

EDITORIAL

By Prof. Dr. Matthais Middell (Director M.A.-Program 'Global Studies')

GESI is, again this autumn, as it has always been since its launch in 2009, a vibrant community of scholars and students from all over the world. 65 students have enrolled in the 2012-14 intake of the **European Masters Global Studies** originating from 29 countries with Luxemburg, Slovenia and Singapore joining the list of now over 50 countries from where students have joined the course. Furthermore, 19 new students have joined the **Masters in European Studies** who are complemented by 13 students who have enrolled with the **Masters Global Studies with a special emphasis on Peace and Security in Africa** offered jointly from this year by Leipzig and Addis Ababa Universities. Meanwhile, there has also been a new intake for the PhD-programmes on **Critical Junctures of Globalization, New Europe** and **East Central Europe in a transnational perspective**. We welcome more than 25 young researchers from Brazil, the Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Germany, Greece, Israel, Poland, South Africa, Turkey, and the US, and we very much look forward to their contributions to our research agenda. Activities over the past months were very much focused on Africa, with the new Masters and PhD-programmes launched in Addis Ababa, the first larger conference of the Priority Programme "Creativity and Adaptation in Africa" held in Mozambique's booming capital Maputo and with the on-going support for the German-African Centre for Academic Cooperation in Yaoundé. Please have a look into the reports contained herein on these initiatives.

But, GESI of course is not limited to its African activities. We are happy to report on the newly established cooperation with the University of Otago in New Zealand which will allow for more student exchange in the field of International and Global Studies starting this academic year.

The new winter term started with the third annual conference of the Centre for Area Studies and the international advisory board of CAS commented very positively about the results presented by the fellows. We see this as a very promising outcome of a conference that was also envisaged as preparation for evaluation in early 2013, which will be decisive in the extension of funding by the Federal Ministry of Research. Such an evaluation is always a chance for a moment of reflection on the results achieved and the next steps to make as proven during the successful accreditation of the Global Studies Masters in 2012.

This newsletter is the last that appears under the editorial responsibility of **Ian Mills** to whom we owe a lot for his unflinching effort to bring news from all dimensions of GESI's activities together. We hope that he will continue to contribute to the newsletter as one of the most active alumni of our Global Studies programme. Thank you very much, Ian!

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

By Konstanze Loeke (Coordinator 'Global Studies Consortium')

The "**Global Studies – A European Perspective**" interdisciplinary, research-based Master's course offered by a Consortium of five European universities (University of Leipzig, Germany, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, University of Roskilde, Denmark, University of Vienna, Austria and University of Wroclaw, Poland) and seven Non-European universities is delighted to announce that it is accepting applications for the ninth intake of the program in 2013.

The European Master 'Global Studies – A European Perspective', a modularised and integrated two-year course of study is part of the EU's cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education **ERASMUS MUNDUS**. In this vein, the EU offers annual scholarships for highly qualified applicants of this Master's course. These grants cover not only the complete tuition fees of the course but also a monthly living allowance. The deadline for the current round of applications to both the course and the ERASMUS MUNDUS grant is **1st December 2012**.

For more information regarding the application process including documents required, please see:

www.globalstudies-masters.info

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SCHOLARS DISCUSS AFRICAN DEVELOPMENTS IN MAPUTO

By Lena Heinze (Administrative Coordinator DFG Priority Programme)

Scholars of the DFG Priority Programme (SPP 1448) "Adaptation and Creativity in Africa" discussed the first results of their research at a conference in Maputo, Mozambique, between 1-6 October 2012.

The Priority Programme, funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), and has been jointly coordinated by the Universities of Leipzig and Halle-Wittenberg since 2011. It brings together around 70 researchers from Germany and Africa who analyse processes of social change in Africa. In doing so, they particularly examine how African societies deal with processes of accelerated global change. The following questions are at the fore of their investigation: *How does adaptation occur? What are the sources for innovation? How is social order established?*

Nearly 100 German and international guests took part in the three day summer school programme in Maputo where they had the chance to discuss their PhD work before then attending the three day conference which will include discussions surrounding topics such as 'gender equality', 'postcolonial gender studies', 'new security regimes', 'Africa in the globalisation process' and 'translations and markings of meaning'. Furthermore, participants were also given the opportunity to enjoy a full cultural programme alongside that of the conferences giving them the chance to explore and discover the city and its cultural highlights for themselves.

The meeting was opened and attended by high-ranking DFG representatives. The former German Federal President and patron of the Priority Programme, **Horst Köhler**, also travelled to Maputo. He joined a roundtable discussion on the topic of "Africa in Current Globalisation Processes", together with African academics and politicians. Also present at the conference were members of African partner organisations from approximately 20 different countries as well as representatives of African institutions of higher education and research.



