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**Technische Universität Berlin**

## Newsletter International Affairs No. 3 II/2020



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### **Digitalization and internationalization**

The topics of digitalization and internationalization are omnipresent today in higher education. A number of projects dedicated to both these cross-cutting topics have been running at TU Berlin over the past months. We would like to provide you with a brief overview of these in this edition of our newsletter. [\[more...\]](#)

### **California dreaming? You no longer have to dream!**

Student Mobility & International Students is just the place for anyone who has ever dreamt of living and studying in California. For more than 20 years we have been helping TU Berlin students to spend one semester, a quarter or an entire academic year at one of the campuses of the University of California. [\[more...\]](#)

### **Seven projects receive TU funding for cooperation with partners in the Global South**

This year's seed funding for establishing and developing cooperation with partners in the Global South has been awarded to seven applicants from different faculties at TU Berlin. The winning proposals seek to contribute to international academic cooperation as well as the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. [\[more...\]](#)

### **TU Berlin-FAPESP joint funding line**

A joint funding agreement was signed in March 2020 by Professor Angel Ittel, vice president for strategic development, junior scholars, and teacher education at TU Berlin, and representatives of FAPESP, the research foundation of the federal state of São Paulo in Brazil. [\[more...\]](#)

## **Calls**

### **Overview of DAAD program calls**

**Deadline: see program details.** Overview of current DAAD program calls beginning 1 April. Available as PDF for specific target groups via the linked page.

### **Various calls with a focus on the Global South**

**Deadline: see individual call.** International Projects regularly publishes internal and external calls for cooperations with Global South countries on its website.

### **Erasmus+ remaining places for summer semester 2021**

**Deadline: 30.06.2020.** Students can apply now for remaining Erasmus+ places for study stays at TU Berlin's European partner universities.

### **Berlin Center for Global Engagement - Inaugural Call 2020**

**Deadline: 30.06.2020.** Pilot seed funding call of the Berlin Center for Global Engagement. Funding will be

available for interdisciplinary cooperations with partners in the Global South involving the institutions of the Berlin University Alliance.

### PROMOS scholarships for students

**Deadline: 31.07.2020** Students can apply now for **PROMOS scholarships** for study stays, language/short courses and final theses in non-European countries.

### FAPESP-TU Berlin SPRINT call 2/2020

**Deadline: postponed until end of October.** As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the first FAPESP-TU Berlin joint call has been pushed back to the 3/2020 funding round. Publication date: end of July.

### Upcoming events

**01./03./05.06.2020 | 10:30-13:00 | online** **Open window week of the DAAD office in Rio de Janeiro** The DAAD in Rio de Janeiro together with German universities and research organizations provides online advice on studying and research in Germany and options for learning German.

**4.06. 11:00-12:30, 10.06.2020 10:30-12:00 | online** **Webinar on the Berlin Center of Global Engagement's pilot call** The Webinar introduces the Berlin University Alliance's Center for Global Engagement and answers questions relating to the pilot call. Registration required: bcge@berlin-university-alliance.de.

**online accessible at any time** **International Week** The full program for the International Week, offered in digital format for the first time as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, is available online.

**07.07.2020 | 09:00-13:00 | online** **Virtual Fair "Research in Germany"** Members of TU Berlin and other German universities and leading research funding societies advise international prospective researchers on research and career opportunities in Germany.

## Digitalization and internationalization

**STUDIERN WELTWEIT**  
im Rahmen der digitalen International Week

Digitales SoSe 20 - die International Week bei ISIS

Fakultätspezifische Informationen (I - VI) zu Studium und Praktikum im Ausland  
Finanzierung von Auslandsaufenthalten  
Anerkennung von Studienleistungen  
Studium in Lateinamerika  
Studium in Australien & Neuseeland  
Studium in Asien  
Studium in den USA & Kanada  
Bewerbungsfield Unser Bewerbungsleitfaden  
Studium im europäischen Ausland mit ERASMUS+  
Next East Internship - Praktikum im Ausland - ein Angebot des Career Service

**Für nächsten Bewerbungsfristen**

Australien, Neuseeland, Argentinien, Brasilien, Chile  
14. Nov. 2020

Erasmus+ Resitzplätze  
30. Juni 2020

Erasmus  
31. Juli 2020

<https://bis.tu-berlin.de/course/veranstaltung/18709>

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The topics of digitalization and internationalization are omnipresent today in higher education. Both aspects including how they relate to each other need to be incorporated into the organization of teaching, research and administrative procedures.

