

News of Freie Universität Berlin Cairo Office, 6 June 2012

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1. First Berlin Science Slam in Cairo

On the occasion of the “German Weeks” held in Cairo from 17 April to 5 May 2012, the Liaison Office of Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with Technische Universität Berlin organized the “First Berlin Science Slam in Cairo” on 24 April. Science slams offer young researchers an excellent chance to introduce their work to the general public outside of classrooms and laboratories. Four doctoral candidates from different Graduate Schools in Berlin presented their research in an entertaining and understandable way. Each presenter had ten minutes to explain his research. More than 130 participants attended the First Berlin Science Slam in Cairo. The audience was the jury that judged the presentations on content, clarity and entertainment. [A photo documentation of the Science Slam can be found here->](#)

2. Arabic Summer Course at EZ DAAF in Cairo: Apply till 16th of June 2012

Interested students are encouraged to apply for an Arabic Summer Course in Cairo at the Center of Excellence for the Study and Research of German and Arabic as foreign languages (EZ-DAAF) of Ain Shams University. The courses at EZ DAAF are adapted to the needs of students of all disciplines who are looking for a good introduction to the Egyptian Colloquial Arabic and would like to perfect their skills in Modern Standard Arabic. The Liaison Office of Freie Universität Berlin in Cairo coordinates the applications. Students should apply no later than June 16, 2012. [More information and the registration form can be found here ->](#)

3. New Faces Conference: “Socio-Economic Malaise as a Security Threat - Which Model and Reforms for Egypt?” in Cairo

From 28 June to 1 July 2012, the EU-Middle East Forum (EUMEF) of the German Council of Foreign Relations (DGAP), Robert-Bosch-Stiftung und The American University in Cairo (AUC) organize the 16th New Faces Conference in Cairo in cooperation with the Liaison Office of Freie Universität Berlin. Young academics and professionals discuss Egypt’s socioeconomic challenges after the presidential elections under the title “Socio-Economic Malaise as a Security Threat - Which Model and Reforms for Egypt?”. The event is one of three New Faces Conferences this year, all taking place in Cairo. Within the same framework DGAP organizes a summer school in late August and early September in Berlin on the topic [“Status Quo and the Road Ahead for Transition in Egypt and Tunisia”](#).

4. Project “Gender Equality in the Egyptian Higher Education System”

In April, a DAAD funded project between Freie Universität and four Egyptian partner universities has started. It aims at developing and implementing equal-opportunity measures in the Egyptian higher education system and exchanging German and Egyptian experiences in the field of gender equality. At the same time, it will add an international perspective to gender and diversity discourses at Freie Universität. As a first project activity, representatives of the University of Alexandria, Cairo, Sohag and South Valley (Qena) as well as the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education will travel to Berlin in June in order to obtain information on equal-opportunity policies at Freie Universität and discuss their applicability to Egyptian circumstances. [For more information and contact details, please follow the link->](#)

5. “The Situation in Syria” – Simulation Conference with Egyptian and Libyan diplomats

The Department of Law at Freie Universität Berlin and the German Foreign Office held a simulated session of the UN Security Council on April 26, 2012.

The exercise focused on the mechanisms of the so-called international responsibility to protect. The participants in the simulation represented the current members of the Security Council. The event brought together 22 young diplomats from Egypt and Libya who participated in a training course within the framework of the German Federal Foreign Office's transformation partnership for the countries involved in the Arab Spring. Students from different disciplines at Freie Universität Berlin also participated in the event. [More information and the resolution of the simulation can be found here->](#)

6. Angelika Neuwirth received Honorary Doctorate from Yale University

Angelika Neuwirth, Professor of Arabic Studies at Freie Universität Berlin received the Honorary Doctor from Yale University in the discipline of religious studies. Yale University honored Neuwirth for her contributions to Islamic and Arabic Studies and as one of the worldwide leading experts in research on the Koran. Neuwirth is director of the research project "Corpus Coranicum" of the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences. Her work focuses on classical and modern Arabic literature and the Koran. In 2011 Neuwirth was elected member of honor of the renowned American Academy of Arts and Sciences. [More ->](#)

7. Peter Pökel teaches at Al-Azhar University

From December 2011 to May 2012, Dr. Peter Pökel, teaching assistant at the Institute of Arabic Studies at Freie Universität Berlin, taught the seminar "Islamic Studies in the West. Origins, history and methods" held in Arabic language at Al-Azhar University. The short-term lectureship had been established in the framework of cooperation between Orient Institute Beirut, Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen and Al-Azhar University Cairo and is sponsored by the DAAD.

