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Technische Universität Berlin

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Antarctic Expedition - Antenna Installation together with Argentine Researchers.
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Researchers from the Chair of Space Technology Install Antenna in Antarctica to Communicate with Satellites

Researchers from TU Berlin cooperate with UNSAM (Argentina) to build a ground control network for satellite communication. This field trip to the Argentine Antarctica base was co-financed by section International Scientific Cooperation. [\[more...\]](#)

New ERASMUS+ Project to foster Virtual Mobility

Alliance4Tech, a strategic partnership for student mobility between TU Berlin, Politecnico di Milano, CentraleSupélec Paris, and University College London, has secured 400,000 euros of funding from the European Commission for a new Erasmus+ project entitled "INSYSTEED – Integrated System for European Digital Learning". [\[more...\]](#)

Working with Partners in the Global South

Outstanding research and international cooperation are essential to achieve sustainable solutions to global challenges. In its Strategy on Global Responsibility, TU Berlin pledges to increase the level of its social and global commitment in its cooperation with developing and emerging countries. [\[more...\]](#)

Developing cooperation with Brazil and Argentina

In July 2019, International Scientific Cooperation welcomed a new member of staff with responsibility for North and South America. In October Dr. Jan an Haack made his first visit to Brazil and Argentina for the University. [\[more...\]](#)

Erasmus+ to promote cooperation and exchange worldwide

The Erasmus+ program has enabled TU Berlin to develop and strengthen its (research) cooperation with renowned partner institutions worldwide. For instance, in summer 2019, an Erasmus+ mobility from the University of Cape Town at TU Berlin led to significant advancements in a longstanding research project between the universities on the topic of 5G. [\[more...\]](#)

Recommendations for Conversion of Grades Now Online

The recognition of work completed within mobility programs is important for the quality of student exchange programs and significantly impacts the willingness of TU Berlin students to complete a period of study abroad. [\[more...\]](#)

Calls

Int. Trainings in Transferable Skills for Doctoral Candidates Deadline: 30.11.2019. The first

mindSET project training week will be held from 13-17 January 2020 at TU Berlin. Interested doctoral candidates in MINT disciplines can apply for the program.

Erasmus+ Call 2020 Deadline: February/March 2020 depending on funding instrument.

Information about the most relevant Erasmus+ Key Action 2 (cooperation in the field of higher education) funding instruments for TUB is available on the [website of International Projects](#).

HRK Expertise Internationalization: Peer-to-Peer Deadline: 06.12.2019.

The format promotes the peer-to-peer exchange of ideas for developing solutions for specific issues relating to internationalization. Applications are welcome from university representatives.

ERA.Net RUS Plus Deadline: 31.01.2020.

Long-term research collaboration in the field of research and innovation Science and Technology projects between EU Member States/Associated Countries and Russia.

Upcoming events

Save the date:

04.05. -

08.05.2020

International Week

For one week, we will focus on the entire range of the international activities and offers of TU Berlin with information events, workshops and lectures for all target groups.

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Researchers from the Chair of Space Technology Install Antenna in Antarctica to Communicate with Satellites



Antarctic Expedition - Antenna Installation together with Argentine Researchers.

© Martin von der Ohe

Researchers from TU Berlin cooperate with UNSAM (Argentinien) to build a ground control network for satellite communication. This field trip to the Argentine Antarctica base was co-financed by section International Scientific Cooperation. Travel Report by Sascha Kapitola and Martin Von der Ohe, Chair of Space Technology.

The Chair of Space Technology and the Instituto Colomb der Universidad Nacional de San Martín (UNSAM) in Buenos Aires have been cooperating to develop joint research and teaching in the field of space technology since 2017. After establishing initial contact at the TU-led IAA Symposium for Small Satellites on Earth Observation, a number of potential areas of cooperation were identified. Of particular interest was the development of a joint ground station network for satellite reception. Following the establishment of a ground station by Martin von der Ohe and Sascha Kapitola from the Chair of Space Technology working together with Professor Livio Gratton (UNSAM) in Buenos Aires in August 2018, a second station was planned for the Antarctic. Establishing a ground station at this location is of great interest for TU Berlin's satellite missions as polar reception times are significantly greater than at other locations around the Earth. Various stations were examined in terms of their accessibility, proximity to the pole as well as other factors before deciding for the San Martin Base. The antenna installation team was made up of members from both countries: Livio Gratton and Pablo Bernadi from Argentina and Martin von der Ohe and Sascha Kapitola from Germany.

