The program will start on the end of February 2014. For details about the program and the application procedures, please refer to: www.uni-goettingen.de/de/122340.html

Events for international students and PhD candidates

Goettingen International offers many opportunities for PhD-students to build up a network with foreign or German students as well as PhD candidates, to exchange and experience other cultures. Among other things, there are workshops, information evenings on different countries and opportunities to explore the regions of Lower Saxony and Bremen. For information and contact addresses, please go to: www.uni-goettingen.de/de/165133.html

EU starts a new funding program (2014-2020)

On 1st of January 2014, the European Union (EU) starts a new funding program for the fields of research, education and regional development. The EU wants to put into practice the aims of its growth strategy 'Europe 2020' using several funding programs. The team of the EU Office of the University of Göttingen is available for personal advice. <http://eubuero.uni-goettingen.de>

Team

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Publishing Information

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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

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