EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

many things have changed for universities as a result of the corona pandemic – many processes had to be digitized and cooperation with our international partners was also made more difficult due to travel warnings and bans.

We are now looking forward to meeting you in person again soon, initiating new joint research projects and further expanding our international connections.

Until then, I hope you enjoy reading our international newsletter.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Dr. Frank E.P. Dievernich
President

Staff Mobilities

A service for international scholars

Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (Frankfurt UAS) offers a Welcome Center for international scholars interested in teaching and research opportunities at our university.

Whether you are interested in visiting Frankfurt UAS for a few days, teaching a guest lecture series for a few weeks, or completing a research project for a year, the Welcome Center can help make it happen. The Welcome Center gladly supports international scholars in non-academic aspects of their stay in Frankfurt.

For further information please visit the website of our Welcome Center: https://bit.ly/WelcomeCenterUAS.

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EU-Research at and with Frankfurt UAS

You are planning to form a consortium or network for a proposal aimed at European research funding? You are looking for a partner from Germany in this context? Please let us know!

Our EU research advisor is happy to support you in matching your research subject with the scientific expertise of our professors and in building a network including Frankfurt UAS, respectively.

Frankfurt UAS considers applied research and development (R&D) a key mission. Hence, R&D projects carried out at the university are innovation-driven and have a strict focus on application in professional practice. As a University of Applied Sciences, Frankfurt UAS forms a bridge between basic and applied research within the national and European research landscape.

Applied research at Frankfurt UAS focuses on the following research topics, Demographic Change and Diversity, Digitalization and Information and Communication Technology and Mobility and Logistics. Furthermore, Frankfurt UAS scientists are active in many additional fields of research. Research at Frankfurt UAS is structured and organized within diverse centers, institutes and laboratories.


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TEACHING AND LEARNING

Understandability is not a shame!

„Verständlichkeit ist keine Schande“ (english: „Understandability is not a shame!“) – This is the name of an experimental course concept developed by Professors Barbara Lämmlein, Andrea Ruppert and Roland Schimmel at the Faculty of Business and Law of Frankfurt UAS. The students of the degree course Business Law learn how to formulate legal content in a way that is appropriate for the target group. At the same time, they deal with the artistic implementation of this content. The aim is that the artistic processing supports the content and thus improves comprehensibility. And so, the confused „legal German“ becomes understandable communication with all the senses.

Dealing with art and using it in one’s own work is unusual for aspiring business lawyers. In order to remove this hurdle, the professors organized an opening at the beginning. Prof. Schimmel provided some instructive, but also amusing examples of unnecessarily complicated expressions from his book „Juristendeutsch?“ before. They make clear which competences should be imparted to the students. The graphic artist Martin Glomm, who illustrated the book, showed how the illustrations were created in the interdisciplinary interaction between lawyer and artist. All graphics could be admired in the vernissage and encouraged course participants, teachers and external partners to exchange ideas over sparkling wine, seltzer and pretzels.

At the end of the course, the students will apply their newly acquired skills as part of a project. The organizers are very excited about the creative implementation!
Service learning and mechanical engineering will cooperate with a French university

The international network of our university continues to grow: the coordination and advice center for service learning and social engagement and the bachelor and master degree in mechanical engineering prepared in several cooperation discussions with representatives of the French institute Catholique d’Arts et Métiers (ICAM), one of the oldest grandes écoles in France with a purely engineering focus, an Erasmus agreement is in place. The specialty is the student mobility in combination with service learning. Also possible research collaborations, the mobility of lecturers up to an engineering master’s double degree were the subject of the discussions. At the last online meeting, in which 20 academics from both countries took part, tandems and groups of teachers were formed that matched the specialist areas of interest. The first students can take part in the Erasmus exchange as early as the next summer semester.

Good to know
In the summer of 2021, the coordination and advice center for service learning and social commitment was awarded the City of Frankfurt’s Citizens’ Prize for its commitment during the corona pandemic by promoting the social commitment of students.

