

Transcending Borders:

A University with Regional Focus and International Reach



**Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University
of Applied Sciences**

We have used the following **icons** throughout the report to indicate special content or additional information:



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This icon highlights the focus of this year's report – Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and its role within the **region**.

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**Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University
of Applied Sciences**

2011

Transcending Borders:

A University with Regional Focus and International Reach

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The Concept of International Regionality

Interview with University President Professor Hartmut Ihne and Vice Rector of the United Nations University (UNU) Professor Jakob Rhyner on the advantages of collaboration.

What makes the collaboration between Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and UNU a good fit?

Hartmut Ihne: What makes our collaboration with the United Nations University (UNU) so attractive is the UNU's unique global structure, its innovating academic focus and its international network. Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences (BRSU) wants to grow and become significantly more international, so UNU is an important partner for us. Both UNU and BRSU emphasise applied research and there is a lot of common ground in terms of topics. The UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security, of which Professor Rhyner is also the director, addresses research areas that are on our agenda as well, for example at our International Centre for Sustainable Development, our Department of Natural Sciences or the Department of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Technical Journalism (EMT). This can also be said for both our Business Administration and Computer Science departments.



Jakob Rhyner, Vice Rector of the United Nations University (UNU)

“As luck would have it, we are both located in the same region. With its strong scientific community, its many universities and internationally-oriented research institutions, 18 UN organisations and six ministries, the Bonn region offers a strategic advantage that we can both benefit from over the mid to long term.”

Hartmut Ihne

And, as luck would have it, we are both located in the same region. With its strong scientific community, its many universities and internationally-oriented research institutions, 18 UN organisations and six ministries, the Bonn region offers a strategic advantage that we can both benefit from over the mid to long term. It really is a unique combination in Germany.

Jakob Rhyner: That's right. We are a very unique and very international university with a campus that spans the entire globe. Soon with 15 institutes in 13 countries, our role – in short – is to provide consulting support to the United Nations system as the UN's own global think tank. The UNU has traditionally maintained close ties to universities and here in Bonn I would like to expand on this tradition of collaboration. As a young and dynamic institution, the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences provides us with very attractive options for joint training and research.

The university's close ties to medium-sized businesses are of particular interest to us. Medium-sized companies are a mainstay of the German economy. In developing countries it could be this way too, but at this point in time, very few of these kinds of companies exist there. We could really achieve a lot if our research

not only generated results, but also helped medium-sized businesses to establish themselves and put these results into practice. For this, the UNU needs partners like the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences.

What exactly do you hope to gain from closer ties to medium-sized businesses?

Jakob Rhyner: A research project in Africa, for example, is focused on methods for sustainable soil management or the conversion of solar energy – critical issues given the advance of climate change. The real challenge here is putting the research results into practice as efficiently and effectively as possible. This is where I see a big opportunity for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to come in and overcome the challenge of the “last mile”. Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has a lot of expertise in this area and knows how to establish and maintain this kind of SME infrastructure.

“The university's close ties to medium-sized businesses are of particular interest to us.”

Jakob Rhyner

Hartmut Ihne: It is important that the partner countries take the initiative and provide the impulse. Then we can respond effectively with support. Our experience with our own BusinessCampus and our diverse activities in supporting start-ups and SMEs is certainly valuable in this regard. We not only carry out research on behalf of companies and provide an attractive option as a transfer university, we also support business founders. In the last eight years, we have provided support for roughly 100 spin-off initiatives. We contribute our expertise on the international level as well. In Ghana, with support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, we are working with the University of Cape Coast on setting up a degree programme, building an incubator for business start-ups and promoting university collaborations with the private sector. This is an area that highlights our strengths as a university for applied research.



Hartmut Ihne, President of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences

How closely does the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences cooperate with the regional business community?

Hartmut Ihne: In 2010 we commissioned a regional impact analysis. The results of the study, which we presented in 2011, are quite positive and indicate that 79 percent of companies are familiar with BRSU. This affirms my goal to step up the partnerships on a qualitative level. As University President, I feel an obligation to really know and understand the needs of companies. How do they assess our graduates? In what areas do they conduct research? Do they operate on the international level? I have initiated a series of over 30 visits to companies and we have invited members of the business community to visit us here on campus. The dialogue will help us establish a university-business network that will help us better understand the needs of the business community.



Out of this exchange we have developed a plan to establish a research institute for small and medium-sized businesses – a joint platform for facilitating collaboration that pulls from all portfolios. We are conducting a cluster analysis to determine more precisely the institute's thematic focus, but I think certainly material sciences – sustainable plastics, for example – will play a role. In any case, the research institute for small and medium-sized businesses will strengthen the bond between us and these companies.

“I can imagine a very attractive and effective working relationship where Bonn University focuses on basic research, BRSU provides practical orientation and the connection to industrial applications and UNU focuses on application-oriented international research collaborations.”

Jakob Rhyner

How will the students benefit from this?

Hartmut Ihne: We are creating a programme for international internships together with the regional companies. Our policy is that every university student needs to complete an internship. In the future we want to combine this with an international exchange programme. This would involve companies sending interns to a branch office or to a partner company abroad, where the students work on their bachelor thesis and get to know the company culture as well as the cultural context in the given country. This kind of exchange is attractive for both the companies and the graduates. We want half of our graduates – roughly 1,000 per year – to complete this international programme. At least that's our vision.

Through this close cooperation with the business community, we have developed the concept of “international regionality” for our university and this kind of internship means international regionality for our students. They leave the region and head into the world – and then they come back again! Today's companies

need specialists and managers who are at ease navigating multiple markets and cultures. Our job is to prepare them to meet this demand. The United Nations University can help us do this.

Is the academic training at the two universities a good match?

Jakob Rhyner: At first glance you might not think so, since the UNU – in cooperation with other universities – trains only doctoral candidates. I should note here that we are currently working towards the necessary accreditation to be able to award doctorates ourselves. But in the future we want to offer Master's level training as well. Together with the Bonn University's Department of Geography, we are developing a degree programme that focuses on environmental hazards and human security. This Master's programme is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2013 with 24 students. My hope is that we can also integrate the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences into this cooperation. I can imagine a very attractive and effective working relationship where Bonn University focuses on basic research, BRSU provides practical orientation and the connection to industrial applications and UNU focuses on application-oriented international research collaborations.

Hartmut Ihne: In research it is not about who awards which degrees. It is no problem for students and doctoral candidates at BRSU to form research partnerships and work together with UNU doctoral candidates. One example of this is the work being done on an early warning system for natural disasters and how to introduce such a system to the general public. Another example is the university's activity in the area of entrepreneurship and economic development. I am also engaged in developing and offering a Master of Development Cooperation degree – a multidisciplinary curriculum spanning economics, social sciences, geography, technology and natural sciences. This kind of a Master's degree could also be a collaborative project.

“I am also engaged in developing and offering a Master of Development Cooperation degree – a multidisciplinary curriculum spanning economics, social sciences, geography, technology and natural sciences. This kind of a Master's degree could also be a collaborative project with the University of Bonn and the UNU.”

Hartmut Ihne

UNU, the global university

Founded in 1973, the United Nations University (UNU) serves as a bridge between the academic world and the UN system. With around 600 employees worldwide, its goal is to develop sustainable solutions for the current and future problems of humankind in all aspects of life. The UNU is an autonomous organ of the United Nations General Assembly and comprises 14 institutes and programmes in 13 countries. The 15th institute in Dresden, Germany is in its inception. With some 80 employees, the Bonn-based Institute for Environment and Human Security is one of the UNU's largest locations worldwide after the UNU headquarters in Tokyo. The Bonn Institute for Environment and Human Security collaborates with various other UNU institutes and programmes

www.ehs.unu.edu



Studies and Teaching

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Better Comprehension

Pro-MINT-us project eases the transition to university study

Despite its easy-going, non-intimidating atmosphere, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences is still a big change from high school. "Annual surveys show that many of our first-semester students have trouble organising their work and handling the independence that comes with university study," says Marco Winzker. The professor from the Department of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Technical Journalism (EMT) goes on to point out that the students' academic performance also suffers during the first semesters of study. "We reviewed all of the first year tests from 2009 and noticed that the highest fail rates were in the so-called MINT courses – maths, IT, natural sciences and technology."