View to Maputo from the North.

Picture courtesy of Lena Heinze

The DFG Priority Programme (SPP 1448) "Adaptation and Creativity in Africa – Technologies and Significations in the Production of Order and Disorder" was established in 2011 for a funding period of six years. Within this programme, biennial research projects are financed which are located at various university and non-university institutes throughout Germany. The programme is coordinated by its two spokespersons, **Prof. Dr. Richard Rottenburg** of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, and **Prof. Dr. Ulf Engel** of the University of Leipzig.

The Leipzig-based sub-project of the SPP 1448 deals with "Changing Stateness in Africa". It currently employs two researchers and is jointly managed by **Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell** and **Prof. Dr. Ulf Engel** at Leipzig University, and by **Prof. Dr. David Simo** at the Université Yaoundé I in Cameroon. During the first research period, the changing relationship between state and society in Cameroon and Ghana was analysed. In the second research period, this analysis will be extended to Ethiopia. After the conference in Maputo, two further thematic conferences are planned to discuss research results of the SPP 1448 which will be held in Yaoundé, Cameroon in 2014, and in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in 2016.

Further information about the project is available at: www.spp1448.de/research-programme/calendar-of-events/biennial-conferences/

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UNIVERSITY OF LEIPZIG GETS SOCIALLY CONNECTED!

By Ian Mills (EMGS 2007-2009)

Over the summer period the University of Leipzig has undergone a social media initiative as it joined Facebook, Twitter, XING, YouTube and co.

This move was undertaken to firstly reinforce the strength of communication channels that the university has with its Alma Mater, informing them of activities both within Leipzig and further afield, and also to increase the awareness of the University amongst the wider internet browsing readership. This development is a clear response to recent data showing the increased social-media relationship that the 14-29 year old age group in particular has with the internet compared to the "more traditional" communication links.

The project is overseen by **Dr. Madlen Mammen**, a social media consultant, with a focus centred on areas of faculty led research and teaching, university policies and campus development as well as event tips and Alumni contact. Furthermore, weekly events are envisaged to be published on the University's official Facebook account for all to participate in.

Follow the university, like it and watch it on one or more of the following channels:

 <http://www.facebook.com/unileipzig>

 <http://www.twitter.com/unileipzig>

 <http://www.xing.com/companies/universitaetleipzig> (Business Profile)

 <http://www.xing.com/net/universitaetleipzig/> (Alumni Group)

 <http://www.youtube.com/universityofleipzig>

For more information and to find out how you can help and add to the content already available, contact: social-media@uni-leipzig.de

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INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM: THE AFRICAN UNION AT TEN

By Prof. Dr. Ulf Engel (Director M.A.-Program 'Global Studies' / Professor of African Politics)

Ten years after the transformation of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) into the African Union (AU), the Cape Town-based Centre for Conflict Resolution (CCR) and the German Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) hosted a two-day international colloquium in Berlin, Germany, on 30-31 August 2012 to look at "The African Union at Ten: Aspirations and Reality".

The colloquium was a non-public event envisaged to allow for frank discussions along Chatham House rules.

This assessment of the progress of the African Union indeed comes at a crucial time given the AU's humiliating experience of being side-lined by NATO in the conflict in Libya in 2011 ("African solutions for African problems?"), protracted negotiations between African regional economic communities (RECs) and the European Union on the future of a post-Cotonou trade regime ("resping Africa"!) as well as in light of the new alliance between Africa and Europe in the post-Durban 2011 international talks on climate change.

Under the chairmanship of **Gen. Louis M. Fisher**, a former Botswana Defence Force head who led the 2010 African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) assessment, **James Jonah**, the former UN Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs from Sierra Leone, and **Devon Curtis** from the University of Cambridge, UK, the state of implementation of APSA was addressed by the colloquium. While progress has evidently been made in some areas, such as the African Standby Force and the Continental Early Warning System, other fields are still lacking. In addition are the challenges of considerable dependency on funding by international donors and a related lack of ownership of projects and initiatives. **Michèle Auga**, head of the FES Africa Department, chaired a session on the African Union and the European Union in which **Professor Fredrik Söderbaum** from Gothenburg University in Sweden and **Adekeye Adebajo**, executive director of CCR, shared thought-provoking ideas on the interfaces, differences and challenges especially for the RECs. In a session on the African Union and the development agenda around the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) **Alex Vines** from Chatham House in London, UK, moderated contributions by the former German Minister of Development Cooperation (1998-2009) **Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul** and Zimbabwean **Charles Mutasa**, a former vice-chair-

person of the AU's Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC). The African development initiative NEPAD, the related African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and debates around the developmentalist state and its potential partners were at the fore of this session.