8. Emad Flear Aziz at Biovision in Alexandria

On invitation of the DAAD, Cairo born Prof. Dr. Emad Flear Aziz participated in this year's Biovision Conference that took place from 22 to 25 April in Alexandria. Emad Flear Aziz is professor of physics at Freie Universität Berlin and recently gained the prestigious Starting Grant of the European Research Council. In Alexandria he presented his breathtaking career "From DAAD scholarship to a professorship in Germany" to students and young Egyptian scientists in a DAAD panel on the internationalization of higher education. Furthermore Aziz could establish important contacts with colleagues in his home country. The Biovision Meeting takes place once in two years in Alexandria and is organized by Bibliotheca Alexandrina in cooperation with the World Life Sciences Forum.

9. Call for Applications, Berlin Graduate School of Ancient Studies

The newly founded Berlin Graduate School of Ancient Studies is pleased to receive applications for its new PhD program "History of Ancient Science". Berlin is unique in the world for its concentration of expertise and resources in the field of the History of Science in the ancient world. The universities are in close co-operation with the Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte and the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften. All major areas in the field of ancient science are represented (such as mathematics, astronomy, meteorology, medical science, biology, physics, mechanics, optics, geography, divination, alchemy); geographically, the scope of research also embraces the ancient Near East and Egypt as well as ancient China (from a comparative perspective); The programme "History of Ancient Science" offers a structured doctoral programme for the study of the ancient sciences, their methods and theories within their social and cultural contexts, using not only literary sources but also material culture. It begins in winter semester 2012/2013 and provides several scholarships to outstanding applicants. Deadline for application is **30 June**. [More information about the program can be found here ->](#)

10. DIES announcement 2013: Partnerships with universities

DIES Partnerships promote cooperation between universities in Germany and in emerging and developing countries in the field of higher education management with concrete projects designed to run for a maximum of four years. Applicants are: University executives and senior staff from the central university management; Heads of central university facilities (International Offices, Careers Advice Centres, Technology Transfer Units, university-wide graduate schools, etc.); Deans and Faculty Managers; Heads of University management degree programmes. The application deadline is 30 June each year. [Further information ->](#)

11. "Scholars in Residence"-Programme of Goethe-Institut

Based on the transformation processes underway in the region of North Africa/Middle East, the Goethe-Institute aims to encourage intercultural dialogue and cultural exchange in the scope of the transformation partnership and lastingly reinforce relations between Germany and Egypt, Tunisia, and Morocco. The Goethe-Institute, the Kulturwissenschaftliche Institut Essen and the Zentrum für Mittelmeerstudien are looking for young academics from the countries of Egypt, Germany, Morocco, and Tunisia for the exchange project "Scholars in Residence". The call for applications addresses young academics from the humanities, the cultural and the social sciences. Application deadline is 30 June 2012. [More information ->](#)

12. DAAD Transformation Partnership, Programme Line 4: German-Arabic Research Partnerships

The programme “German-Arabic Research Partnerships” (Al Tawasul) supports outstanding Egyptian and Tunesian Alumni in their endeavor to build up their research career in their home country in close cooperation with their former host institution after they completed their PhD in Germany. A joint research project is at the core of the proposal. The programme welcomes proposals from all disciplines. Applications from the humanities are especially encouraged to apply. Deadline for application is 31 July 2012. For more information please check: www.daad.de/transformation.

13. DAAD-Long-term Lectureship for Political Sciences, Cairo University

Within the framework of its Long-term Lectureship Program, the German Academic Exchange Service places lecturers at universities in important partner countries. The DAAD currently encourages applications for a Longterm Lectureship in Political Science at Cairo University. The application deadline is 30 June 2012. [More information is available here->](#)