A number of projects dedicated to both these cross-cutting topics have been running at TU Berlin over the past months. We will be presenting these topics in our future newsletter series dedicated to digitalization and internationalization. We would like to start by providing you with a brief overview in this edition.

"**INSYSTED – Integrated System for European Digital Learning**" is an Erasmus+ funded project run by the Alliance4Tech (A4T) strategic partnership, consisting of the Politecnico di Milano, CentraleSupélec Paris, University College London and TU Berlin. The project was commenced in September 2019 with the aim of supporting virtual mobility for the Industrial Engineering and Management program through the development of a digital learning platform featuring online simulation games, MOOCs and learning communities.

Another alliance project is "**ide3a**" (International alliance for **d**igital **e**-learning, **e**-mobility and **e**-research in **a**cademia), funded as part of the DAAD's "International Mobility and Cooperation through Digitalization"

program. Working together with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Cracow University of Technology, Dublin City University and Politecnico di Milano, the Ide3a project seeks to develop a joint virtual campus for the promotion of e-learning, e-research and e-mobility.

TU Berlin is also involved in developing a platform for international mobility (PIM) together with RWTH Aachen, the University of Siegen, the Technical University of Munich, the University of Potsdam and uni.assist (project period: May 2020 – May 2021). This is intended to facilitate the administration of international mobility through the exchange of student data and module information.

The [digital campus project](#) funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (project period: February 2020 – January 2021) is aimed at international prospective students and focuses on a different aspect of internationalization and digitalization. Alliance partners Goethe Institute, DAAD, Kiron, g.a.s.t., TH Lübeck, RWTH Aachen and TU Berlin plan to develop a portal to inform and attract prospective students worldwide and to prepare them to study in Germany in terms of language, subject specialization and culture using a networked digital platform service.

Although the project is only just getting off the ground, we have discovered in recent weeks as a result of the situation brought about by COVID 19 that digitalization can actually often be implemented quicker than we had realized. An example of this is provided by the success of the virtual PhD and postdoc matchmaking program - originally scheduled as in-person meetings in Buenos Aires by the DAAD. The digital advisory sessions held by Dr. Jan an Haack, advisor for North and South America at TU Berlin, provided an effective way for prospective students and researchers from Argentina to find out about career and study options at TU Berlin. And TU Berlin's Liaison Office in Cairo successfully organized with FU Berlin, the Technical University of Munich and the Phillips Universität Marburg the first webinar for doctoral candidates in Egypt on the topic: "Your Postdoc Career in Germany – Opportunities for Outstanding Scientists". We are also delighted that we have been able to offer our annual International Week as an [online program](#), enabling us to continue to report on the University's international activities and offers throughout this period. The online offer was taken up by over 400 participants - a very gratifying number. The [photo competition](#) organized by Student Mobility & International Students was also run digitally: prizes were awarded to three images submitted by past TU outgoing students via Facebook.

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## California dreaming? You no longer have to dream!

Student Mobility & International Students is just the place for anyone who has ever dreamt of living and studying in California. For more than 20 years we have been helping TU Berlin students to spend one semester, a quarter or an entire academic year at one of the campuses of the University of California. TU students have the opportunity to apply for a place via the University of California Education Abroad Program (UCEAP) at one of the ten campuses, including world-renowned Berkeley and UCLA.

