



University of Potsdam

Where Knowledge is Brought to Life



Overview

- Founded in 1991
- Largest university in the federal state of Brandenburg
- About 20.600 students, 13 % international, 18% in the Masters' degrees
- 3 campuses, 7 faculties (new in 2017: "Digital Engineering Faculty", formerly Hasso-Plattner-Institute; new in 2018: Faculty of Health Science)
- Numerous collaborations with the local research institutes (Max Planck, Fraunhofer, Helmholtz, Leibniz, IASS)











Welcome Center Potsdam

- Central consultation service for international scholars
- Euraxess service center
- Two service points
- Facilitate the research stay of international guests and their families, ease mobility
- Support the hosts (professors, scientific emloyees, secretaries)
- Offer professional service structures









Welcome Center Potsdam

Customers

- International PhD students, PostDocs
- Guest Researchers, Guest Professors
 - + accompanying families
- Scholars at Risk











Our Service for International Researchers

Individual Consultation and Support

- Information on the university,
 Potsdam, Berlin and grant programs
- Visa applications
- Housing
- Arrival formalities (registration, residence permit, work contracts, bank
 account, insurances)
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- Family issues e.g. kindergarten and school
- Application for PhD admission to the University
- Departure formalities







Our Service for International Researchers

Networking and Integration

- Cultural and sportive activities
- Information regarding events
- Language courses



- Buddy program
- Monthly newsletter
- Social media







Scholars at Risk | University Activities

- Refugee Teachers' Program
- German Language Courses for refugee students
- Opening of special courses for refugees
- Psychological and legal counselling for Refugees
- Theater Project for diversity and tolerance "Sans souci avec Shakespeare"
- Voltaire prize for tolerance, international understanding and respect for differences (5.000€ - yearly since 2017)
- Joining SAR network in 2017









Scholars at Risk | Our Activities



- Hosting scholars
- Supporting projects dealing with at risk academics and promoting academic freedom
- Lecture series "Science at Risk, Scholars at Work"
- Seminars and workshops dealing with academic freedom
- Off-University- online courses

Financial resources

- PSI (5 fellowships)
- Own financial support phd scholarship
- Regular positions for phd/research stay- by invitation or application

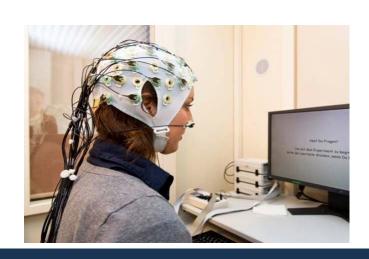




Scholars at Risk | Challenges

- Access to the university, finding an academic mentor/host
- Language barriers
- New university system, new research methods
- How to write publications?
- Getting adjusted- suffering from fleeing, traumatic experiences
- Integrating into society
- Short term scholarships
- Perspectives -new ways outside academia?









Thank you for your attention!



Contact | Welcome Center Potsdam

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