Smaller groups – alternative teaching approaches

With the newly established Pro-MINT-us project, the university hopes to improve student support in the MINT courses, which in concrete terms means more

staff, smaller groups and additional courses. "Students who had a hard time during the winter term can repeat those courses in the summer term," explains Marco Winzker, who manages the Pro-MINT-us programme at BRSU. "Lecturers are also making a point to use different teaching approaches and methods of explaining to ensure better comprehension."

Project work, which until now has been reserved for the later semesters, will also be introduced earlier on in the students' course of study thanks to Pro-MINT-us. "New students in our department will get to pick up soldering irons and circuit boards and build a robot," says Winzker. Another example of Pro-MINT-us at work is in the Department of Business Administration, where incoming students will work together to develop a wiki. The goal is to promote self-management skills and ease the transition phase. "Individual teachers have usually taken it upon themselves to make improvements. Now we can pool our efforts into one single initiative," says the project manager.

Success with the Teaching Quality Pact

Over the course of the next five years, the Pro-MINT-us project will receive a total of 6.2 million euros in funding from both the federal and state governments as part of the "Teaching Quality Pact". BRSU is one of 17 higher education institutions in North Rhine-Westphalia to receive support through the funding scheme. "Many of our initiatives are staff-intensive," says Marco Winzker. "We are therefore investing most of the funds in new teaching positions."

One of the new hires will be tasked with developing a new e-learning programme for mathematics, to be made available to students online through the LEA platform. "This tool provides yet another method for explaining concepts taught in class." The Pro-MINT-us project will also create a new academic advising position. "This will give prospective students the chance to learn about their options and get an idea of what awaits them," explains Winzker. "It will also provide a way to promote the Pro-MINT-us programme and its projects."

Fewer drop-outs

According to State Secretary for Research Thomas Rachel, who conveyed the funding approval on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, what made Pro-MINT-us such a strong candidate for the Teaching Quality Pact was its unique combination of promoting the MINT areas on the one hand, and providing measures designed to ease students into university study on the other. "We won't be able to measure the success of our project until further on in the students' studies," says project head Winzker. "By then we will know if we have met our goals of reducing both the drop-out rates and the duration of study."

Three partners: University collaboration



Andreas Gadatsch, a professor in the Department of Business Administration at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has put out publications together with his colleague Detlev Frick from the Hochschule Niederrhein. The two professors began collaborating in 2011 as part of a university cooperation project which also includes the Dortmund University of Applied Sciences and Arts. The universities work together in developing joint courses as well as joint teaching and research projects. The cooperation is also designed to generate new teaching materials and intensify exchange in the area of IT management.

The partners have identified the business software SAP as a common teaching focus – because anyone working with business metrics and processes must have a firm knowledge of the software modules. The students at all three universities benefit from the expertise bundled together in this special collaborative effort. The partners also look forward to positive synergies in the areas of research and professional development.



Career Training and Bachelor Degree Combined

Cooperative study programme: A win-win situation

Leonhard Huckschlag beat out a long list of competitors for the traineeship position at a Cologne-based petrochemical company. "I'm a hands-on kind of guy and being able to work on real cases helps me learn," he says. "That's why I decided to pursue a dual degree." Huckschlag chose the cooperative study programme in Electrical Engineering at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences.

At the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, around 50 students each year combine vocational training with a Bachelor degree in Electrical Engineering or Mechanical Engineering. "By the time they graduate, they're very well prepared," says Norbert Becker. "And the companies can build relationships early with young, qualified employees. It's a real win-win situation."

Time to concentrate on studies

Huckschlag spent the first two semesters working in the company, including all holiday periods. "As an employee, I have 30 vacation days per year," he explains. "I use some of this to study for exams." The university makes sure that work and study schedules are compatible. "We stay in contact with the vocational trainers," explains Norbert Becker, director of the cooperative study programme in Electrical Engineering. "And we have arranged a special timetable with the Rhine-Sieg vocational training institute." Huckschlag knew it was going to be a heavy workload when he signed up for the programme. "But I get a trainee allowance, and after two and a half years I get the trade proficiency certificate from the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK)."

Today a certified automation electronics technician, Huckschlag is positive about the overall arrangement of the degree programme: "By the third semester we're just regular university students." He knows colleagues from other universities, who had to juggle work and study over the course of four semesters. "They're neither here nor there," says Huckschlag.



The cooperative study programme is an initiative of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and the Bonn/Rhine-Sieg Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK).

<http://fb03.h-brs.de/Kooperatives+Studium.html>



Professional recruiting system – "Servicestelle Lehrbeauftragtenpool"

The backbone of Germany's universities of applied sciences, with their focus on practical application, are its teachers, but it is often difficult to find suitable candidates in the technical fields. The new project "Servicestelle Lehrbeauftragtenpool" has been put in place to set up a professional recruiting system for the university. The recruiting project is running at BRSU and three other partners – Hochschule Nieder-

rhein, Hochschule Rhein-Waal and the Düsseldorf University of Applied Sciences. Teaching staff recruited through the system can be hired to teach at all four universities. The building of the new recruiting system is funded by the Teaching Quality Pact, which will provide a funding package of approximately 4.1 million euros to the four participating universities until 2016.

Acting Responsibly

International Centre for Sustainable Development begins its work

The International Centre for Sustainable Development (IZNE) gives form to a rather abstract concept. Launched in September 2011, IZNE works towards sustainability in education, applied research and consulting as well as BRSU's Green Campus. Founding director Wiltrud Terlau talks about IZNE's mission and responsibilities.

What does the university hope to achieve through the IZNE?

As future professionals in their respective fields, our graduates need to be able to act responsibly and with consideration for future generations, i.e. sustainably. Our role is to expose them to the issues and train them to act accordingly. IZNE integrates ecological, economic, social, technological, political and cultural aspects of sustainable development into all areas of university life – from teaching, to research to establishing BRSU's Green Campus.

What does this integration process entail?

We get each of the university's divisions involved: the academic departments, the Language Centre, the library as well as the administration. IZNE is not an isolated programme. Its leitmotif of sustainable development can only be achieved through cooperation. While IZNE initiates, supports and implements its own projects, each of the professors associated with the centre are also grounded in an academic department and offer sustainability-related courses. My colleague Günter Klein now offers a sustainability consultation hour for students planning a paper or internship in this area. IZNE's own research projects, done in partnership with the departments, also facilitate integration.

"IZNE integrates ecological, economic, social, technological, political and cultural aspects of sustainable development into all areas of university life – from teaching, to research to creating BRSU's Green Campus."

Wiltrud Terlau,
Founding Director of IZNE

Do IZNE activities extend beyond the university?

We work together with businesses, research institutions and non-governmental organisations and are creating a network centred around the Bonn/Rhine-Sieg region and our partners in emerging and developing countries. For example, we contributed to an online survey on North Rhine-Westphalia's development policy guidelines and in 2012 we are planning a "Responsible Business" summer school together with the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and other partners. The summer school will provide a forum for 60 carefully selected participants including entrepreneurs, CEOs as well as representatives from developing countries and NGOs.

What additional steps are being planned?

We are just getting started with our work. We will keep focused on certain areas and continue to advance sustainability in teaching and research along with the Green Campus project. We are always looking for suggestions from our students. They are the multipliers who will transfer the awareness for sustainability issues to the working world.

