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Science and
research in Egypt
& Germany

Miscellaneous

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German Academic Exchange
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Dear Friends of the DAAD,

I am very happy to present to you the first edition of our newsletter within the year 2009. The first 3 months of 2009 from January-March were quite busy and filled with a series of important events and selection meetings in the context of the GERSS and GERLS scholarship programs.

We are very happy to see the impressive number of selected candidates in these programs- thanks to our joint funding programs with the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. We are deeply obliged to our colleagues at the ministry for their trust and cooperation.

In order to thank the German Minister of Education & Research, Prof. A. Scha- van, for her effort to promote scientific relations with Egypt, Cairo University awarded her Excellency an honorary doctorate. The DAAD Cairo congratulates the Minister and would like to thank Cairo University for this token of appreciation which is also including DAAD's work in Egypt.

In this context, we invite you to browse this newsletter which includes the most up-to-date news and information about the available funding programs with its respective application procedures and prerequisites. You will also find out about the results of the selections in one of our biggest funding programs "GERLS".

Enjoy reading this newsletter and I hope that many of you have a chance to make good use of the manifold and exciting opportunities presented here!

Dr. Christian Hülshörster
DAAD Cairo



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The available funding programs & GERLS selection results

German Egyptian Scientific Projects (GESP)

New Mobility Grant program for German Egyptian research teams

The German Egyptian Scientific Projects GESP is a new fund that supports the exchange of scientific visits between Egyptian and German research teams. This program is co- financed by the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research in Egypt (MHESR) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in Germany.

Aim of the program

GESP is aiming at supporting bilateral mobility between Egyptian and German scientific teams with special emphasis on young scientists (Master and PhD students) and within the framework of a jointly submitted research project of a period up to three years. Participation of young scientists in this program is considered absolutely necessary.

Faculty members, Scientists and Academics belonging to Universities, and Research Institutes should form a project team headed by a Project Leader. Those having permanent positions in the above mentioned institutions can apply as Project Leaders. Each team **should not exceed five persons.**

Prerequisites

A precise project proposal for academic / scientific co-operation must be submitted by the Egyptian Project Leader to the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research, and by the German Project Leader to DAAD Bonn, in a prescribed format. The application will contain the objectives, technical details, methodology, the likely outputs and achievable goals of the project, the bio-data of the Project Leader, a list of his/her relevant publications during the last 5 years and a list of other projects, national and international, implemented by him/her etc.

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German Egyptian Scientific Projects (GESP) - *Continued*

Funding

Grants will be offered only towards travel and living costs within the framework of a well-defined and approved research project. The sending side will bear the travel cost (including overseas medical insurance) between the place of work of the scientists/students in their own country and the place of work in the host country. Living and accommodation expenses of the participants will be also provided by the sending side, in accordance with a predefined scale that is approved by the steering committee of the GESP program.

Application Procedure

Proposals in the **prescribed format** are to be submitted simultaneously by the Egyptian project leader to the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research (please refer to www.stdf.org.eg) and by the German project leader to the DAAD, Bonn (please see DAAD announcement at www.daad.de). **Applications received by both project leaders with all necessary documents shall only be considered.** Applications will be evaluated by an independent bi-national selection committee on the basis of scientific merit, need for co-operation and the composition of project teams. Final decision will be approved by the bi-national Steering Committee of the GESP program.

The call for application will start on the 1st of June 2009; deadline is on the 12th of October 2009.

More details regarding the application procedure and the call for application are available on the following websites:

<http://cairo.daad.de>

www.stdf.org.eg

Please note that the contents of this announcement are subject to change without prior notice.

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GERSS - German - Egyptian Research Short term Scholarships -

The German Egyptian Research Short term Scholarship GERSS is a program jointly funded by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR) and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst, Bonn (DAAD) in order to finance short term scholarships for young Egyptian scientists to travel to Germany.

The target groups of the program are researchers enrolled in MSc, PhD programs and young post doctoral candidates.

The scholarships may be awarded for a period from three to six months.

There are two calls for application annually one in mid October (Autumn Call) and the other in mid April (Spring Call).

Application forms can be filled out electronically as of 15th of October and prior to the 30th of November (Autumn Call) and as of 15th of March and prior to 30th April (Spring Call).

