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EDITORIAL

Hello,

As it has been over a year since our last edition, we are very happy to be able to send you this new edition of the International Alumni Letter. Please accept it together with our best wishes for the New Year.

Many things have happened during this last year and the University of Applied Sciences in Offenburg has gone through quite some changes.

We hope that you enjoy reading the news and keeping yourself informed about the developments taking place at your alma mater.

Your Graduate School Team:

Prof. Lothar Schuessle, Prof. Rainer Fischer, Prof. Torsten Schneider, Prof. Peter Treffinger, Ulrike Nordau, Marlies Pollet, Alexandra Raunig, Lydia Schindler, Vera Vanié, Silvia Willmann

NEWS

THE UNIVERSITY IS GROWING

Since the year 2000, the number of students studying at the University of Applied Sciences Offenburg has more than doubled. With the new Media and Information Building, the university is responding to the increasing demand in facilities which has arisen from the growing number of students.



Visitors at the entrance hall of the new building during the inauguration celebration

Inaugurated in October of 2009, the new building offers several lecture halls, studios, laboratories, workshops and office rooms and the great auditorium, equipped with the most modern technology, seats up to 400 people.

The construction cost around 10 Million Euro, with more than 800 000 EUR contributed by local companies. This reflects the close collaboration of the university with the German industry and its interest in the unique media and information focus of the university.



The crystal front of the new and modern Media and Information Building on the Campus of Offenburg

In a recent poll of students who study at the university, more than 85% say that they are very content with the conditions of living and studying here, and around 90% find a job directly following their graduation.

The governor of Baden-Württemberg, in his speech at the inauguration of the new building, concluded with the words: "I envy the young people, who have the possibility to study here".

EXCITING NEW PROGRAMS

During the past few semesters, the University of Applied Sciences Offenburg was once again able to introduce some exciting new programs. The bachelor degree program Medical Engineering has been offered since October 2010 by the faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology. Another interesting new bachelor degree program is the course Enterprise and IT Security, which has been introduced by the faculty of Media and Information.



University logo on the new Media and Information Building

All together, the four faculties of the university and the Graduate School offer now a portfolio of 19 bachelor degree programs and 14 master degree programs, four of them taught in English.

The variety of technical courses offered implies that prospective students will also have a greater need for orientation. For this reason, for the summer semester this year, the University of Applied Sciences of Offenburg will introduce an innovative new program called *STARTing*. For students enrolling in a bachelor degree program in engineering, it will offer an initial general engineering semester, in which they can learn more about the different engineering programs, orientate themselves and gain useful competences and qualifications for the course they choose at the end of the *STARTing* semester (see <http://starting.fh-offenburg.de>).

Together with the growing number of programs offered, the number of students enrolled at the university has also grown steadily. Today, 3.300 students are studying at the University of Applied Sciences Offenburg and the number is still increasing. This creates the need for the university to amplify its room facilities once more. Although the

university has just inaugurated its new Media and Information Building, there are already plans for an additional new building on the university campus in Offenburg.

RE-ACCREDITATION OF THE MBA PROGRAM IBC

In the spring of this year, the MBA program IBC was successfully re-accredited by the accreditation organization FIBAA (Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation) Germany / Switzerland.

In the context of this re-accreditation, some changes in the IBC curriculum were made, which can be found on our website www.mba-ibc.com.

All websites of the University of AS Offenburg will soon be redesigned. If our alumni students are interested in giving us feedback on our current site, we would be happy to receive your emails at: ibc@fh-offenburg.de.

MEE NOW ESTABLISHED AT OUR UNIVERSITY

Since 2009, our vice-rector Professor Bender has been the new head of the Master in Energy Economics, a program that combines energy technology and business administration.

This German-Chilean program is a cooperation between the University of Applied Sciences Offenburg and the Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María (Valparaíso, Chile). The Chilean students come for a four weeks intensive study program and, after a successful completion of the program, they receive the German MBA.



Prof. Bühler with students from the Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María at the University of Applied Sciences Offenburg

In 2010, we welcomed the third student group from Chile and look forward to those who will come in September 2011.

FIRST ENERGY DAY AT THE UNIVERSITY

This year the first Energy Day was organized at HS Offenburg by ECM students on December 10th, 2010.