In the first session of the second day of the colloquium **Dr Mary Chinery-Hesse**, a member of the AU Panel of the Wise from Ghana, chaired a debate on the quality of democracy in Africa. Inputs were given by **Musifiky Mwanasali** (DR Congo), a senior political affairs officer with the AU/UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur/Sudan (UNAMID), and **Professor Ulf Engel** (University of Leipzig, Germany). The discussion centred around the challenge to integrate two architectures which, thus far, have been discussed as separate spaces (peace and security on the one hand and governance on the other), the declining quality of democracy in a considerable number of countries since 2005, the lack of political will among African leaders to support the democracy and good governance agenda of the AU Commission and the need for compliance mechanisms to deal with cases of so-called unconstitutional changes of government (like the one in Mali and Guinea-Bissau earlier this year) among others issues. In the final session which was chaired by **Ulrich Golaszinski**, a former FES country representative to Zimbabwe and South Africa, **Martin Uhomoibhi**, the Nigerian Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and **Professor Gilbert M. Khadiagala** from Witwatersrand University in South Africa discussed the interesting question of who in modern times is truly speaks on behalf of Africa: the AU Commission, some regional hegemony like South Africa or Nigeria, or, with a view to certain policy fields such as climate change or development, (ex-)presidents of different AU member states such as the late Meles Zenawi (Ethiopia) or Thabo Mbeki (South Africa).

The results of this workshop will be published by CCR in a report and distributed to decision-makers in Addis Ababa, Brussels and Berlin. Interestingly, and as positive effect to the work of the done by the consortium of the Global and European Studies Institute, the colloquium was also attended by a number of Global Studies as well as African Studies alumni from the University of Leipzig who are now working for the FES or the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

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The African Union at Ten Colloquium, 30-31 August 2012, Berlin.

Picture courtesy of Ulf Engel

NEWS

NEW PROGRAMME. GLOBAL STUDIES WITH A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

By Claudia Baumann (Researcher - CAS)

Starting this winter semester, the Global and European Studies Institute (GESI) of the University of Leipzig in cooperation with the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) of Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia) will offer a new interdisciplinary study programme (MA and structured doctoral training) located in Addis Ababa in the field of global studies.

The course focus will be directed on "Peace and Security in Africa". Global studies concentrate on the scientific analysis of processes and projects of globalisation using a comparative and historicising approach. In Addis Ababa, a thematic focus will be added that allows for a specific regional perspective on the processes of globalisation. The aim of the study programme is to train African students and young researchers for work in international organisations and in the field of conflict prevention, as well as at Universities as lecturers and researchers in a rapidly expanding higher education sector in Ethiopia and its neighbouring countries. The study programme, taught entirely in English, is based on the close entanglement of the Leipzig-based Erasmus Mundus Master Programme "Global Studies" with the Master programme "Peace and Security", offered by Addis Ababa University in cooperation with the UN-University of Peace (UPEACE) which mainly centres on conflicts in the Horn of Africa. Alongside the two-year Master programme, a three-year PhD programme entitled "Global and Area Studies with a Special Emphasis on Peace and Security in Africa" will be offered which will incorporate researchers from



Main campus of the Addis Ababa University

Picture courtesy of Lisa Schlegel

the Universities of Stellenbosch (South Africa) and Yaundé I (Cameroon). Preparations for the new study programme have been in full progress. Over 50 applicants from over 10 countries have registered their interest in the Master and PhD programmes. The absolute majority of applicants were from African countries such as Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Nigeria and Cameroon whilst more than one third of the applicants have been female. The study programme for the new Master and PhD students was opened on 1 October at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies of the Addis Ababa University, the first semester of which will be taught mainly by teaching staff from Leipzig. Four lecturers of the GESI will travel to Ethiopia during the winter semester to hold lectures and seminars. The academic exchange, however, is not restricted to teaching staff: four students of the GESI and the Institute for African Studies in Leipzig will spend a semester at the IPSS. In the spring of 2013, the African Master students and PhD candidates will then come to Leipzig for their second semester. Numerous guests from the cooperating Universities and representatives of various institutions (the African Union, among others) attended the official opening ceremony of the new MA and PhD study programme on 28 September in Addis Ababa, which was accompanied by a symposium to the topic "Global Studies and Africa's Peace and Security Challenges".

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Institute for Peace and Security Studies (main building)

Picture courtesy of Claudia Baumann.

ALUMNI EXPERIENCES

VOLUNTEERING IN FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

By Lauren Kepkiewicz (EMGS 2007-2009)

After my first month of living and volunteering in Freetown, Sierra Leone, I tended to repeat to myself the following: "This is the craziest thing I've ever done".