The journey began with the flight to Buenos Aires where the equipment procured by the Argentinians was checked and the installation procedures were gone over. We also tried on clothing for the expedition and took care of final details. The start of the expedition was delayed by a few days but on 25 March the expedition plane took off for Ushuaia where our team was due to board the icebreaker Almirante to take us to our destination. The onward journey in the Antarctic was delayed still further, however, by the weather, providing an opportunity for further tests and training with the ship's crew.

The voyage via the Drake Passage then set sail on the night to the 1 April. The sea was relatively calm during the two days required for the journey and personnel and equipment arrived in good condition. Upon arrival, the first thing we did was visit the various stations of the Argentine Antarctic Institute to collect waste, deliver new food and drop off new staff for the coming winter. Then we headed on to the most southerly destination - the San Martin Base for the installation. Unfortunately, the weather had by this point delayed the journey to the point that there was only one day available for the installation rather than the three to five days planned. However, the installation training given to additional members of the ship's crew as well as the four team members in Ushuaia meant that it was possible to complete installation with 24 hours. No other TU Berlin satellite station (Spitzbergen, Berlin, Backnang, Buenos Aires) has been set up so quickly. During the night our

team was able to verify that the antennae were also functioning properly before heading off on the return journey the next day. The team took the icebreaker to the Eduardo Frei base before boarding the expedition to Rio Gallegos where they spent the night before heading on to Buenos Aires. The expedition equipment was returned and it was back to Germany.

The expedition lasted a total of 34 days and was of great benefit to both the Chair of Space Technology and those directly participating. TU Berlin now has its own ground station in the southern polar region which is still functioning perfectly after four months. It has survived the first winter storms which augurs well for a long period of operation. The team members from TU Berlin learned a great deal about teamwork, working on international projects and running an expedition and were able to share their knowledge and experience of satellite operation and antenna installation with the Argentinians. Everyone involved is looking forward to a long and successful cooperation.

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New ERASMUS+ Project to foster Virtual Mobility

Alliance4Tech (A4T), a student mobility strategic partnership of TU Berlin, Politecnico di Milano, CentraleSupélec Paris, and University College London, has secured 400,000 euros of funding from the European Commission. The funding has been provided for a new Erasmus+ project entitled "INSYSTED – Integrated System for European Digital Learning" which seeks to promote virtual mobility in the Industrial Engineering and Management degree program.

For the last four years, students of the four universities within A4T have enjoyed the option of studying at any or all of the universities as part of their two-year master's program. Not all students, however, are able to finance a semester abroad or wish to do one. And for those who do, a semester abroad is often just too short a time period to really consolidate newly established networks. To offer as many students as possible the opportunity to benefit from the advantages of the A4T network and to study without borders, the partner universities have now decided to launch the "INSYSTED – Integrated System for European Digital Learning" project.

At the heart of the project is the development of a digital learning platform. The overriding aim here is to enable teachers and students to work more effectively with intricate digital learning tools and to strengthen the digital interaction among colleagues and specialists within the learning community.

Additionally, the project seeks to support the acquisition of "global skills", which are essential for an ever more complex European labor market. What makes the platform so special is its use of an integrated educational and hands-on approach. As an example of this, the INSYSTED project experiments (initially drawing on the example of a virtual learning factory) with a model which combines the specific strengths of online simulation games, MOOCs and learning communities. The highly modular nature of the platform allows it to be adapted and extended as required, while standard interfaces ensure that it can be implemented into existing learning systems.

The platform and the digital learning tools will be tried out during the course of the project by teachers and students from all four universities and will also be made available to other European universities.

This three-year project is one of 29 approved by the German Erasmus+ National Agency as part of the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships 2019 funding instrument. The following institutions at TU Berlin are involved in the project:

- The Joint Committee for Industrial Engineering and Management (GKWi)
- The Chair of Operations Management (POM)
- The Center for Scientific Continuing Education and Cooperation (ZEWK)
- innoCampus
- Student Mobility & International Students (INT SB) within the Department of International Affairs

A number of commercial and industrial organizations are also involved as project partners.

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Working with Partners in the Global South

Outstanding research and international cooperation are essential to achieve sustainable solutions to global challenges. In its [Strategy on Global Responsibility](#), passed by the Executive Board in summer 2019, TU Berlin pledges to increase the level of its social and global commitment in its cooperation with developing and emerging countries. By doing so, the University contributes to knowledge transfer and the forging of new shared knowledge with Global South countries while also strengthening capacities in these countries.