<http://izne.h-brs.de>



A man in a dark suit and blue striped tie stands in a bright, modern hallway. The hallway has a high ceiling with a complex metal and glass structure. The floor is light-colored and reflective. The walls are white with several doors. The overall atmosphere is clean and professional.

Building A

Sankt Augustin Campus

“Every act of communication is affected by the cultural expectations of speaker and listener. Our students learn more than just a foreign language – they learn to be effective cross-cultural communicators.”

James R. Chamberlain
Director of the Language Centre,
Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences

Enthusiasm for the Natural Sciences

“Kids University” and university open house

Campus is abuzz with excitement – a laptop with sensitive data has disappeared! Not a problem for Sherlock Holmes and the 56 students of the 2011 Kids University, funded by the Hochbegabten-Stiftung (gifted and talented foundation) of the Kreissparkasse Köln regional bank. Using Department of Natural Sciences lab facilities, the fifth and sixth graders were able to analyse DNA samples, interpret shoe and finger prints, and use thin-layer chromatography to examine ink. The Kids University introduced the children in a playful way to subjects like biology, chemistry, physics and materials science. “In this age group, schools tend not to do very much in the natural sciences, which is why the Kids University is such a great idea,” says Antje Thielen, a research associate in the Department of Natural Sciences. “At the end we were able to identify the perpetrator,” reports Thielen. “The children’s enthusiasm was infectious!”

University up close

The university’s open house gives potential students valuable exposure to university life, including lectures in chemistry and materials science, as well as experiments in the university’s modern labs. “The open house gives young people 16 years of age and older, who are interested in university study, the chance to experience the university atmosphere up close for two days,” explains Jana Schuster from the dean’s office. It’s also a chance to meet and talk with university students and lecturers. “One of the participants was concerned, for example, that his math skills were not good enough.



But the conversations he had put his fears to rest.” Thiele often sees the participants again later in the regular lab courses. “And if the open house helps someone realise that chemistry with materials science is not the right choice, then that’s also very good to know.”

NGO Managers – Off to a Good Start

First graduates of the Master’s programme are sought-after employees

After receiving a Bachelor’s degree in European Studies with a concentration in Political Science and European Law, Stefan Eggers travelled to Sri Lanka as development worker. After the civil war forced him to leave, he decided to professionalise his experience by pursuing a degree in the NGO Management Master’s programme. “What made the programme appeal to me was the ability to work and gain experience in the field at the same time,” recalls the graduate.

He has found just the right job – in his former department at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. He came up with the idea during a special module in the MBA programme. “We were advised over the entire course of the programme – we talked about our goals in terms of our strengths and interests and came up with plans on how to reach them,” explains Eggers. With the first group of students to enter the programme coming from more than ten different countries, programme chair Professor Harald Meier considers student advising an important tool for managing cultural diversity. “Plus, we want our students to not only understand but realise their potential,” says Meier.

“We were advised during the entire course of the programme – we talked about our goals in terms of our strengths and interests and came up with plans on how to reach them.”

Stefan Eggers, graduate of the Master’s programme in NGO Management

Programme graduates are now working for organisations such as Kolping International and the United Nations. “One person I graduated with wants to found a network for NGOs in his home country of Mali. Others have found jobs in the private sector in areas such as corporate social responsibility,” says Stefan Eggers. And what does he do? Eggers coordinates the NGO programme at BRSU and is involved in the cooperation with the University of Cape Coast in Ghana. “I really enjoy working with the students. My job also keeps me involved in exciting projects in the development sector.”

<http://www.mba-ngo.com/>



Rankings: Students award top marks

Equipment and facilities, learning environment, practical relevance, location – these are all areas where BRSU scores well in university rankings. The Study Quality Monitor (SQM) assessment conducted each year by the Higher Education Information System (HIS), which evaluates universities from the student perspective, also gives the university very good marks. BRSU performed particularly well in the SQM in the areas of student administration and student

affairs, the examinations office and general services. Survey participants also praised the availability of lab and computer stations, teaching facilities and the academic programme structure. The course offerings also received above average ratings. And lastly, the survey confirmed the good relations between students and teachers. BRSU students feel they get the attention they need and do not get lost in the shuffle.

Three Questions for ... Manfred Kaul

Manfred Kaul, Professor of Computer Science and Vice President for Teaching, Studies and Further Education, talks about how BRSU and the region benefit from one another.

What attracts students to the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences?

Most of all, it's the university's comprehensive offering of study programmes, which currently includes 23 accredited Bachelor and Master's degree programmes and many interesting areas of specialisation. Within Computer Science alone there are eight different areas of specialisation, such as Business Information Systems or Bio Information Technology. Also, our programmes are a good match for the many innovative companies and organisations located in the Bonn/Rhine-Sieg region. Many of our graduates find jobs quickly here in the area.

The university collaborates with a long list of companies. How does this impact academics at BRSU?

The needs of the regional companies provide us with rich material for research and teaching. As a university of applied science, our teaching is very much oriented towards practical application and our students benefit greatly from these collaborations with industry. The students have access to interesting internships in the region or at subsidiary companies abroad, and many companies also finance scholarships. At the same time, the companies benefit from us. They gain access to talent and the university provides the academic infrastructure and support necessary for their projects. As I said, the university benefits from the region, and the region benefits from the university.



The current regional study criticises the lack of Master degree programmes – particularly those favoured by the business community. Do you plan to respond with new programmes?

We would certainly like to, but we cannot finance these new programmes by ourselves. In light of the ever-shrinking public funds, it is getting more and more difficult for the university to develop and fund Master's programmes with its own resources. So this is an area where business needs to contribute more.



Studying Online

Up and running since Fall 2011: The central e-learning platform LEA

BRSU students can now download their course materials in the comfort of their own home. They can even meet in working groups without ever leaving the house. The e-learning platform LEA, available since October 2011, makes studying easier. And for BRSU teachers, the platform also functions as a course management tool. "The goal was to set up a single e-learning environment for the entire university," says Susanne Kundmüller-Bianchini, the deputy head librarian in charge of coordinating the e-learning project. "By November we already had 200 staff accounts and nearly a third of our students were actively using the system."

The platform is developed and operated through the university library. "We know all about electronic resources," says the project coordinator. The library also advises and trains LEA users. "Teachers need special introductory training before setting up course modules or online tests." The e-learning platform also provides

sample online courses. Lecturers also have access to a didactics team as well as to so-called "e-tutors", two students who are trained in the LEA system. Their job is to help teaching staff set up and run their courses.

According to Susanne Kundmüller-Bianchini, LEA is still used primarily as a depository for course materials. Use of the system's other functionalities is growing, however. Some course instructors offer online tests, for example, that can be used by students to gauge what they have learned. LEA will also be offering new students a series of preliminary courses designed to close knowledge gaps at the start of the semester. "The e-learning platform lets students learn at their own pace and anywhere the like," says project coordinator Kundmüller-Bianchini.

http://www.bib.h-brs.de/e_learning.html



Research and Practical Experience

Three new Master's degree programmes in the EMT Department

"A Master's degree that combines lectures with project work is a great idea," says Tobias Krumkamp. "It brings variety to the programme and is very motivating." The 25 year-old is one of the first students enrolled in the new Master's programme in Electrical Systems Design at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. "The topics interest me a lot – and I knew from my Bachelor programme that the professors and lectures here are good."

Independent work and research

Since the 2011 summer term, the EMT Department has introduced three new Master's programmes: Mechatronics, Technology and Innovation Communica-

tion and Electrical Systems Design. "This gives us the complete spectrum on the Master's level as well on the Bachelor's level," says Marco Winzker, programme director for Electrical Systems Design. In the purely technical study programmes, the students work on third-party funded research or industrial collaboration projects and many of the projects result in published work. "This is how we prepare the students to work independently and conduct independent research," explains Winzker.

"No question about it: this was the right decision for me."