I'd been moving between Freetown, where I lived with a family, and Kabala, where my partner, Adam, was working. I arrived in Freetown in late September where I'd arranged to volunteer for a local NGO, Africa Youth for Peace and Development (AYPAD). After spending my first week beneath the emerald hills of Kabala, I took the bus to Freetown. I apologized profusely for the three hour delay caused by the bus when I met the executive team, Salis, Tamba, and Barrie, who were waiting for me at the station. With this apology, it was clear I understood little about my current context. But I had come to learn, to immerse myself in Freetown family life, and to explore the complexities of the NGO world. After the bus station, I was introduced to my Freetown family and home where I would share a bed with the oldest daughter and desperately attempt to reduce my status as a guest.

The AYPAD office is a small rectangular brick building, electricity-less, underneath the large cotton tree that stands beside the curved ex-



Impressions of life in Sierra Leone

Picture courtesy of Lauren Kepkiewicz.

terior of the National Stadium which housed a large number of IDP's during the war. In the office, I spent many days attempting work surrounded by men with the occasional dancer from AYPAD's cultural group flitting in and out of the office, laughing, and proclaiming us best friends. Other days, I climbed the hills to plant palm canal and mango trees with some of the boys who slept in the office after work hours. Up here, looking over the ocean, the city is spread out so clearly below, all one can do is smile.



The football pitch in Freetown

Picture courtesy of Lauren Kepkiewicz.

My initial impression of Freetown was rolling hills around the curve of the ocean and long sandy beaches. Freetown surprised me – I liked it. My second impression of Freetown was cramped streets, cars honking and driving so close you're lucky if it's just the side view mirror that hits you, water sold in small plastic bags, garbage streaming down rivers and drainage ditches, and people crowded into all available spaces – selling small packaged goods, roast meat, white bread, fruits and vegetables, clothes draped over shoulders, and shoes lined up in ramshackle rows. Freetown was a lot less digestible than initially predicted.

Freetown has fallen somewhere beyond these two concepts of initial like and subsequent frustration – entirely difficult to categorize, always changing, shifting, surprising in what it offers and what it doesn't. To me, Freetown is being squeezed in the backseat of a taxi with three large boxers and then presented with a huge plastic tub filled with sweet potato leaf sauce over rice with fish and sweet crab and five of us eating hands into rice, slightly above the city on the stone roof of one of the boxer's family homes.

Freetown is snaking through a sailed-in market by the sea, pigs eating refuse, garbage piled on garbage, fish smelling under the sun, and people hissing to catch the attention of whoever is passing by. We walk past long boats and rickety stalls before coming to a concrete structure which once held West African slaves before they were shipped away. Today, this structure is open-air and full of people selling pop in glass bottles, palm wine, running shoes, rice and sauce, small bags of salt, and groundnut paste. Others drink rum from small plastic packets, listening to reggae music, rolling joints, and discussing black consciousness.

Freetown is a city where everyone has lost someone and it's not surprising when a casual conversation ends with "Well, I was forced into the rebel army when I was thirteen and I spent the next ten years fighting". Jimmy



Impressions of life in Sierra Leone

Picture courtesy of Lauren Kepkiewicz.

promises to tell me more the next time we meet. For now, he talks about his work with a graduate student from Denmark while drinking whisky and exuding a personality so likeable it's impossible not to smile throughout our discussions.

Other times, Freetown is learning French before a football (soccer) game between AYPAD Football Club and a wealthier rival, Obama FC. The spectators sit on long branches nailed together to form benches under leaning shelters. Women with plastic tubs perched on their heads sell roast meat, fried plantains, and sweet oranges. We are two goals down heading into the end of the first half when we score and everyone from our side streams onto the field, flying around shouting, arms outstretched and I am banging the drums with two of the AYPAD dancers. We end the game, tied, but still exhilarated from the catch-up. We dance off the football field.

All these experiences make up Freetown: disjointed, complex, confusing, overwhelming, joyful, bizarre, unexpected. My privilege is clear: I am free to leave, free to stay, or free to hover somewhere in between.