The online application form is available on the GERSS website <http://www.mhesr-initiatives.org/cofi/>.

In order to apply for the GERSS scholarship, you have to register yourself on the GERSS website.

For inquires, please contact Ms. Heba Afifi

heba.afifi@daadcairo.org

Tel. +20 2 2735 27 26 Ext. 119

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2nd Recall for applicants of the Master Study Course “German as a Foreign Language”

The Center of Excellence for Studies and Research in German and Arabic as Foreign Languages at the Ain Shams University will start the second recall for the Master Study Course “German as a Foreign Language” in May. The new course will start in October 2009. It is designed according to the Bologna-process principle in cooperation with the Herder Institute at the University of Leipzig. After two years of studying a double master degree by the two participating institutions will be acquired.

The major covers the module ranges of didactics / methodology, linguistics, literature and applied geography and qualifies the alumni for broad professional fields, which range from the field of research and teaching to the work in publishing and media activities and activities in international organizations. As part of the master course, the students will spend a semester at the partner University of Leipzig. In addition, a compulsory internship at a German school in Egypt is obligatory.

The DAAD greatly promotes the major and provides scholarships for candidates with excellent proficiency. The Master Study Course “German as a Foreign Language” is also being supported by the Goethe Institute and the Central Agency for German Schools Abroad.

For more information about the major, please check the website:
www.ez-daaf.org.

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“GERLS” selections for the year 2009/2010

As an outcome of the German-Egyptian Year of Science & Technology 2007, the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR) and the DAAD initiated a program which offers long-term scholarships for Egyptian doctoral candidates.

This year, the DAAD and the MHESR had the opportunity to award up to 75 scholarships to young researchers and doctoral candidates wishing to proceed with their doctoral studies at a German institution. Therefore, this year's selections presented a challenge for the selection committee but a unique chance for many candidates to receive a scholarship.

After the GERLS **September call 2008**, 228 applications have been evaluated by an independent selection committee in a pre-selection procedure which took place during the month of January 2009. Finally, a number of 113 applicants was invited to the selection interviews taking place at the DAAD premises on the **20th and 21st of February 2009**.

With respect to special program priorities, the selection was attended by candidates from the following subjects: pharmacy, engineering, general and veterinary medicine, humanities, agriculture, science and computer science.

The selection committee consisted of 4 German professors who arrived from Germany for that purpose, a group of former DAAD scholarship holders, all working in leading positions at the Egyptian universities, and other eminent Egyptian professors. The interview sessions were chaired by Dr. Renate Dieterich, Head of Section Middle East/ North Africa at the DAAD Headquarters in Bonn, Dr. Christian Hülshörster, the Director of the DAAD Cairo Office and Ms. Mona Ayoub, Deputy Director at the DAAD Cairo Office.

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“GERLS” selections for the year 2009/2010

- *continued*

The aim of the interview was to rank the candidates according to their proposals presented, precisely to evaluate their academic quality, the preparation and feasibility of their research and the benefit to Egypt.

In the end, 75 applicants have been chosen to take up their research in different cities in Germany. Most of the candidates are starting their language course in Germany by the beginning of **June and October 2009**. The scholarships are awarded for up to 42 months. The candidates are currently attending German language and cultural preparation courses which are organized by the Goethe Institute in Cairo.

To continue the German-Egyptian cooperation successfully, the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and the DAAD will work closely together to learn from past selections and to continuously improve the procedures in the future.

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Study opportunities in Germany

International Master Programme "Urban Agglomerations" starts again in October 2009



After a successful start in autumn 2008 the new international master programme "Urban Agglomerations" will admit students for the second time in October 2009 at university of applied sciences in Frankfurt - Fachhochschule Frankfurt am Main.

Together with international partner universities, for example in Sweden, Australia, Chile and Brazil, the course structure aims to impart a profile of knowledge in the **domain of urban, regional and landscape planning, transport and mobility as well as GIS, data analysis, social and cultural connotations. The course is completely taught in English and runs over four semesters.**

Altogether 24 students can be admitted to the Master programme. In the first year the students came from Colombia, Syria, Turkey, France and Germany. Student testimonials give first reports about their experiences: www.urban-agglomerations.eu.