Tobias Krumkamp is pursuing a Master's in Electrical Systems Design.

Practical experience

The analytical projects within the Technology and Innovation Communication Master's programme also involve research. Programme director Uwe Braehmer emphasises the hands-on aspect of the conceptual projects and seminars: "Our teachers have a lot of practical experience and students benefit from this enormously."



Good marks for the Bachelor programme Technical Journalism

They need on average only 13 applications before landing the right job – and most are satisfied if not very satisfied with their jobs. Graduates of the Bachelor programme in Technical Journalism have bright prospects for employment. Still, more than half of the 100 participants in an alumni survey expressed interest in a Master's degree – and almost all of them would return to BRSU to continue their

studies. Many of the survey participants consider the journalistic knowledge they gained at BRSU to be important for their current jobs. In the online survey, nearly 90 percent said they would recommend their degree programme. They gave the programme good marks for organisation and its multi-faceted nature and consider it a unique qualification that will prove valuable for their future careers.

People

Always ready to help – Yongping Li

Despite lots of work and a busy schedule, Yongping Li always has a smile on her face. From China, Li is enrolled in the Master's degree programme in Biomedical Sciences. Although her coursework is in English, she has managed to learn German on her own. And with the help of her German language skills, she volunteers as a Study Buddy, helping other foreign students get acclimated to life in Germany. She knows from experience that it can be difficult getting started in a foreign country. "That's why I organise seminars, dinner parties and informational visits to government agencies for the international students," says Li. In October 2011, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) honoured the 25-year-old Li with its 1,000 euro DAAD prize for excellence in academics and social commitment. "I would recommend the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences to any foreign student. Everyone here makes you feel truly welcome," says Yongping Li.



Research

- Energy from the Surroundings
- To Mars with a Healthy Heart
- More Climate-friendly Cement
- Protection against High-tech Car Thieves
- Three Questions for ... Volker Sommer
- Living and Working in a Virtual World
- Graduate Institute Established
- People: Visiting Professor Hikmat Abdullah



Harvest Time in the Factory

Sensors use energy from the surrounding area

Industrial machines are high-speed precision instruments that function automatically – but this doesn't mean that things can't go wrong during the production process. Any machine can malfunction. To give factory workers a greater sense of security and avoid possible production stoppages, most facilities use automatic sensors to constantly monitor sensitive areas. The sensors monitor temperature, for example, and sound an alarm as soon as a given limit is exceeded.

Professor Josef Vollmer from the Department of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Technical Journalism (EMT), together with a research group, is developing sensors that are powered by energy from their surroundings. Finding a reliable power supply for these small devices often poses a challenge. And for larger and more complex facilities, even greater areas need to be monitored. "Extensive wiring networks are expensive to maintain," says Vollmer. "At the same time, batteries are not a viable solution because they need to be inspected and replaced at regular intervals." Solar energy is limited because it can only work outdoors.

Warmth generates energy

This is why Vollmer works on energy harvesting, a process by which sensors simply "harvest" the energy that already exists in the immediate environment. Just as a temperature sensor measures the heat radiated by a machine, it can also convert the heat into its own supply of energy by way of a mini generator. Machine vibrations are another possible source of energy. Some remote-controlled light switches are already powered exclusively by their own use. The energy generated by pressing the buttons on the switch is converted to the power required to operate the switch. In a similar way, one can make use of the vibrations that many machines generate.

Sensors with integrated energy generators represent a real advantage, particularly if the results of their measurements can also be transmitted wirelessly. For this reason, stand-alone sensors are being developed to communicate with a control room via wireless transmission. "In 2011 we compiled the current state of development in this area so that we could learn from and build on existing solutions, like the light switch," says Vollmer. The first sensors will be on factory floors soon enough, harvesting energy.

A boost for energy harvesting

With his research proposal in the area of energy harvesting, Josef Vollmer is one of three winners of an internal university competition. Vollmer can draw on up to 40,000 euros from the university's own funding programme for high-potential research initiatives. The money serves as start-up financing to acquire third-party funding from research programmes.



Energy from deformation: Professor Josef Vollmer with a piezoelectric component.

To Mars with a Healthy Heart

The mysterious effects of zero gravity

Humans are not built for outer space. Our bodies are finely tuned to the conditions here on Earth and it is well known that astronauts can suffer from bone and muscle loss after extended periods in a state of weightlessness. Another problem at zero gravity is that the arteries in the head and chest area release water into the surrounding tissue. The consequences of this can be dramatic. As the blood thickens, it can then easily clog the arteries. "On a long space flight to Mars, for example, there would be significant risk of suffering a fatal stroke or heart attack," says Professor Edda Tobiasch from the Department of Natural Sciences.

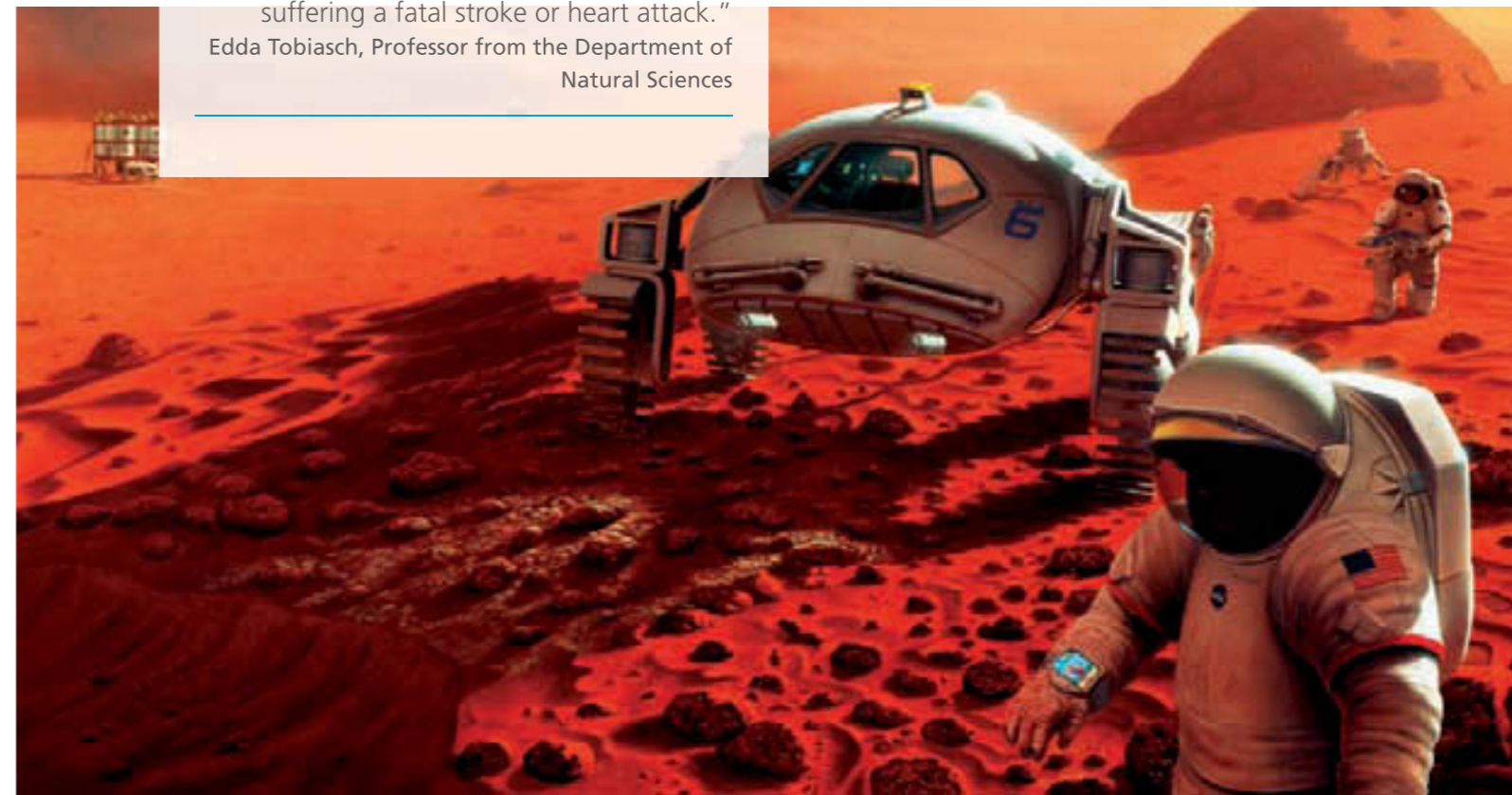
Cooperation with the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) and the University of Düsseldorf