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PUBLICATIONS

In recent months Leipzig Professors Prof. Dr. Matthais Middell, Prof. Ulf Engel and Prof. Stefan Troebst have been busy publishing two books (in German). The former of which saw intense editing work undertaken by Prof. Stefan Troebst together with **Angela Glodschei**



Title: Erinnerungskulturen in transnationalen Perspektive
(*Eng: Cultures of Remembrance in a Transnational Perspective*)

Editors: Ulf Engel, Matthias Middell, Stefan Troebst

Publishers: Leipzig, Leipziger Universitätsverlag

Publication Date: 2012

ISBN: 978-3-86583-704-2

Price: EUR 32.00

Picture courtesy of Leipziger Universitätsverlag



Title: Kultur und Beruf in Europa
(*Eng: Culture and Profession in Europe*)

Editors: Isabella Löhr, Matthias Middell, Hannes Siegrist

Publishers: Stuttgart, Franz Steiner Publication **Date:** 2012

ISBN: 978-3-515-10111-0

Price: EUR 29.00

Picture courtesy of Franz Steiner Publication

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COMMENT

NOTES FROM AN EMGS ANARCHIST

By Daniel Palm (EMGS 2011-2013)

So here I am, sitting on a self-built balcony in Copenhagen, which is only accessible from the highest window of an anarchistic house project called BumZen. In earlier times, the wooden planks I am sitting on served as a platform to sling-shoot the police, as the house was defended from eviction.

Today, an antifascist action flag trails from the veranda of the balcony, and the house is used to give alternative life concepts space, proclaiming a collective habit of dissent from society. Where some might find it conflicting to enrol at the EMGS master program and at the same time to engage into 'lefties' subculture, I came to experience a quite inspiring environment in both, the university and anarchist subculture. If social interaction on the global range is what we come to perceive as globalisations, then anarchists are not excluded from this per se. I would even say that the contrary holds true: anarchism can, and does, shape globalisation rather actively.

One might start to become curious about the interrelation of anarchism and globalisation by realising the political impact anarchist actions can have. People living in such places like BumZen are active in political groups, such as 'No borders', 'Crisis mirror' or 'Queer activism', to give just a few examples. Especially those projects exposing problems linked to immigration address social phenomena strongly related to curricula taught throughout the EMGS consortium. I myself came to take an internship at a place helping asylum seekers in Denmark, called the 'Trampolin-house'. On beginning the master program I did not think that such projects could possibly form part of my studies, and now I can hardly think of any internship more related than this one.

Furthermore, anarchism has already proved to be able to question such centralised decision-taking institutions as the G8 summits in Seattle or Genoa. Recalling these occasions,



Blockuppy Protest, Frankfurt am Main, 2012

Picture courtesy of Daniel Palm.

violent political action is not separable from the world leader's meetings. These 'nomadic' outbreaks of violence, travelling around the globe like the summits themselves, were only some of the first violent political statements in what has now become an increasingly conflict-prone city life – worldwide (David, Harvey 2008; Bertho, Alain 2009; Hardt & Negri 2011). Riots on the streets appear to be an inseparable part of

today's urbanized society. Especially in Europe, thinking of London 2011, Athens 2008, Copenhagen 2007 or Paris 2005 for example, violence has threatened common public order more often during the first decade of our century than the so often quoted 60's of the last century. Though not all people riot-

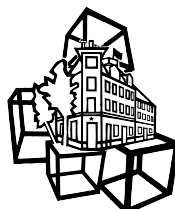


BumZen, Copenhagen

Picture courtesy of Inger E. Villadsen.

ing are self-proclaimed anarchists, they share the violent opposition of settled orders, which, in one way or another, failed to provide an inclusionary political culture. This rejection of prevailing political order comes without hinting at any preferred alternative order. Unlike socialist revolutions of the last century, protests today do not seem to be about some particular collective imagination of the world, or how it should be. Some tend to think that such a shared ideology is missing, but actually needed, and should thus be somehow superimposed. This is a misunderstanding. Why? Well, for those anarchists I have come to know so far, any form of domination is unacceptable. That is to say that the political institutions ruling today are as threatening as any demanded political institution, which in the end just might prove to be the one to rule tomorrow. The only acceptable ways of organisation are thus of a loose nature, being negotiable at any moment. Agreements, rather temporary than ultimately binding, come to replace the rule of norms. The anarchist way of life opts for more of a communitarian sense on the one side, but refuses to accept any hierarchical order on the other. Where individualism today urgently seeks to prove uniqueness in every sphere of social interaction, collectivisation tries to overcome such habit, finally trying to achieve an everyday culture where one should be able to do as one pleases, without setting oneself above comrades. No nation, no state, no god, no patriarchy, and no mastermind. Since it can be pretty depressing to await some glorious revolution bringing such understandings to life, for so long, I rather engage in the struggle to globalise anarchism today, studying and trying to break any prevailing limitation to do so.

Read more at: <http://leftfreedomreign.wordpress.com/>



BumZen, Copenhagen

Picture courtesy of Inger E. Villadsen.

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COMMENT

AN AFFAIR WITH GLOBALISATION

By Luis Guillermo Pineda Rodas (EMGS 2011-2013)

In 2010 Luis Guillermo Pineda Rodas applied for a position on the "Global Studies: A European Perspective" which took him to the University of Leipzig in 2011 and he is now enjoying his time at Roskilde University in Denmark. This is his story that was published on the Papaya Website of the International Club of Roskilde University (<http://www.thepapayamag.com/#!about2/c1kf6>)

How an affair with Globalisation took me all the way to RUC

It has been already some years since I left home.

