

newsletter



DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
German Academic Exchange Service

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the new issue of DAAD newsletter. From this issue on, our newsletter will have a brand new design which we hope you will enjoy. If you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know.

As most of the deadlines for DAAD PhD and research funding are coming up in October, we want to take a closer look on Germany's higher education and research landscape and the different ways to apply for a doctorate in Germany.

Germany's Research Landscape

Germany is one of the world's most attractive centres of higher education: some 235,000 foreigners study here. That means that more than one in ten students holds an international passport and Germany is the most important host country for international students – after the USA and the UK.

Doctorates – Germany Ranks First in Europe

USA	56,067
Germany	24,946
UK	16,456
Japan	15,979
France	9,818
Italy	9,604

An international comparison of completed doctorates in the OECD countries (in absolute terms, 2006), source: OECD

The German higher education landscape stands out because of the close cooperation between universities, research institutions and industry. Research institutions and business enterprises come together at the regional level in “excellence clusters” to pool their innovative force. That is also why Germany is one of the leading countries in innovative, forward-looking research fields such as **environmental technology** and **nanotechnology**. This applies to research and industry: for example, Germany ranks third in relation to patent registrations in nanotechnology and fourth in nanoscientific publications. In the environmental field, Germany holds a leading position among the OECD countries in terms of the proportion of



gross domestic product spent on research and development. German universities also enjoy great international recognition in the **humanities** and **social sciences**.

Doing a doctorate is an investment in the future

A doctorate is a decision for life, an investment in the future – but also a time-consuming challenge that needs to be given careful consideration. A doctorate demands a great deal of energy, discipline and perseverance. In Germany some 25,000 graduates successfully complete the doctoral process every year – far more than in any other European country. And increasing numbers of up-and-coming international researchers are coming to Germany to write their doctoral dissertations, to complete their doctorates as members of research teams: since 1997 the number of foreigners registered as doctoral students in Germany has more than doubled to just under 17,000.

For further information about Germany's research landscape please see: www.research-in-germany.de

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Research Explorer



The Research Explorer contains over 17,000 institutes at German universities and non-university research institutions, searchable by name, geographic location, subject and other structural criteria.

Download PDFs of:

- [Doing a Doctorate](#)



- [FAQs Preparing Your Research Stay in Germany](#)



- [German Research Institutions At a Glance](#)



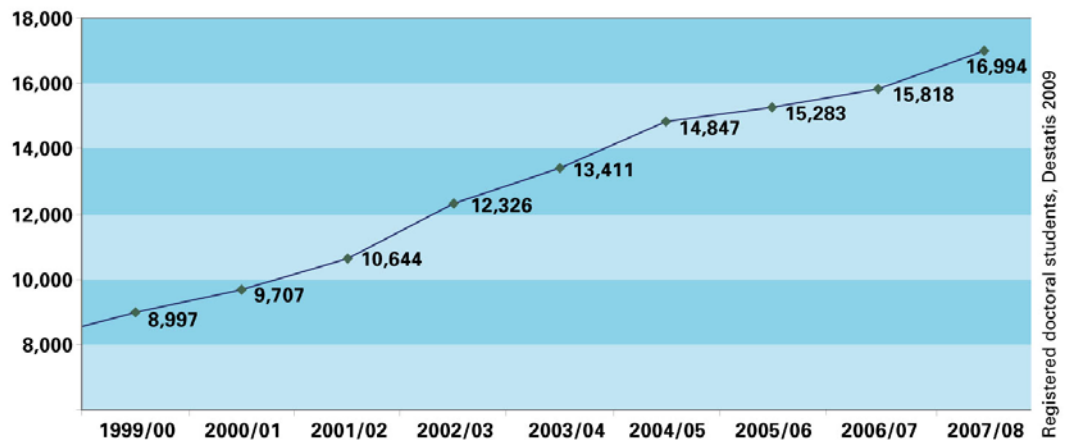
- [PhD Application Guide for Hong Kong and Macau](#)

You may also pick up these brochures at our DAAD Office!

[DAAD International Doctoral Programmes Search Engine](#)

allow interested students to narrow their searches by indicating 'field of study', 'subject', 'town', 'type of institution', 'language' etc. Search results give an extensive description of the matching programme.