The biologist Tobiasch and her team are working at the molecular level to better understand this "water leak" in the blood vessels. This is a collaborative effort together with the DLR and the University Düsseldorf. To conduct its research, the team first had to "recreate" the human arteries in

the lab. The breakthrough came in 2011. With stem cells taken from the fatty tissue of adult humans and muscle cells taken from cow arteries and human veins, they were able to develop a three-dimensional model out of biomaterial. On the molecular level, this model functions like human arteries. The next step entails placing the model in a clinostat, which uses rapid rotation to simulate zero-gravity conditions. The researchers can then observe changes in cell metabolism. "We suspect that purines have something to do with the release of water," says Tobiasch. These are molecules that latch onto the cells and influence inner-cellular processes.

Researchers expect the artery model to generate new insight into the causes of this disease and serve as tool for testing new drugs designed to fight atherosclerosis. The model also represents an important step in the development of artificial arteries. Atherosclerosis, which can trigger heart attacks and strokes, is the leading cause of death in the industrialised world.

"On a long space flight to Mars, for example, there would be significant risk of suffering a fatal stroke or heart attack." Edda Tobiasch, Professor from the Department of Natural Sciences



Green Building Materials

New device for more climate-friendly cement production

It's hard to believe, but the production of cement alone generates around five percent of worldwide CO₂ emissions. The basic material is Portland cement – a grey powder made up of limestone, clay, sand and iron ore. The production process begins with the raw materials, which are mined in stone quarries and then burned in special ovens at roughly 1,400 degrees Celsius. The resulting material, so called "clinker", is then ground into the final product cement.

The x-ray diffractometer measures the diffraction of x-rays as they are beamed onto crystalline structures. The diffractometer can detect the location and intensity of these reflections and the data allows chemists to study the precise structure of crystals as well as the progress of chemical reactions. "We want to apply these methods to finding more sustainable raw materials and treatment methods for the production of cement," says Witzleben. "It would be difficult to obtain conclusive results without the diffractometer." The current plan is to expand the "AktivPuzzolan" project together with partners from industry and the University of Siegen.



The diffractometer is also used by other scientists from the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, especially in the area of polymer research and the detection of explosives.

New professor, new research tool

The chemist Professor Steffen Witzleben from the Department of Natural Sciences is researching alternatives to this energy-intensive process as part of the "AktivPuzzolan" project. Professor Witzleben's research has benefitted from the addition of a new x-ray diffractometer. Funds for the purchase of this new piece of equipment came from "FH-BASIS", a programme sponsored by the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. An attractive start-up financing offer for scientists, the programme makes it possible for newly appointed university professors to purchase research equipment for up to 75,000 euros. With improved laboratory equipment, the professors are in a better position to attract additional third-party funding.

"Jenny" recognises gestures and facial expressions

Robots can understand non-verbal communication, too. Just ask "Jenny", a robot developed by the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. Jenny's recent feat was to hand over the bottle it was holding to the person who had gently tugged on the bottle. With this sophisticated technical achievement, the university team b-it-bots took third place at the German Open 2011 robotics competition in Magdeburg. Jenny also took third place at the RoboCup@Home 2011 World Cup in Istanbul.

The RoboCup@Home league features robots being developed for use in the service industry. The robots must be able to operate independently in everyday

settings and successfully navigate their surroundings. An important aspect of this is the robots' interaction with people – through verbal communication, gestures, facial expressions and even the recognition of feelings such as joy, anger or astonishment.

Jenny on facebook:
<http://de-de.facebook.com/pages/b-it-bots-Jenny/104751442942135?sk=info>



Protection against High-tech Car Thieves

Affordable software for greater security

Cars today are loaded with electronics. Microcontrollers – mini computers the size of a chip – control the engine and brakes, open windows and regulate the wind-screen wipers. Electronic devices also protect against theft. A thief may be able to climb into a car through the window, but the electronic engine immobiliser will prevent the engine from starting without the ignition key. The ignition lock verifies the key's identity by way of an encrypted code.

To better protect sensitive areas such as these, Professor Kerstin Lemke-Rust and her team from the Department of Computer Science are developing enhanced security systems as part of the Side Channel Analysis for Automotive Security (SCAAS) project. These systems are designed for more than just theft protection. Microcontrollers in today's cars can also recognise, for example, whether newly installed replacement parts are genuine or illegal imitations, in which case the system would send a warning signal.

Car manufacturers believe that criminal organisations in the near future will try to circumvent the security codes by way of so-called side channel attacks. This involves cracking the system's cryptographic key. The goal of SCAAS is to begin developing effective and affordable software countermeasures today.

Research partners for greater security

SCAAS will continue to receive funding through the end of 2012 as part of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) programme for IT security research. Project partners include escript GmbH in Bochum, Robert Bosch GmbH in Stuttgart and the Ruhr University Bochum. BMBF will feature the joint research project SCAAS as part of its exhibition at the 2012 CeBIT trade fair.



<http://www.scaas-project.de/>



CeBIT 2012: Federal Ministry of Education and Research stand featuring the SCAAS research project

A woman with dark hair, wearing a black dress with a teal collar and black boots, stands next to a large, modern medical device. The room is bright, with large windows in the background showing a building exterior. To the left, there is a white L-shaped sofa and a coffee table. On the wall behind the sofa, there are several framed posters or notices, one of which has the text 'RoSta' visible. The overall atmosphere is clean and professional.

Room C069

Sankt Augustin Campus

“I was able to take part in a number of EU projects and competitions during my time as a Master’s student at BRSU. That’s when it became clear that I wanted to continue my academic career as a research assistant and pursue a Ph.D.”

Anastassia Küstenmacher, M.Sc.
Doctoral candidate

Three Questions for ... Volker Sommer

Volker Sommer is Vice President for Research and Transfer at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. A professor of Physics and Measurement Technology, Sommer talks about how research projects contribute to regional development.

Research is a competitive field. How does the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences (BRSU) stay competitive in this region with so many other universities?

In academics, regional competition does not play such a central role when it comes to important areas such as funding. We make sure that we participate actively in the funding application process and are represented with good quality projects. The competition for talent, however, is indeed a big factor here in the region. On this front, the Graduate Institute – officially launched in 2011 – is not only a way to effectively bundle Ph.D. endeavours, but also a way to attract graduates from BRSU and other universities to our research projects. This represents a competitive advantage that we can use to attract and retain talent. Overall, I consider the proximity to other universities and institutions more an opportunity for collaboration – and less a source of competition.

BRSU's research strengths are in Security Research and Visual Computing. Did you choose these areas with an eye towards the regional network?

These focus areas were determined mainly by factors such as social relevance, excellence in research and funding opportunities. Making new contacts or further developing existing contacts in the region is then a natural part of our work. Our research has resulted in joint projects with regional companies, for example in security research with the Fraunhofer Institutes in Wachtberg or the Institute for Occupational Safety (IFA).



Are BRSU's research strengths well-known within the university and outside the university community, or do they need to be publicised more?