I come from Guatemala: The exotic, paradisiacal and wild heart of the Maya Civilization. My journey began back in 2010 when I heard about a Master's Program that combined three of my passions:

- 1.) Global History,
- 2.) A promise of cultural diversity in the classroom,
- 3.) The opportunity to live in different European cities.

The Program was the Master in Global Studies (also known as "the EMGS").

The Master seemed amazing when I first read about it. If accepted among

hundreds of applications, I was going to have a chance to get a full scholarship or a fee waiver to pay for part of my tuition costs. Also, I was going to be able of choosing two out of five prestigious universities in Europe in which I would live and study.

The options were L.S.E. in the UK., R.U.C. in Denmark, University of Leipzig in Germany, University of Vienna in Austria, and the University of Wroclaw in Poland.

I was accepted in the program and started my journey to Europe in September 2011. I first studied as an EMGS student in Leipzig University where I lived for a year. As a continuation of the Master's I moved to Denmark and became a student of RUC in September 2012.

In this last month I made of RUC my new home. I already have new Danish friends whom I met in the Friday Parties organized by the Houses. And I have also met many international students in the IC and in the concerts organized by Gimle.

Interestingly, most of them have all asked me the same similar questions when we first met. They have



"The Papaya" Roskilde University's international club's online magazine. *Picture courtesy of "The Papaya"*

asked "Why Roskilde? Why would you choose to come all the way from Guatemala to this cold and windy place?"

When I was first asked this question I had not a clear answer. But after thinking it thoughtfully I understood the reason: I had come all this way because of my affair with Globalization. The affair begun when I became "an EMGS", and decided to focus in the study of Globalisation along with the complex interconnections that this phenomenon has among different fields of the social sciences.

Coming to RUC is one of the best decisions I have made in my life and applying for the EMGS Program is something I will never regret. If you are looking for an amazing Master Degree and if you love travelling and meeting people from different parts of the world then you must apply to the EMGS.

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NEW WEBSITE OF THE EMGS ALUMNI NETWORK E.V.

By the EMGS Alumni Network e.V.

The EMGS Alumni Network e.V. was formed in response to a demonstrated need for a formal, shared space for past and present students of the Erasmus Mundus M.A. course "Global Studies - A European Perspective" to exchange their experiences and discuss issues regarding their studies and future endeavours.



Since its founding, the EMGS Alumni Network e.V. has extended its activities, promoting Global Studies as an interdisciplinary science and contributing directly to an international understanding.

The Website currently offers the following functions:

- **My Profile**
- **Find Alumni** (List of Alumni and Students, Map of where alumni/students currently are, Alumni search)
- **Theses** (List of past master thesis topics with the ability to contact the author)

- **Forum** (General questions, housing offers, study issues, employment issues...)
- **Careers** (Newsletter for job and internship offers)
- **Galleries** (Students and alumni can post pictures from EMGS events)
- **Information** about the network, the program, the consortium and the Erasmus Mundus Association
- **Projects** (current and past EMGS events organized by the EMGS Alumni Network e.V. and its students and alumni)
- and much more...

Whilst the following functions are currently be developed:

- **News section:** information about future events
- **Find literature:** search engine with key words for EMGS relevant topics and literature
- **Regional groups:** Coordination of meetings and gatherings of EMGS students and alumni in various cities

The **EMGS Alumni Network e.V.** welcomes all students and alumni of the EMGS consortium to join us, participate, and share your experiences at www.emgs-alumni.org!

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EMGS MAKING MEDIA WAVES

THE GERMAN TREND OF STUDYING ABROAD - FROM DIE ZEIT

(JUNE 2012)

Co-Editor Florian Suermann (EMGS 2011-2013)

Congratulations to Florian Suermann for his co-edited article with Dorothea Siems about the increasing trend of German Students studying abroad which was published in the German weekly paper "Die Zeit".

The article shows that one in four German students are able to show some international experience related to their study. An example of more than ample experience abroad is an interview with fellow EMGS-student and native German **Ingo Nordmann** about his experiences and motivations in applying for the Global Studies Master's degree program: a program which saw him travel to Poland and South Africa (as well as finishing his studies in Leipzig). After exploring Ingo Nordmann's progression and ex-

periences on the course the authors continue by comparing this case to the burgeoning trend of German students studying abroad whilst also criticising the German education systems slow take up in realising the potential in what is dubbed the "fight for talent" in failing to attract foreign students to Germany.