Increasing Numbers of International Doctoral Students in Germany



FAQ 1: How can I apply for a doctorate (PhD) in Germany?

If you decide to do a doctorate in Germany, you need to have completed your academic studies up to master's level with above average grades. To gain a doctorate you can choose between two different approaches.

The **traditional doctorate** (apprentice model) requires the student to find a supervisor first, before he can start with the doctoral dissertation, which he completes very much on his own. Most of the students in Germany are still gaining their doctorate via this path. The traditional doctorate usually does not require compulsory attendances, deadlines and binding curriculum and it therefore calls for a great deal of personal initiative.

The **structured doctorate** is embedded in the framework of a structured programme, offered by German universities and research organizations such as Max Planck Institutes or German Research Foundation. You will find the list of structured programmes by looking up the [DAAD search-engine](#) or the respective DAAD brochure "International doctoral programmes in Germany".

For more detailed information please download the brochure: [Doing a doctorate in Germany](#) or contact us directly.

FAQ 2: Can I do research outside the university sector of Germany?

You can. Various kinds of institutions provide opportunities for doing research. Traditionally, the universities form the backbone of Germany's science and research system, while major non-university research organizations, such as the [Max Planck Society](#), [Helmholtz Association](#), [Leibniz Association](#), and [Fraunhofer Gesellschaft](#) provide another pillar of German research. Besides these major play

ers, industrial research and development also plays a key role in Germany, as do the universities of applied sciences (Fachhochschulen).

For a more extensive list and information on research organizations in Germany please see the research-in-germany-website [here](#).

Professor Sabine Kunst elected new DAAD President

On the 1st July, Professor Dr.-Eng. Dr. Sabine Kunst assumed office as President of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The DAAD Members' Meeting, had elected the 55-year-old President of the University of Potsdam by a large majority. Thus a woman is heading the DAAD for the first time.



Copyright: Sören Stachte

DAAD President Kunst calls for cosmopolitan education: "International experience is vital to survival in times of globalization!"

At a press conference in Berlin, Sabine Kunst presented the focal points of her future work: "I look forward to heading the largest organization for academic exchange and academic co-operation world-wide. In the course of globalisation, international experience and, therefore, cosmopolitan education are becoming virtually vital to survival. Our aim ought to be that at least 50 percent of German students go abroad for a while during their studies and, also, that the numbers of foreign students and academics at German higher education institutions grow steadily."

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[EURAXESS Germany](#)



[Research-in-Germany](#)



[DAAD Hong Kong & Macau Website—Scholarship Page](#)

Visit our page, which specializes in scholarships offered to students and researchers from Hong Kong/ Macau. Please contact us directly if you have any questions concerning application.

Sabine Kunst is optimally prepared for the coming tasks: She first of all studied biology and political science and did her doctorate in environmental technology in the field of civil engineering and surveying. During numerous projects and research stays overseas, including in China, South Africa, Mexico and Brazil, she experienced just how important the political framework conditions and the public acceptance of the implementation and effectiveness of projects are, in addition to improved technologies. This was why she did a doctorate in political science as well, concluding her studies with a thesis on the topic of the field of tension between technology assessment and interdisciplinarity in 1990.

After two years in office as Vice-president of the University of Hanover for Teaching, Studies, Further Education and International Affairs, she was elected President of the University of Potsdam in January 2007. Sabine Kunst is married with three grown-up children.

Scholarships and Grants

There is a wide and unique range of sponsoring options for PhD and research in Germany. Alongside large organizations such as the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the DAAD, up-and-coming scientists are also supported by numerous prominent foundations such as the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation or the VW Foundation. In addition, there are also individual programmes provided by universities and extramural research establishments.

DAAD Scholarships

DAAD is offering scholarships for long and short term research stay in Germany. Scholarships for BA or MA programmes are not

available. Please see the list of scholarships and grants in the [box](#) below. Note that the **deadline for application is usually around mid-october**, please check our [website](#) for the latest information and updates on application process or contact our DAAD staff.