For the first time, TU Berlin has announced [seed funding](#) for cooperative activities with partners in the Global South. Six different projects developed by researchers at TUB are currently receiving funding. The funding is being used to establish and develop academic cooperation and joint (research) projects between TU Berlin and partners in the Global South as well as to respond to the objectives established in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Programs supported by this seed funding include a project led by Professor Aleksander Gurlo (Chair of Advanced Ceramic Materials) to develop capacity building in the area of solar energy and photocatalysis in Uzbekistan. As part of this project, researchers from the National University of Uzbekistan and the Uzbekistan-Japan Innovation Center of Youth Tashkent visited TU Berlin at the end of August 2019. A return visit took place in September. The joint research undertaken addresses SDG 4 Quality Education; SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation as well as SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy.

In November 2019, Professor Tatyana Morozyuk (Chair of Exergy-Based Methods for Refrigeration Systems) hosted a brainstorming and planning workshop at TU Berlin for representatives from a number of universities in Algeria, Kenya and Rwanda. This resulted in an idea for a joint project to address the goals of SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy.

Seed funding is also being provided for cooperation projects with partners in Laos, Ghana, Bolivia and Columbia. Further details as well as summaries of these projects can be found on the [website of International Projects](#).

[International Projects](#) is the main point of contact for academic cooperation with partners in the Global South.

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Developing cooperation with Brazil and Argentina



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International Scientific Cooperation was delighted to welcome Dr. Jan an Haack as a new member of staff in July 2019 with responsibility for North and South America. Jan's main activities are advising academics at TU Berlin on research cooperation with partners in the USA, Canada, Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, and Argentina, developing new contacts, and assisting with the initiation of new cooperation agreements.

Both the Americas now form a key region of interest for the University. TU Berlin is an associated member of the German Centers for Research and Innovation (DWIH) in São Paulo and New York and can draw on an ever-growing network in the Americas of researchers, funding organizations, representatives from government bodies, and key figures in the area of business and industry. Members of TU Berlin also have the option of using both Centers for Research and Innovation to stage events. International Scientific Cooperation would be happy to advise you on funding scientific events through the DWIH.

TU Berlin is also actively seeking to attract suitably qualified junior scholars from North and South America. In October 2019, Jan traveled to São Paulo and Buenos Aires, where he presented TU Berlin's leading research

projects and spoke individually to interested parties concerning options for pursuing an academic career at the University. TU Berlin is a highly attractive location for outstanding master's graduates and doctoral students.

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Erasmus+ to promote cooperation and exchange worldwide

International Projects at TU Berlin (IP) has been funding mobility with non-EU partner countries through the Erasmus+ funding line International Credit Mobility (KA 107) since 2017. The program has allowed (research) cooperation with renowned partner institutions worldwide to be expanded and strengthened. For instance, in summer 2019, a mobility from the University of Cape Town (UCT) at TU Berlin was funded through Erasmus+. This allowed significant advancements in an existing research project on the topic of 5G between both universities. During her two-month research stay at TU Berlin, Dr. Joyce Mwangama, lecturer at UCT, gained insight into new methods which she then implemented during the development of the first 5G testbed in South Africa.

Aside from the cooperation with South Africa, Erasmus+ KA 107 projects with Russia, Iran, Egypt, Australia, and Israel have also resulted in previous years. In 2019, funds were acquired for Erasmus+ mobilities with three universities in Ghana. Countries eligible for proposals are determined based on an annual review of TU Berlin's strategic interests. The funding line is coordinated by International Projects. Academic chairs interested in participating can learn about the current call (deadline: February 5th 2020) as well as the selected partner countries for the next proposals from IP. Erasmus+ KA 107 also supports exchanges for the purpose of studying, research, continued education, and teaching. The program is targeted towards students, doctoral candidates, and both academic and non-academic university staff.

[Further information about the funding line](#)

[Read the article "First Staff Mobility from the University of Cape Town through Erasmus+ KA107"](#)

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Recommendations for Conversion of Grades Now Online

The recognition of work completed within mobility programs is important for the quality of student exchange programs and significantly impacts the willingness of TU Berlin students to complete a period of study abroad.

In accordance with Section 20 (6) of the General Study and Examination Regulations (AllgStuPO), credits attained abroad for courses and examinations have to be converted as part of the process of having them recognized at TU Berlin. Responsibility for the conversion of grades lies with the respective examination committees or module supervisors.

The Department of International Affairs/Student Mobility and International Students published recommendations for the conversion of grades attained in other European countries on its [website](#) at the start of winter semester 2019/2020. A conversion table for overseas partnerships will be made available in summer semester 2020.

The recommendations were developed in cooperation with the lecturers and professors responsible for the various programs in order to allow a fair, transparent and consistent conversion of grades attained abroad across the entire University. The recommendations take account of the grading systems and cultures in the various different countries as well as the fact that students mostly obtain their grades in a foreign language and a different environment.

The conversion tables will be updated as required by the Department of International Affairs at TU Berlin; conversion is based on the situation at the time a request for recognition is submitted.

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