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First “Virtual Academic Short-term Program” was successful

In late June the International Office, and the Business and Law Faculty, with collaboration from Goethe Universität Frankfurt, launched the first “Virtual Academic Short-term Program” with support from the Hessian Ministry of Higher Education, Research and the Arts. As an online alternative to the cross-curricular “Frankfurt Summer Universities” offered yearly on-campus, the course “European Finance” was delivered as a pilot project, in view of the ever-growing demand for innovative international online short-term programs worldwide. With the positive feedback and experience gained, the Business and Law Faculty together with the International Office intend to broaden the offer of short-term online programmes for international students, as well as resume the traditional on-campus summer programs in Frankfurt next year. The course was co-taught by Prof. Dr. Dilek Bülbül, Professor of Finance and Banking and Director of Internationalisation Strategy at FB3 and Dr. Lars Pilz, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs at Goethe Universität Faculty of Economics. Students from partner universities in Malaysia, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Turkey and one local student participated. Special lectures were given by Dr. Verena Demiröz, Researcher and Instructor from the ReActing Division, Frau Ana Sofia Melo from KPMG, and Prof. Dr. Ingo Sauer, Professor of Economics at Goethe Universität. An Intercultural Communication Workshop, social events and webinars complemented the academic program. Muhammad Aqil Ikhwandi Mat Zin and Hannah Annessa Mohd Hamdam, both from Malaysia, summed up their experience in a joint statement, “… the programme was much different than what we expected. We expected to be filled with calculations as that was what we are learning in our university when it comes to finance subjects. However, the course offered so much more…. we learned about the history of the European Union as well as the banking system used in European countries.”

U!REKA connects:
Strengthening Commonality of Expertise

U!REKA is a network of eight European urban-focused Universities of Applied Sciences. Since 2016 the alliance is promoting joint projects in the research fields of applied sciences and facilitating study and teaching experiences in a European context. U!REKA commits itself to strengthen the quality and visibility of European professional education in the world-wide marketplace for talent. The U!REKA partners are: Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands), Edinburgh Napier University (Great Britain), Metropolia University of Applied Sciences (Finland), Oslo Metropolitan University (Norway), HOGENT University of Applied Sciences and Arts (Belgium), Instituto Politécnico de Lisboa (Portugal), Technical University Ostrava (Czech Republic), and Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (Germany).

The 6th U!REKA conference, hosted by the HOGENT University of Applied Sciences and Arts, will take place this year from November 22nd to 23rd, 2021 in Ghent, Belgium. The conference, which has the motto „Strengthening the commonality of expertise“, invites all employees of the eight U! REKA partner universities to lectures, workshops and networking events. Further information: www.frankfurt-university.de/ureka
NEWS AND EVENTS

International Weeks of Faculty 4: Social Work and Health

Connecting internationally despite the pandemic: International Week held online

During the 24th International Week (IW) of Faculty 4: Social Work and Health from May 17-21, 2021, guest speakers from organizations in Colombia, India, Mexico, Peru, and Uganda shared insight into their work via virtual presentations for social work students and lecturers. Topics included empowerment of women and children, working with people with disabilities, and the fight for human rights, among others. A networking session rounded off the week, which enabled an open exchange between all participants and gave students the opportunity to learn more about possible internship opportunities with the organizations. We would like to express our deep appreciation to all of the guest speakers for their participation in spite of the adversities caused by the pandemic in many of their home countries.

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Don’t miss it: 25th International Week coming up in November

The next International Week (IW), which will take place from November 22-26, 2021, marks the 25th time this biannual event has been held by Faculty 4. This IW will be held in a hybrid format and is organized within the framework of the research project SOLID-EXCEED (Social work and strengthening NGOs in development cooperation to treat drug addiction). The program will feature lectures on social work in the fields of drug use, treatment, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, as well as social work in detention facilities. Guest speakers include SOLID doctoral and postdoctoral researchers from across China and Central Asia, as well as colleagues from Europe, who will share aspects of history and development of social work in Germany and beyond, address questions on how to deliver care, fight stigma and discrimination in social work practice, and expand access to social services for the most marginalized groups in society. We look forward to your participation!


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