Visit [our page](#) for:

- The most updated list of scholarships and grants
- Application form download
- Application checklist

Other Funding Organizations

For programmes offered by other funding organizations we suggest to visit www.research-in-germany.de. The portal provides an overview of research and funding opportunities in Germany. It also delivers the latest science and research news from Germany and information about upcoming events.

[EURAXESS Germany](#) is an information and advice point for internationally mobile researchers wishing to come to Germany. It is part of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. The objective of Euraxess Germany is to facilitate international mobility amongst scientists and scholars. It provides scholarships and grants information and in addition useful information on everything from residence legislation via social security to job offers.

Should you have any enquiries concerning non-DAAD funded programmes, please contact the person/ organization named in the programme description directly.

DAAD Scholarships and Grants for students and researchers in Hong Kong/ Macau:

- Research Grants for Doctoral Candidates and Young Academics and Scientists
- Research Stays for University Academics and Scientists
- Re-invitation Programme for Former DAAD Scholarship Holders
- University Summer Courses for University Students (only advanced German level)
- Scholarships for Artists and Architects: Study Scholarships
- Study Visits/ Study Seminars and Practicals in Germany for Groups of Foreign Students
- Practical Traineeships for Foreign Students of Natural and Technical Sciences, Agriculture and Forest (IAESTE)
- Bilateral DAAD Programmes for Co-operative Research Grants (PPP) (**Hong Kong**)
- Croucher Foundation Scholarship (**Hong Kong**)

Advertised Programmes

Academic courses at Freie Universität Berlin International Summer and Winter University (FUBiS) – term I, II

FUBiS is an intensive and rigorous international program, which runs for 4 to 6 weeks and takes place both in summer and winter.

Click [here](#) for more.

MA Chinese-European Economics and Business Studies now successfully accredited

Hochschule für
Wirtschaft und Recht Berlin
Berlin School of Economics and Law



A limited number of places is still available for the intake of October 2010. For more information please visit our [MA CEEBS programme website](#)

Fellowship Offers from German Universities and Research Organizations***PhD Fellowships in Elementary Particle Physics*****International Max Planck Research School on Elementary Physics (Theoretical, Experimental and Cosmological Frontiers)**

This is a joint initiative of the Max Planck Institute of Physics (Werner Heisenberg Institute) and the particle and astroparticle Physics groups of the Ludwig Maximilian University Munich (LMU) and the Technical University Munich (TUM). Research fields covered by the School from both an experimental and theoretical perspective include high energy particle physics, neutrino physics and neutrino astrophysics, supersymmetry, string theory, physics and technology of particle detectors, dark matter, cosmic rays, and weak interaction physics are just a few examples of the range of topics under investigation. The students' own research is supplemented by an accompanying lecture program. Regular seminars, workshops, and other joint events serve to broaden the intellectual horizon, stimulate interaction between IMPRS members, and provide valuable background knowledge on topics beyond the students' own research project.

Application Deadline: 29th October 2010

Please visit [this page](#) for more information.

2 Fellowships for Visiting Post-Doctoral Researchers in Geoinformatics

The Institute of Geoinformatics at the University of Münster offers two fellowships for visiting post-doctoral researchers for 3 to 6 months between October 2010 to July 2011, for a lump sum of 3000 Euros per month each. Candidate from all over the world and with interdisciplinary backgrounds will be considered, if they demonstrate potential to engage in innovative research together with ifg researchers and students.

Application Deadline: 31st August 2010

Please visit [this page](#) for more information.

**Facebook Group for Scholarship Updates**

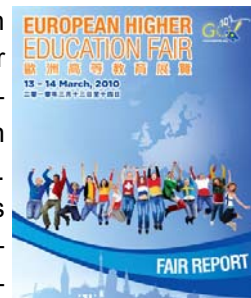
To ensure efficient distribution of scholarship information, a Facebook page has been set up by our colleagues from DAAD Information Centre Kuala Lumpur. Through this page, you will be informed immediately when new scholarships or postings are available.

Keep yourself updated by clicking [here](#).

For the most updated scholarship offers, visit the above [Scholarship Facebook Page](#).