At the Fachhochschule Frankfurt am Main, the students find modern equipped laboratories, workplaces and computer pools, fitted out with the latest hard- and software.

The application deadline for applicants with a first degree from foreign countries is April 15th.

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New German-Arab Master's Course in Economics

In August 2009, a new German-Arab Master's programme will be initiated with financial support from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with resources from the budget for technical co-operation. The programme will be run jointly by the University of Marburg and the University of Damascus.

The Programme

The 20-month programme "Economic Change in the Arab Region – ECAR" will qualify young German and Arab professionals as experts in the field of economics for the Arab region and familiarize them with economic and business conditions in the Arab cultural area.

Instruction is in English; completion of the course results in a joint Master's degree conferred by the two participating universities.

For this programme, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) will award 10 scholarships to German and 10 scholarships to Arab applicants.

Who can participate?

Target group for this postgraduate course are young professionals in the field of economics.

(Applications are open to participants from the following developing countries in the target region: Egypt, Jordan, Palestinian Territories, Syria and Yemen. Participants from Lebanon and Iraq – subject to possible correction – can also apply.)

Further information and applications

For further information, please visit the Website of this course (www.unimarburg.de/fb02/ecar).

Contact: ecar@wiw.uni-marburg.de

Closing date for applications at the University of Marburg is **30th April 2009**.

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DAAD Events

Deutsche Kulturwochen / German Weeks of Culture

Within the framework of the German-Egyptian culture initiative of the German Federal Foreign Office, Egypt will be hosting the *Deutsche Kulturwochen* from March 24th until May 14th 2009.

During these weeks, a number of events, open to the public, will take place in Cairo, Alexandria and Assiut – including classical and pop concerts, film screenings, dance performances, cultural and artistic exhibitions etc.

On Sunday, March 28th, a *Deutschlandtag* was held by the German Embassy at the premises of the DEO (*Deutsche Evangelische Oberschule*) in Dokki.

You will find the program of the *Deutsche Kulturwochen* on the website of the German Embassy (www.kairo.diplo.de).

We are looking forward to seeing you at one or more of the events!

إشراقة أماننة
Deutsche
Kulturwochen

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DAAD Events

3rd Study Information Day

On March 5th 2009, the DAAD Cairo office invited 200 pupils of the 11th and 12th grades of the three German schools in Egypt – DEO (Deutsche Evangelische Oberschule, Cairo) and DSB (Deutsche Schule der Boromäerinnen, Alexandria and Cairo) – to a Study Information Day at the El-Sawy Culture Wheel. They had the opportunity to receive detailed information about studying and living in Germany and to meet representatives of different fields of study.



The event was opened with the addresses of welcome by Dr. Christian Hülshörster (Director of the DAAD Cairo Office) and Karina Häuslmeier (Head of Cultural Department, German Embassy). Both emphasized the benefits of studying in Germany and highlighted the advantages of the German Schools graduates for pursuing their studies in Germany.

Opening the series of presentations, Ms. Katharina Puvogel (Program Coordinator, DAAD Cairo) gave an overview of studying and living in Germany. She particularly focused on the question of finding a suitable field of study as well as an appropriate university, explained the general structure of study courses and the procedures of application for foreign students.

Ms. Lou Künzel (Alumni of the DEO and Program Coordinator, DAAD Cairo Office) explained the concept of a German *Fachhochschule* (university of applied science).

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3rd Study Information Day - *continued*

As an example, she described the Bachelor's Degree program *Angewandte Wirtschaftssprachen und Internationale Unternehmensführung* at the Fachhochschule Bremen.

The first field of studies, *Germanistik* and German as a foreign language, was presented by Ms. Anne Wildfeuer (DAAD Lecturer, Ain Shams University Cairo). She introduced the content and organization of studying *Germanistik* in Germany and Egypt and pointed out job opportunities. Additionally, Ms. Anne Wildfeuer briefly explained the binational Master Course *Deutsch als Fremdsprache im arabisch-deutschen Kontext*, offered in a joint cooperation by the Ain Shams University and the University of Leipzig.