The UCEAP office in Goleta assigns students to one of the campuses on the basis of schedules and the applicant's academic statement. Students need to be aware, however, when applying that they may not get their first choice as more than 95% of all applicants wish to study at Berkeley. But being assigned to another campus is no reason to be sad! Our students' feedback shows that each campus offers a wonderful academic and personally enriching experience. Check out exchange student Yannic Scholtyssek's informative and entertaining [blog](#). Many of our other outgoing students also provide very positive impressions of their time in the USA in their "studying worldwide" reports.

Every five years the UCEAP office in Goleta and TU Berlin audit the program to decide how best to continue: Are the exchange numbers balanced? What has been working well? What do we need to change? The close cooperation between the UCEAP office and TU Berlin Summer University has played an important role in ensuring that the exchange agreement will be continued for a further years.

This cooperation has contributed greatly to the increased prominence of the program. Students from the USA in particular often prefer a summer school over an exchange semester. Waiving the fees for TU Summer University has meant we have been able to attract more UC students to TU Berlin and to develop this program alongside the regular exchange semester. This development has also directly benefited our outgoing students: Five years ago, TU Berlin sent just five students to California. In the 2019/20 academic year, this number had risen to 17. This development speaks for itself and we very much hope this trend will continue in the future so that many more TU students get to live their California dream.

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## Seven projects receive TU funding for cooperation with partners in the Global South



© United Nations

This year's seed funding for establishing and developing cooperation with partners in the Global South has been awarded to seven applicants from different faculties at TU Berlin. The winning proposals seek to contribute to international academic cooperation as well as the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. The funded projects will strengthen TU's work with the following countries: Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Colombia, India, Indonesia, South Africa and Thailand.

The selection committee chaired by vice president for strategic development, junior scholars, and teacher education Professor Dr. Angela Ittel was delighted to see that interest in cooperation with partners in the Global South remains high during the coronavirus epidemic. Fifteen proposals were submitted to this year's call. The inclusion of junior scholars is an important aspect of all the selected proposals. The entire funding volume of the call is EUR 30,000. Seed funding for cooperative undertakings with partners in the Global South is part of TU Berlin's strategy on global responsibility.

The projects address a wide spectrum of topics: The Chair for Urban Design and Urbanization is seeking to strengthen its cooperation with partners in Egypt by developing curricula in the area of urban planning. The Chair of Work, Technology and Participation focuses on working with colleagues in Ghana on the innovative development and local production of technical resources for health care. The Chair of Economic and Infrastructure Policy is using its seed funding to develop a link between Colombia and South Africa. Adopting a participative approach, the aim is to bring together relevant parties to achieve a phase-out of coal and a switchover to sustainable energy. Further projects focus on sustainable mobility in Africa, climate-friendly construction in informal urban areas in South-East Asia, child-friendly inclusive urban planning in India and wind energy in Colombia.

The projects are also being affected by the current situation and measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Travel will only be possible again when the travel and safety restrictions of the Federal Foreign Office and the measures and conditions in the country of destination permit. Digital formats will be developed whenever it is possible and makes sense to do so.

A [list of funded projects](#) is available on the website of International Projects. We will also be reporting there on the progress of the projects.

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TU Berlin-FAPESP joint funding line



© FAPESP

A joint funding agreement was signed in March 2020 by Professor Angel Ittel, vice president for strategic development, junior scholars, and teacher education at TU Berlin, and representatives of FAPESP, the research foundation of the federal state of São Paulo in Brazil. The agreement enables members of TU Berlin to apply for funding from the SPRINT program for mobility and cooperation initiations with researchers from the federal state of São Paulo. The call is open to researchers in all academic chairs. There is just one precondition: The Brazilian partners already have to be in receipt of funding from FAPESP. Approved projects receive funding of 5,000 euros from TU Berlin and FAPESP over a period of twelve months.

The start of the joint call has been pushed back due to the COVID-19 pandemic. TU Berlin and FAPESP plan to publish a second SPRINT call in 2020 at the end of July. Further details will be published on the [website of International Scientific Cooperation](#) from the end of July.

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