

Germany Today 2009
**“Opening New Horizons: How your Students can Benefit from Exposure to
German and European Higher Education”**
Bonn - Brussels - Berlin
June 7 - 13, 2009

Since 1979, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) has sponsored an annual information visit on current developments in Germany and Europe for high-level North American policy experts and decision makers. This year's program will focus on inbound and outbound student mobility in Germany and will take place from June 7 through June 13, 2009. And this year is the first year that this program is open to a small number of Australian and New Zealand education policy makers, too.

International student enrollment in Germany, as in other European destinations, has increased dramatically over the last decade and is now close to 250,000. Germany, France and the UK combined now attract more international students than North America.

At the same time and as you can experience here in Australia, German students are among the most internationally mobile in the world: One in six recent university graduates has spent at least a semester studying abroad. Much of this mobility has been set in motion by the European Union's ERASMUS program. More than 160,000 European students annually study in other member states under the program. Since 1987, 1.7 million students have received ERASMUS mobility grants. That number is set to reach 3 million by 2012.

During this year's Germany Today program, participants will visit various institutions in Bonn, Brussels and Berlin to meet with national and EU policy makers, university administrators, faculty and students. The group will study some of the most innovative models for international education and study abroad. It will also gain insights into other German and European policy developments in higher education, like the Bologna Process, the German "Excellence Initiative" for university research, and new models of institutional governance. The objective is to initiate new partnerships and joint activities in the field of higher education. Co-sponsoring will be available for a limited number of projects which have been initiated during the visit.

North American participants in this program are typically senior administrators at leading universities in the US and Canada (such as vice-presidents for international affairs or heads of international offices), policy makers in federal and state/provincial governments or associations, and other experts in the higher education field.

The program will be in English. All program-related costs in Europe (accommodation, domestic travel, most meals) will be borne by DAAD. (The program will end on Friday night, June 12, in Berlin; but accommodation through Saturday morning will be covered by organizers.) Intercontinental travel is at participants' expense.

Applicants must have US, Canadian, Australian or New Zealand citizenship, a special interest in Germany and overseas cooperation, and a relevant professional position. They should not have recently participated in another information trip to Germany.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY **MARCH 13, 2009**. Please contact Andreas Jaeger at the DAAD Information Centre at daad.australia@gmail.com for an application form or further information.