The article continues then to explore the global phenomenon of studying abroad as it is stated that some 3.7 million people are currently studying outside their country of birth a figure that is forecast to climb steeply seeing an estimated 8 million students studying abroad by 2025.



Picture courtesy of Die Zeit Online

To read the full article online (in German), see: <http://www.welt.de/dieweltbewegen/article107282781/Jeder-vierte-deutsche-Student-geht-ins-Ausland.html>

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POWERLESS DOCUMENTARY FILM WINS SUNDANCE INSTITUTE GRANT

By Ian Mills (EMGS 2007-2009)



"Powerless"

Picture courtesy of GLOBALISTAN FILMS (<http://globalistan.org/cms/index.php/films/>)

from the Sundance Institute for their documentary film entitled "Powerless".

According to Sundance Institute's website (<http://www.sundance.org/>) "Founded by Robert Redford in 1981, Sundance Institute is a global, non-profit cultural organisation dedicated to nurturing artistic expression in film and theatre, and to supporting intercultural dialogue between artists and audiences. The Institute promotes independent storytelling to unite, inform and inspire, regardless of geopolitical, social, religious or cultural differences. The Sundance Institute Documentary Film Program and Fund provides year-round support to non-fiction filmmakers worldwide. The program advances innovative non-fiction storytelling about a broad range of contemporary social issues, and promotes the exhibition of documentary films to audiences."

In the case of "Powerless" these contemporary social issues focus on the "power outages so common across India where a nimble young electrician provides Robin Hood-style services to the poor. Meanwhile, the first female chief of the electricity utility company is on a mission to dismantle the illegal connections, for good."

We hope that the extra support will go some way in aiding the film making project and we are looking forward to the screening of the final film!

In the mean time a trailer of the film can be seen at: <http://player.vimeo.com/video/21592483?title=0&byline=0&portrait=0>

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Congratulations also to Fahad Mustafa, Deepti Kakkar and Leopold Kögler for securing a grant

CONGRATULATIONS

In this autumn edition, GESI and **Connect** extend their warmest congratulations to:

Mandy Kretzschmar and **Adele Garnier** following their completion and recent graduation from Macquarie University, Sydney and Universität Leipzig as they completed their PhDs as co-tutelle candidates. Adele participated in the first year in Leipzig University's 'Critical junctures of Globalisation' PhD program and Mandy in the

IPP program. Congratulations to the both of them on this fantastic achievement.

Congratulations are also extended to **Vasif Qaffarov** (EMGS 2009-2011) **Shamkhal Abilov** (EMGS 2009-2011) and **Ian Mills** (EMGS 2007-2009) for their recent weddings.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CENTRE OF AREA STUDIES, LEIPZIG PUBLIC COLLOQUIUM EVENTS OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2012

Please Note: All of the following events of the CAS Public Colloquium Winter Semester 2012/13 are held at the Centre of Area Studies (Thomaskirchhof 20), first floor, unless otherwise stated.

07/11

(Frantz) Fanon, Boko Haram and the Wretched (of the earth)
- At 5-7pm with guest speaker **Bill Hansen** (American University of Nigeria, Nigeria)

14/11

Always More of the Same? Conceptual Challenges in the Study of Power-Sharing Across Different Areas
- At 5-7pm with guest speaker **An-**

dreas Mehler (German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Germany)
In cooperation with the Research Training Group (GK 1261): "Critical Junctures of Globalization"

28/11

The Utopian and Pragmatic Construction of Societies in the Americas: Methodological Consequences for Globalization Research
- At 5-7pm with guest speaker **Wolf-Dietrich Sahr** (Federal University of Paraná, Brazil)

5/12

Translokalitäten im Sozialraum der Mennoniten
- At 5-7pm with guest speaker **Cicilian Luiza Löwen Sahr** (State University of Ponta Grossa, Brazil)

12/12

1,001 Regional Nights
- At 5-7pm with guest speaker **Denis Wood** (USA)
In cooperation with the Research Training Group (GK 1261): "Critical Junctures of Globalization"

09/01

Exploitation of Non-Renewable Resources in Africa: The Case of Uranium and Petrol in Niger Republic
- At 5-7pm with guest speaker **Emmanuel Grégoire** (Institute of Research for Development, France)
In cooperation with the Research Training Group (GK 1261): "Critical Junctures of Globalization"



The Centre of Area Studies, 1st Floor, Thomaskirchhof 20, Leipzig
Picture courtesy of The Centre of Area Studies

Further events can be found at the Centre of Area Studies Homepage: www.uni-leipzig.de/cas