First we want to generate more awareness for our research within the university itself and establish strategic partnerships with external companies and institutions. We also visit companies in the region to make sure they are familiar with our university and our research. Successful research collaborations then provide us with best-practice examples and make it easier for us to interest other companies in forming research partnerships.

Living and Working in a Virtual World

Research focus on Visual Computing

A doctor stands before a huge screen looking at an enlarged image of his patient's eye, which he can now examine in great detail or even operate on. This is made possible by visual computing, which, along with security research, is one of two main areas of research at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences.

"Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has always been strong in this area," says Professor André Hinkenjann, who directs the newly founded Institute for Visual Computing along with Professor Rainer Herpers. "Now we can pool our competencies, leverage them more effectively and increase our visibility," continues Hinkenjann. "Visual computing" is not yet a familiar term in Germany, but the research team plans to change this. As one way to raise awareness, current projects are featured on their new website, which functions like their own YouTube channel.

Feeling comfortable in virtual environments

Visual computing is often about creating virtual worlds. One team of researchers at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences is working on a bicycle simulator with tours through virtual landscapes. Another team plans to simulate an entire ecosystem. Because these projects require such tremendous computing power, scientists are turning to newer and faster methods for rendering, which involves converting real-life scenes into 3D computer images.

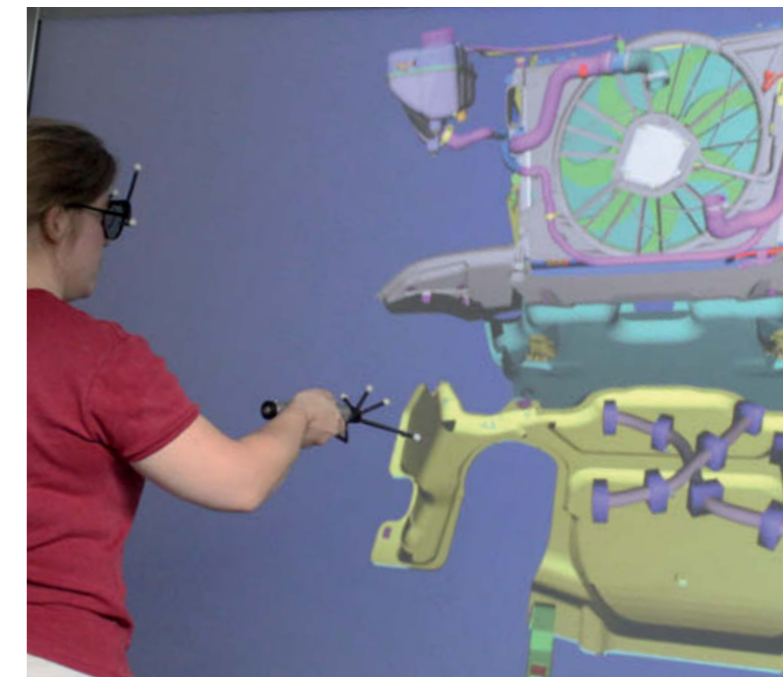
The TransCoop project demonstrates the multifaceted nature of this area of research. It considers how people respond, adapt and navigate their way through virtual worlds. How do they perceive the virtual environment? How do they move within this environment? What do they find particularly difficult? "This information helps us design environments in which people feel comfortable," says Herpers.

Another project goal is to secure third-party funding and the efforts have already proven fruitful. Many of the projects have already brought companies on board who are looking for concrete solutions to challenges in the area of visual computing.

Visual computing in the classroom

Visual computing deals in topics such as visualisation, interactive environments and image rendering. Current research touches upon areas where visual information is used, such as in medical informatics or in the classroom. An example of this is the "ExAR" project, which can be used by Physics teachers in the classroom. Wearing data glasses, students are asked to look at a magnet. A computer projects an image of the magnet's fields onto the lenses, allowing the students to see what happens to the fields when magnets influence each other.

<http://vc.inf.h-brs.de>



Smoother Sailing for Ph.D. Candidates

Graduate Institute establishes a new Ph.D. culture

Graduates from universities of applied sciences who are interested in pursuing a Ph.D. often face many hurdles along the way. Even the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences is not yet authorised to award doctorates. Nevertheless, in the last several years, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences professors have begun working closely with colleagues from other universities to better support graduates in their Ph.D. endeavours. Founded in January of 2010, the Graduate Institute at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences makes it possible to bundle the various support initiatives and develop them further. Institute director as of June 2011 is Professor Rainer Herpers from the Department of Computer Science.

"The Graduate Institute is also there to facilitate networking and help our talented researchers make contact with other university research facilities in Germany and abroad," says Herpers. "The idea is to help our highly qualified scientists overcome the current competitive disadvantage they face in the recruiting process." To this end, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has signed a collaboration agreement with the University of Siegen, where graduates will be able to pursue doctoral degrees and Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences professors can supervise Ph.D. candidates. The university has concluded similar collaboration agreements with the Tomas Bata University in Zlín, Czech Republic, and the University of Palermo in Italy. An additional collaboration with Brunel University in London is in progress.

"We are happy to help smooth the way for young people interested in pursuing a Ph.D. degree. Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has excellent scientists on board and we look forward to working together with them on doctoral work and in research."

Holger Burckhart,
Rector of the University of Siegen

Two Ph.D. scholarships awarded

The university's Equal Opportunities Commissioner Annegret Schnell presented the first Ph.D. scholarships to recipients Martina Krämer from the Department of Natural Sciences and Anastassia Küstenmacher from the Department of Computer Science. Both researchers will receive a monthly stipend of 1,000 euros over a three-year period. The support comes from the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia and its structural fund, which is intended to increase the percentage of female university professors. In December 2011, the Graduate Institute announced five additional Ph.D. scholarships. And there's more to come. "In the next several years we will be putting targeted measures into place to establish a true Ph.D. culture here at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences," says Herpers.

First report on research published

Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has published a report on its research activities for the first time. The report covers the period from 2007 to 2010 – an important phase in the university's development, which included the establishment of new degree programmes and teaching strategies. This was also a time in which the foundation was laid for future developments in the area of research. The report shows that the university is well positioned, both regionally and internationally, with research

focused on high-potential, future-oriented issues: from high-tech occupational safety solutions and IT standards, to mobile explosives detection systems, robotics, interactive virtual environments, all the way to the development of artificial organs.

<http://www.h-brs.de/Forschungsbericht+2010.html>



People

بحث علمي في ألمانيا

Having trouble reading the headline? It means "Research in Germany" and Hikmat Abdullah from Iraq is one of its strongest proponents. The professor for Electrical Engineering conducted research in 2011 in the EMT Department at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. Together with Professor Alejandro Valenzuela, he developed a modulation algorithm that can double the range of wireless data transmissions compared to present methods. Abdullah likes the Sankt Augustin campus' practical, hands-on approach as well as its international atmosphere. "During my visiting professorship, I supervised students in their practical training and advised a Master's candidate with her practical thesis." Abdullah will return to the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences in 2012. "In 2011, I was only able to simulate and develop an idea. Now we want to convert the algorithm into hardware." Thanks to the ideal working conditions at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, many more ideas will be taking shape in the future.



Campus

- Double Abitur Year
- Alumni: Ties That Last
- All about Robots
- Camp for High School Girls
- International Welcome Centre
- Knowledge and Technology Transfer
- Business Economics Forum
- People: Alumnus Christoph Kragenings



Ready for the Double Abitur Year

More staff and more space

2013 will see a big influx of students coming out of Germany's secondary schools, as each school will award the "Abitur" diploma to two graduating classes instead of one. With more staff and additional space for students and university employees, BRSU is ready for the incoming wave. In Sankt Augustin, an additional 2,400 square meters of space will be available in direct proximity to the campus and the Rheinbach campus has also added about 460 square meters of space.