EHEF Fair Report Now Available Online

The 10th European Higher Education Fair Hong Kong was successfully held on 13th and 14th March 2010. Over 5,100 visitors came to seek for information on study opportunities in Europe. 52 universities from 13 European countries displayed their study programmes and discussed admission requirements. The complete fair report is now available online, you can download it [here](#).



EHEF 2011 will be held on 12th –13th March 2011. Stay close and do not miss out on the chance to meet with higher education institutions from all over Europe!

Past DAAD Events**Study Abroad in Germany, Pre-departure Briefing**

Date: Tuesday, 8th June 2010

Time: 6:00 p.m.— 8:00 p.m.

Venue: Run Run Shaw Building, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Like every year DAAD organized a Pre-Departure Briefing session for students who are planning to go for study or research to Germany in the coming academic year. With the support of the German Consulate General Hong Kong, the CUHK and the GAAHK, almost 60 students had the chance to meet and talk to alumni and experts who have been to

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Our speakers at the briefing includes Ms. Kerstin Strelow, Dr Robert P. Biuk-Aghai and Dr. Roland Vogt



Three Alumni shared their experience with students.



Students listening attentively to the speakers' presentation.



Students tasting German specialties while exchanging ideas.

Germany and get first-hand information about living and studying in Germany. The possibility to taste German food specialties was particularly welcomed by the participants. On occasion of the event, **3 students had been interviewed by the local Newspaper Oriental Daily** about their experiences in Germany. Please read the excerpts below:

Headline: Study in Germany Experience European Civilization

Lucia, PhD in Gynecology at Chinese University of Hong Kong

With the assistance from her professor, Lucia has successful applied for DAAD Research Scholarship for her research stay in Berlin. Lucia believed studying in Germany has a lot of advantages. "...it is indeed a great opportunity to work with international experts. Germans are renowned for being earnest and meticulous at work, this is very admirable from them. On the other hand, Europe has a slower pace as compared to Hong Kong, people like to gather and talk to each other during their free time, while at work, they are very diligent. Their balancing of work and play is something Hong Kong people should learn from."

Ding, Master of European Studies at University of Hong Kong

Ding chose to spend an exchange year in Germany to improve his language skills when he was in Year 3. "Universities in Germany use German as the chief language for instruction, this is extremely helpful when you want to pick up a language. It might be a bit difficult in the beginning, but the more you expose yourself to the language, such as watching local TV programs, going to the cinema and talking to the local people, you'll soon be amazed by the improvements you made in just 4 to 5 months."

Jeffrey, BSc European Studies Year 3 at Hong Kong Baptist University

Jeffrey spent his summer in Germany last year, attending a short-term course, and was deeply impressed by what he had experienced. He will be spending another exchange



Oriental Daily (E8)
Date: 24th June 2010

year in Cologne very soon. He finds Germany a country with magnificent sceneries and excellent hygiene and he met friends from all over the world there. "My classmates come from Israel, Portugal, etc. I have learnt more about coping with people from different countries and to understand their cultures. This is hardly possible in Hong Kong. With the great number of foreign companies in Hong Kong, it is of great career advantage, if one has lived abroad and is able to communicate with different people."

Click [here](#) to read the full article.

Other Events

German Film Forum: April-September 2010/ Real Life on Screen

German with English subtitling
Venue: Hong Kong Film Archive, Cinema HK\$50/25 at URBTIX outlets
For details, please click [here](#).

- **Addicted to Acting**
Friday, 27th Aug 2010, 8:00 p.m.
- **2 or 3 Things I Know About Him**
Friday, 24th Sept, 2010, 8:00 p.m.

Send us an email and tell us that
>> [I have changed my e-mail address.](#)
>> [I want to stop the subscription.](#)
If you have any questions concerning the above, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Consultation

At DAAD Office:

Monday 5pm-8pm
Tuesday 10am-12noon

Or by appointment
Monday-Friday 10am-6pm

The DAAD Information Centre is closed on public holidays of the Hong Kong SAR.

Monthly Consultation at Goethe Institute (Wanchai, HK Arts Centre, 14/F):

First Monday of each month 7pm-8pm

*Please note that there are **NO** monthly consultation in July and August

Contact details see p.1