The Energy Day was created to serve as a platform for communication, discussion and information between HS Offenburg, ECM students, industry and research institutes.

ECM students could present their interests and background, while meeting representatives of the industry.

The following topics were discussed on that day:

- How shall the ECM study program react to the ongoing developments in the energy sector?
- What are the challenges for graduates from Master Programs like ECM?
- What are future prospects of the energy sector?

Besides presentations from the students and Prof. Treffinger, head of the study program ECM, Mr. Mayr from Fichtner GmbH & Co. KG spoke to the audience about the challenges for graduates in energy study programs when performing a real job in an engineering company.

The Energy Day was highly appreciated by all its participants and will surely be repeated next year. Alumni are invited and welcome to join as well.

CME STUDENTS AT THE ROBOCUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN SINGAPORE

More than 3,000 participants from all over the world met in June this year in Singapore for the biggest RoboCup world championship ever. Among them was our team 'magmaOffenburg' formed from CME (Srinivasa Ragavan and Rajit Shahi) and AI students (Ingo Schindler, Simon Raffener, Mathias Ehret, Stefan Glaser, Thomas Rinklin) under the supervision of Prof. Klaus Dorer. RoboCup is the world's biggest robotic event and features big, small, wheeled, legged, real and simulated robots playing soccer.

Our team participated in the 3D simulation league in which six simulated Nao-robots compete. On the first day, the groups were seeded based on the first games played. At that



time, we met the Bold Heart team from England, who had won the German Open two times in a row. Despite losing 0:2, this was, to this date, the best result achieved against this team. High wins were achieved against Alzahra (Iran, 8:0) and NomoFC (Japan, 5:0). The 0:5 loss against DreamWing3D (China) showed that our team was vulnerable to their specific strategy.

The championship turned out to be highly competitive. Nevertheless, our team managed to reach the second round where we lost very close matches against the teams from England, China and Japan.



The Robocup Team in front of the Chinese Temple in Singapur

Despite the long hours of work on the team, we had some time to visit some of the sights of Singapore: the skyline and parks, the food centers and shopping streets. And of course we had a go on the famous Singapore Sling, which we tried in the place of its birth: the Raffle's Long Bar.

For more information see:
<http://robocup.fh-offenburg.de>

**BYE MRS. KUHNMÜNCH,
WELCOME MR. ROSER!**

Since the year 2002, a large number of our international students have been enjoying contact with the members of the Senior Service during their master studies in Offenburg. The big success of this common project between the city of Offenburg and the university is attributed to the unfailing activity of Mrs. Gerlinde Kuhn Münch who built it up from the very beginning and led it to many German-wide distinctions during the years 2002 – 2010.



Mrs. Kuhn Münch, former director of the Senior Service and Prof. Schüssele

She established networks and brought together different nationalities and generations. This is due not only to her perseverance and her assertiveness, but also to her cordiality. Under her direction, the Senior Service developed into a unique project in Germany.

In March 2010, Mrs. Kuhn Münch decided to pass the direction of the Senior Service to younger hands. Mr. Franz Roser is the new project leader. As an engineer, he has travelled often and maintains, to this day, his interest in foreign cultures. His desire is to continue and to develop the Senior Service in advancing the intercultural exchange.

We wish Mrs. Gerlinde Kuhn Münch, after her withdrawal from the Senior Service, more time for her family and her many other interests. And we wish Mr. Franz Roser much pleasure in the management of the Senior Service and good luck for the next years.



Mr. Franz Roser, new director of the Senior Service

own unique cultures to the members of the Senior Service, the landlords of the private accommodations, the staff members and all other people interested in intercultural aspects.

This year the event was held for the first time in our new modern Media and Information building. Equipped with state-of-the-art media equipment it is the largest lecture room in the university. The available of the new auditorium allowed a large number of people to enjoy a diversified evening with presentations from Poland, Spain, India, Pakistan and Ukraine. Indonesian students performed a challenging harvest dance in colorful exotic dresses, Turkish and Mexican students delighted the audience with songs and music and Colombian students showed a spirited dance in Colombian dresses.