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CONTRIBUTE

The **Connect** newsletter of the Global and European Studies Institute (GESI) is always looking for articles, pictures and other material to fill its pages and display the colourful variety of activities its students, alumni and those associated with the programme undertake. In this regard, if you have been inspired by the articles on offer here and if you have any creative thoughts, ideas for articles, reports, impressions and insights into the GESI-world that we could include in the third edition of the newsletter (due to be published in Decem-

ber 2012), we would love to hear from you. Furthermore, to continue with the newly introduced section of "EMGS students in the media" (see above), we would love to hear about any publications that you may have been involved in. In the third edition of 2012 we hope to introduce a new column concerning careers and EMGS in which we interview a person from an institution that might be interesting for students/alumni to work with and thereby enhance our contact with the world of work. If you already have contact with any interesting business contacts that you think may benefit the programme and your fellow students, please don't hesitate to inform us at **Connect**. A huge thank you to all of you that have contributed articles and photographs for this edition! We hope that you all find the articles interesting and inspiring and wish you all the best for the start of the semester. Please send articles, reports, pictures, videos or sound clips to: emgs.alumni@uni-leipzig.de.

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IMPRINT **Connect**, the newsletter of the Global and European Studies Institute, is published three times a year by the University of Leipzig and the Consortium of the European Masters "Global Studies". © 2012 GESI. | **Editorial staff:** Konstanze Loeke; Matthias Middell; Ian Mills | **Internet:** www.uni-leipzig.de/gesi/newsletter | e-mail: gesi@uni-leipzig.de | **Contact:** GESI, University of Leipzig, Emil-Fuchs-Straße 1, D-04105 Leipzig, Tel. +49 (0)341-9730230

EDITORIAL
By Prof. Dr. Matthias Middell (Director M.A.-Program 'Global Studies')
©GESI, again this autumn, as it has always been since its launch in 2009, a vibrant community of scholars and students from all over the world. 65 students have enrolled in the 2012-14 intake of the European Masters Global Studies originating from 29 countries with Luxembourg, Slovenia and Singapore joining the list of now over 50 countries from where students have joined the course. Furthermore, 19 new students have joined the Masters in European Studies who are complemented by 13 students who have enrolled with the Masters Global Studies with a special emphasis on Peace and Security in Africa offered jointly from this year by Leipzig and Addis Ababa Universities. Meanwhile, there has also been a new intake for the PhD-programmes on Critical Junctures of Globalization, New Europe and East Central Europe in a transnational perspective. We welcome more than 25 young researchers from Brazil, the Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Germany, Greece, Israel, Poland, South Africa, Turkey, and the US, and we very much look forward to their contributions to our research agenda. Activities over the past months were very much focused on Africa, with the new Masters and PhD-programmes launched in Addis Ababa, the first larger conference of the Priority Programme "Creativity and Adaptation in Africa" held in Macababou's booming capital Mbandaka and with the on-going support for the German-African Centre for Academic Cooperation in Yaoundé. Please have a look into the reports contained herein on these initiatives.
But, GESI of course is not limited to its African activities. We are happy to report on the newly established cooperation with the University of Otago in New Zealand which will allow for more student exchange in the field of International and Global Studies starting this academic year.
The new winter term started with the third annual conference of the Centre for Area Studies and the international advisory board of CAS commented very positively about the results presented by the fellows. We see this as a very promising outcome of a conference that was also envisaged as preparation for evaluation in early 2013, which will be decisive in the extension of funding by the Federal Ministry of Research. Such an evaluation is always a chance for a moment of reflection on the results achieved and the next steps to make as proven during the successful accreditation of the Global Studies Master in 2012.
This newsletter is the last that appears under the editorial responsibility of Ian Mills to whom we owe a lot for his unflinching effort to bring news from all dimensions of GESI's activities together. We hope that he will continue to contribute to the newsletter as one of the most active alumni of our Global Studies programme. Thank you very much, Ian!

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
By Konstanze Loeke (Coordinator 'Global Studies Consortium')
The "Global Studies" – A European Perspective" interdisciplinary, research-based Master's course offered by a Consortium of five European universities (University of Leipzig, Germany, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, University of Roskilde, Denmark, University of Vienna, Austria and University of Wrocław, Poland) and seven Non-European universities is delighted to announce that it is accepting applications for the ninth intake of the program in 2013.
The European Master 'Global Studies – A European Perspective', a modularised and integrated two-year course of study is part of the EU's co-operation and mobility programme in the field of higher education ERASMUS MUNIUS. In this vein, the EU offers annual scholarships for highly qualified applicants of this Master's course. These grants cover not only the complete tuition fees of the course but also a monthly living allowance. The deadline for the current round of applications to both the course and the ERASMUS MUNIUS grant is 1st December 2012.
For more information regarding the application process including documents required, please see: www.globalstudies-masters.info

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