The next speaker, Dr. Abdel Maguid Kassem (Faculty of Medicine at the Cairo University, DAAD Alumnus, graduate of the DEO), provided the students with elaborate information about the study of medicine in Germany. He was able to give detailed insight into life and work as a doctor in Germany and advised the pupils to carefully make the choice to study medicine, since it demands a lot of determination and patience.

After a small break, Ms. Magda Hassan (Management Faculty, German University of Cairo) drew an extensive portrait of the GUC and its study opportunities. Following this, Ms. Alexandra Ahmed (*Baden-Württemberg International*) introduced the audience to the most important institutions of higher education in the federal state of Baden-Württemberg and promoted her home state as an ideal location for studying, academic life and research.

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3rd Study Information Day - *continued*



Finally, M. Mohamed El-Mahdi (Chairman & Managing Director of Siemens S.A.E. and graduate of the DEO) concluded with a vivid presentation about the link between universities and the job market. He stressed the importance of wisely choosing a subject of study, taking into account one's personal interests and qualifications, but also considering the job opportunities. He emphasized the significance of mobility, knowledge of several languages, gaining experience abroad and conducting internships.

The Study Information Day ended with an open buffet, during which the pupils had the opportunity to speak personally with the contributors and to obtain information from the attending organizations DAAD, GUC, Baden-Württemberg International and the Universities of Ulm and Konstanz at their information tables.

Looking for more information on research in Germany? Looking for a Ph.D. supervisor?



<http://www.daad.de/deutschland/forschung/research-explorer/08308.en.html>

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Success Stories and Awards

News from our DAAD Scholarship holder, Mr. Karar

In this edition we celebrate the success story of one of our DAAD Egyptian scholarship holders of the year 2008/ 2009; Mr. Mohamed Karar.

Since April 2008, Mr. Mohamed Karar has been working for the "Innovation Centre Computer Assisted Surgery (ICCAS)" of Leipzig University – specialized in the field "Therapy Imaging and Model Managing System".

In the context of this PhD thesis, Karar developed an assistance system for the transplantation of aortic valves. The system aims to simplify the replacement of defect aortic valves at a beating heart.

In February, Mr. Karar has been awarded the "Cum Laude Poster Award 2009" at the "SPIE Medical Imaging" conference in Kissimmee, Florida, USA for his dedication and good quality of research.

We therefore seize this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Karar for a job well done.

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Award of the Honorary PhD of Cairo University to Prof. Dr. Annette Schavan, Federal Minister of Education and Research

On Sunday, 1st of March 2009, Prof. Dr. Annette Schavan, German Minister of Education and Research, received the honorary PhD of Cairo University. Due to her strong support to a successful cooperation in the field of research between Germany and Egypt, especially during the German-Egyptian Year of Science & Technology 2007, the president of the Cairo University, Prof. Dr. Hossam Kamel, awarded her the title in a ceremony that took place in the Grand Festival Hall of Cairo University.

Together with the Egyptian Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Prof. Dr. Hany Helal, he highlighted the contribution of Minister Schavan to the bilateral relations, by giving contacts between German and Egyptian scientists a new "push". As a result, the first certificates were handed to German Egyptian scientific teams, which were awarded in the frame of the GESP-Program. In the frame of this program, the DAAD together with the Egyptian STDF supports the mobility between groups of German Egyptian scientists.



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Fact Finding Mission of "Freie University of Berlin"

From 16th till 19th of February 2009, a delegation from the Freie University of Berlin visited Cairo to establish a strategic partnership with Cairo University.

The delegation included 6 Professors from the fields of political science, archeology, geography and Islamic studies, headed by the Vice President, Prof. Dr. Jochen Schiller, and the Director of the Center for International Cooperation at the Freie University of Berlin, Dr. Dorothea Rüländ.

The delegation members met with their Egyptian counterparts at the different faculties of Cairo University and discussed common interests and possible projects. Future concepts are for instance the exchange of staff and students and joint workshops or summer schools.

In order to prepare further ground for collaboration, a "Memorandum of Understanding" was signed by Prof. Dr. Jochen Schiller and Prof. Dr. Hossam Kamel, President of Cairo University.

The DAAD Cairo office will accompany both sides on their way towards a fruitful cooperation.