Indonesian students serving their delicious specialties

After the presentations, the international students invited to a wonderful buffet with delicacies from many different countries. The feedback was so good that we expect to have at least as many visitors next year again and we would be very happy to see you too.

EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL EVENING ON NOVEMBER 18TH, 2010



Visitors of the International Evening in the new auditorium

The International Evening in November is a tradition which has developed consistently over the past years. For the new incoming students it's the best opportunity to present their

CME ALUMNI REUNION IN OFFENBURG IN JUNE 2010

Keeping up the reunion tradition, the CME class of 2005 met on June 19th, 2010 in Offenburg. The meeting was mostly attended by the CME alumni who are working in different areas of Germany. Victor flew in especially from Russia to meet his old colleagues.

The CME office, supported by Frau Ulrike Nordau, arranged a wonderful lunch gathering. Graced by the presence of ever supportive Prof. Schüssele and his wonderful wife, the meeting was very lively. Former students reminisced on their old times together and the wonderful moments which they passed in Offenburg.



CME alumni on their way to visit the new Media and Information Building

A special visit was arranged by Prof. Schüssele to the universities new building block at the main campus. This block did not exist until 2005 and the former graduates were especially interested to see

it. The rector of the university, Prof. Lieber, also attended and informed the Alumni about the new programs initiated by the university.



CME alumni reunion in Offenburg in June 2010

Over all, the former grads enjoyed a lovely evening in Offenburg, remembering the old times. Special thanks goes to Frau Nordau and Prof. Schüssele for making it possible.

VISITING THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS

On November 23rd, 17 international students visited the headquarters of the Offenburg police station. The director, Mr. Renter, presented, in English the structure and work of the police in Germany, and especially in Baden-Württemberg, and answered very frankly all questions raised by the students.



International students at the Police Head Quarter of Offenburg

Afterwards, they even had the possibility to visit the emergency call centre and gain insight into the forensics department.

It was an informal visit in a comfortable and friendly atmosphere which made everybody understand why the Germans actually believe in the slogan: "*Die Polizei, Dein Freund und Helfer!*" (The police, your friend and helper!)

SUMMER LANGUAGE COURSE

Every September, before the start of the winter semester, the new international students have the chance to start learning German or improve their already existing knowledge. This year 48 students from 19 different countries participated in the four-week intensive German course. Even though students have to do a lot of studying during these weeks, there is still some time to visit the surrounding area of Offenburg.



Participants of the Summer Language Course in front of "Müllers Mühle", close to Gengenbach

Do you think that you have forgotten all of your German over the past years? Come join the summer course in 2011 from September 5th to September 30th.

For more information see:
www.fh-offenburg.de/io

INTERNATIONAL MARRIAGE OF CME ALUMNI

Danish Naeem studied for his Masters in CME from 2003 to 2005. During his masters, he made two internships: at T-Mobile in Bonn and Alcatel in Stuttgart. He wrote his master thesis at Media Control in Baden-Baden. After working for short time at the Hochschule, he went to Paris (France) to take a research position funded by Alcatel-Lucent where he worked in Quality of Service for the WiMAX network until August 2007. Since September 2007 he has worked for Keynote SIGOS GmbH in Nuremberg where he started as Project Manager and now leads the International Technical Pre Sales Group.

Galina Sabeva studied for her Masters in CME from 2003 to 2005. During her masters, she made several internships at the Technical University of Vienna and at Micronas in Freiburg. She wrote her master thesis with CNRS, the French national research institute, in Paris. After that, she worked in a research position at Supelec for two years and wrote several internationally acclaimed research papers in the area of video quality and quality of service for mobile networks. For the last 2 years she has been working as an IP Expert in the department of Security Systems at Bosch in Nuremberg.



Wedding ceremony in Bulgaria

Galina and Danish got married in 2009. The official marriage took place on a tiny beautiful island in Denmark, called Moen.

The traditional ceremonies in Bulgaria and Pakistan followed in October and December 2009 respectively.



Wedding ceremony in Pakistan

After graduating from the University of Applied Sciences Offenburg, both of them have maintained constant ties with their alma mater. Together with their colleagues from the batch of 2003-2005, they regularly visit Offenburg and try to promote Alumni activities.

IMPRINT

IMPRINT: University of Applied Sciences, Germany

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