Students still enjoy short distances and easy access

The new space is mainly devoted to offices for university staff. For the students, there has been no change

to the short distances and overall accessibility. "We know from experience that with such tightly organised class schedules, it can be problematic when students constantly have to move back and forth between the campus and other locations for their classes," reports Administrative Director Reinhard Groth. In addition to the office space, a building has been renovated at the Rheinbach campus and now includes a second lecture hall facility. Two halls with 100 seats each and two additional rooms with 64 seats each provide ample space.

BRSU is also expanding its staff in preparation for the influx of students. "We were able to secure a good deal of external funding," explains Elke Kitzelmann from the Section for Personnel Management and Legal Affairs. "We hired a lot of additional personnel in 2011 and will continue to expand our staff in 2012." The personnel expansion applies to the university as a whole and is not limited to a certain department or administrative area.

"We were able to secure a good deal of external funding. We hired a lot of additional personnel in 2011 and will continue to expand our staff in 2012."

Elke Kitzelmann from Personnel Management and Legal Affairs



Better library hours for night-time and weekend users

As of May 2011, the libraries in Sankt Augustin and Rheinbach have new opening hours. The Sankt Augustin facility is open until 11 pm and in Rheinbach until 10 pm. Both locations are also open on Saturday. The more convenient hours were made possible by special university funds and additional funding from the Rhine-Sieg district, which made it possible to hire the additional staff required.

Library locations and opening hours:

www.bib.h-brs.de/en/adressen.html



Ties that Last

Alumni Club offers workshops and a networking platform

Is it "out the door and goodbye forever" after completing your degree? Not at BRSU. The university wants to maintain contact with its alumni and continue to build on its relationships with them. And this is the job of Tobias Zoporowski, BRSU's Alumni Coordinator since spring 2011. A technical journalist and himself a BRSU alumnus, Zoporowski talks about his work as Alumni Coordinator and the kinds of things alumni want.

What is your job as Alumni Coordinator?

I am responsible for the central coordination of alumni relations. Each department at BRSU has staff that provides support to its respective alumni. My job is to provide overarching support and services and to promote more communication between alumni and the university in general. For this I rely on things like social media. We have a group on Xing, for example, and I've created an alumni page on Facebook which has about 900 followers. We regularly publish an alumni newsletter and also meet occasionally for an informal social round.

Why should graduates join the Alumni Club?

Because of the great benefits! In a recent survey, our alumni indicated that they are most interested in support related to their professional development. In response, last year we organised various online seminars on key competencies and offered workshops in time and project management. We also organised a seminar on social media in cooperation with a local company. In 2012 we will expand our offering to include a business start-up workshop and a speaker series called "What does a ... actually do?", which will feature alumni talking to BRSU students about their professions. It can often be difficult to imagine what kind of work is behind a given job or occupational title. With this series we want to create more transparency for the students and ease their entry into professional life.



What are your goals for your work?

I have two goals. First, I want to strengthen the ties between alumni and BRSU beginning right at the time of graduation. I also want to serve as an active interface between the university, students and alumni. I believe this can be the basis for a large network from which everyone can benefit greatly. Becoming a member of the Alumni Club is something that I can recommend to all graduates and alumni. And membership is free.

http://alumni.h-brs.de/Alumni_Club.html

<http://facebook.com/AlumniHBRS>



All about Robots

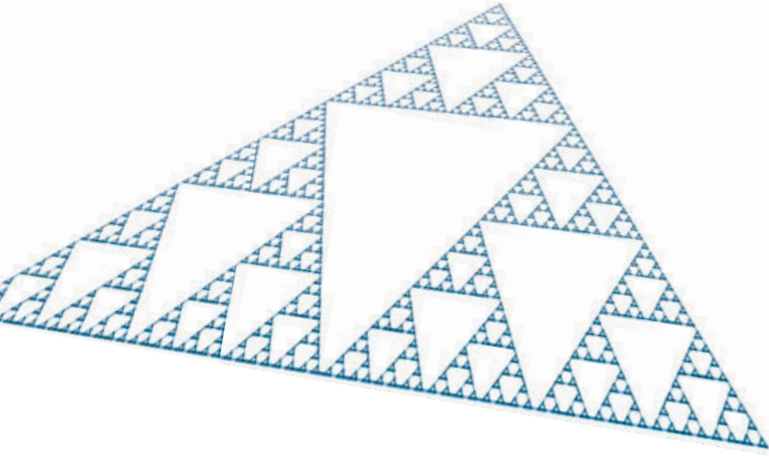
Hackathon features programming and puzzle-solving

BRSU computer scientists held their first hackathon in December 2011. As part of the competition, students programmed a robot to solve the Tower of Hanoi puzzle, which involves placing wooden discs of various sizes on top of each other to form a pyramid.

The rules make the puzzle a real challenge to solve, but with the help of "KUKA youBot", the students mastered the challenge with bravura. The "youBot" is among the newest and most versatile mobile robot systems. "It's an ideal teaching instrument," says computer science professor Paul G. Plöger. The students

were impressed too: "This new robot can not only move forward and back. It can also move from side to side and rotate – all at the same time," raved Martin Füller, who also supervised the hackathon.

The week-long competition was part of the larger European "euRoboticsWeek" initiative, which included 350 robotics-related events in 19 countries. The Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences was among 130 universities and companies to take part in the project. BRSU's hackathon team was an international group of 15 students from Germany, India, Pakistan, Russia and Mexico. They shared the latest developments and results via email and telephone and all agreed that the hackathon is a great programme. "It was a great experience to be able to work together with students from other universities," recalls Aman from Bangladesh, who studies autonomous systems. "If I ever have a problem in the future, I can just email my new friends in Germany."



A complex task: The image shows the large number of moves possible in a seven-disk game of Tower of Hanoi.

Pre-college programme from the Telekom Stiftung

University credit before even graduating high school? Yes. More than 1,000 high school students have signed up as "pre-college students" at approximately 50 higher education institutions throughout Germany. And soon they'll be at BRSU, too. As of the 2011/12 school year, BRSU has been offering pre-college programmes in the Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Technical Journalism (EMT), and Natural Sciences

departments. The programme is funded by the Telekom Stiftung in Bonn. The pre-college students can also take part in examinations and receive university credit for their work once they begin their university studies. To be eligible, students must come recommended by their high schools to ensure that their performance at school does not suffer from the added course work.

Camp "GET together"

Kate and William at BRSU

The church is decorated, the organ sounds and the guests turn to watch Kate and William slowly make their way down the aisle – the groom in yellow, the bride in pink. Suddenly something squeaks. William comes to a halt, but Kate keeps right on going. "That was a programming error," says Susann Ehrhardt.

Computer Science and Technology for girls

Prince William has a programming error? That's right. At the "GET together" camp held over the Easter holidays, 20 high school girls learned how to build and programme their very own robots. "Since the camp took place at the same time Britain's next in line to the throne tied the knot with Kate, we decided to re-enact the wedding with robots," explains Susann Ehrhardt, head of the "GET together" programme. The camp, which is short for "Girls Explore Technics together", aims to introduce computer science and technology to girls between 7th and 10th grade. At BRSU they are given the chance to explore, experiment, observe and simply give it a go.



The two-week courses offered during the Easter and fall breaks in 2011 focused on robots, renewable energy and the history of technical symbols. "The series was really popular," says Susann Ehrhardt, from the Equal Opportunities Office. "The 20 spots filled up quickly each time, and that's why there'll be another 'GET together' in 2012. Once again the camps will focus on robots and renewable energy."



Atrium Building E

Sankt Augustin Campus

“Willkommen! Welcome! 欢迎 Bienvenue!
مرحبا Bem-vindos! सुस्वागतम्
¡Bienvenidos! Добро пожаловать”

Lea Mund, Ute Schriefers-Jung and Maria do Carmo Massoni
Welcome Centre at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences



How to Feel at Home in Germany

The International Welcome Centre is the place to go

Welcome to Germany! The feeling of being truly welcome is so important during the first few days at university. The International Welcome Centre has been making BRSU's foreign students feel at home since June 2011. The service point and student advising office is an extension of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences' International Office and assists students from abroad with the formalities of their stay. The Welcome Centre helps students find housing and provides useful tips on living in Germany and settling in at the university. The Centre also relies on the support of the many Study Buddies at BRSU, who also help new students from abroad.



More about Study Buddies on page 71.

Individual advising ...

"The students appreciate having a place to go for support," says Maria do Carmo Massoni, who heads the International Welcome Centre. "There is plenty of information on the Internet, but it's often easier to have someone who can actually answer your questions, face to face." The newly founded Centre is just one of the results from the "International Student Barometer", a survey conducted by the International Graduate In-

sight Group and taken by BRSU international students. Results showed that foreign students often have difficulties when they first arrive. "We hope to smooth the start of our international students with the International Welcome Centre," Dr. Roland Weiß, director of the International Office, emphasises. "With the number of foreign students currently at 500, this is extremely important."

... and field trips

The International Welcome Centre also organises field trips. Centre staff members Lea Mund and Ute Schriefers-Jung agree: "It's important for the students to experience more than just the surrounding area – they need to see Germany and get to know the culture." That is why they arrange day trips to places like Heidelberg and Münster. A particular highlight was a weekend in Berlin. Different day-long city tours are offered each semester.

www.h-brs.de/en/International+Affairs/International+Welcome+Centre.html



While the International Welcome Centre might have its very own magic lamp, it cannot grant every single wish – but it sure does try!

Knowing Where to Look for Funding

Founding of the Center for Science and Technology Transfer

Founded in November 2011, the Center for Science and Technology Transfer is the centralised entity born out of the former administrative department for knowledge and technology transfer. The reasons for founding a separate entity are clear: "With a dedicated centre, we can do an even better job of facilitating knowledge transfer. It creates more public awareness for this area. And we can broaden our scope of responsibilities and bring in additional staff," explains the centre's director Dr. Udo Scheuer.

Service and consulting

The centre's two main functions are service and consulting. A six-member team helps university staff to apply for and successfully obtain grant money for research projects. "A great deal of public funds is available on the EU, national and state levels, but it's a real funding 'jungle' out there," says Scheuer. "We help researchers find and identify funding programmes that match their projects and help them to optimise their applications."

The centre also provides support to companies interested in collaborating with the university on research projects. "We help them make contacts within the university," explains Scheuer. These kinds of collaborations are often eligible for grant funding as well.



Successful BRSU collaborations include partnerships with the conference technology specialist Braehler from Königswinter, the machinery construction company Wirtgen from Windhagen and with Amman, a Swiss-owned subsidiary and manufacturer of road construction equipment located in Hennef.

Udo Scheuer and his team at the Center for Science and Technology Transfer also handle patenting and licensing for inventions coming from within BRSU. It's a convenient way for university staff to find out whether their idea is patentable or not. If so, BRSU applies for and registers the patent and gives the original inventor a stake in the rewards.

www.h-brs.de/en/Research+_+Technology.html



A job in Germany

BRSU took part in a pilot project sponsored by the International Placement Services (ZAV) between 2010 and spring of 2011 to assist its international students in finding jobs in the region. The initiative from the Federal Employment Agency finds employment in Germany for foreign students who have completed their studies at a German university. Through the project, BRSU – acting as a bridge between the graduates and the employment agency – is helping to ease the shortage of specialists in the region.

"We helped 17 of our foreign students find jobs," reports Ute Schriefers-Jung from the International Welcome Centre at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. The pilot project is over now but the ties between the university and its international students as well as with the Federal Employment Agency remain strong.

Big Celebration

Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences turns 15

BRSU's anniversary celebration gave students the chance to showcase their work and their school. Students presented their research projects up and down the University Avenue at the Sankt Augustin campus and spoke with businesses, many of which are run by BRSU alumni. Visitors could also stroll along a timeline that tracked the history of the university year by year. The student union (AStA) also hosted a summer party featuring the university band "theBIGlive".

The celebration was officially opened by a panel discussion held in the main lecture hall, where Svenja Schulze, North Rhine-Westphalia's Minister for Innovation, Science and Research Education and former Federal Minister for the Environment Norbert Röttgen spoke with University President Hartmut Ihne about educational policy in the 21st century. The opening ceremony was also shown on two screens located outside for those who could not find seats in the lecture hall – it was a full house.

www.h-brs.de/Bildergalerie/15Jahrfeier.html



Forum for Specialists

Business economists discuss process optimisation

When companies want save costs by optimising their processes, it's called Business Process Management (BPM). And when they turn to computers to help them, they are faced with choosing the right Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) solution that fits their own system, which is often a challenge. This is why the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and the FH Koblenz joined forces to offer the first ever BPM and ERP Forum in November 2011. Some 30 managers and specialists were invited to the Sankt Augustin campus to talk about process optimisation.

As the forum initiator Professor Andreas Gadatsch from the Department of Business Administration points out, the event's non-commercial character is what made it so succesful: "The participants could talk in peace without being surrounded by sales reps." Select students were also invited to attend the event, allowing them to gain valuable insight into user problems and meet business contacts.



Writers on the sofa



It's a request said a total of ten times in 2011 at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences: "Please take a seat on the sofa." Those asked to sit were well-known authors, who came to BRSU to read and discuss their work. The visit from journalist Bascha Mika, who read from her book *The Cowardice of Women*, made for plenty of discussion. Mika demands that women resist the desire to fall back into age-old patterns and roles.

"A very polemic and polarising book," says Susanne Kundmüller-Bianchini, from the University and Sankt Augustin Library. "The discussion round was fairly heated and emotional."

The programme "Zu Gast auf dem Sofa":
<http://www.bib.h-brs.de/Lesungstermine.html>



Two become one

Two independent faculties for business economics at one university? For the state of North Rhine-Westphalia this was one too many. The Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences was asked to find a solution and it did, by merging the Sankt Augustin and Rheinbach Departments of Business Administration. As of the 2011/12 winter term, BRSU has but one Department of Business Administration for both campus locations with one departmental council.

"The improved communication between the two locations helps optimise the coordination and distribution of resources. This not only benefits teaching but also boosts the competitiveness of our Business Administration programme."

Paul Bossauer, Departmental Council Sankt Augustin

People

Journalist in pole position – Christoph Kragenings

Christoph Kragenings is in the fast lane. After graduating from the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, the degree-holding technical journalist steered toward becoming an editor. He proved himself during an internship at the magazine *Autozeitung* in Cologne and was accepted into the Bauer Media Group school of journalism. Kragenings has been working at the Hamburg-based publishing house since July 2011. "I see it more as professional development," says the motor-sport fan. "My journalism and technical skills were already well-honed once I graduated from BRSU." While at BRSU, Kragenings also worked at the campus radio and TV stations and reported on the university's own motorsports team. "The programme at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences gives budding journalists the space to experiment," says the amateur race car driver. "And there's plenty of time to enjoy student life, too."





What if ...

...the Bonn-Rhe in-Sieg
University
of Applied Sciences
did not exist?

"Then there would have to be another one to replace it, **otherwise something very important would be missing** from the region."

Bernd Walterscheid, 6th semester student in Mechanical Engineering

"I would miss the pleasant and family-friendly working environment. I've worked at BSRU since 1996 and have seen the university grow. From the beginning, I was able to balance family and career – that's been something very valuable for me."

Cornelia Schleicher, Student Affairs

"Many students come from the area and live with their parents, who are probably happy that they can be there for their kids in this phase."

Dr. Jürgen Reifarth, center of advanced european studies and research (caesar)

Economic driver: In 2009 alone, the university, its employees and students pumped 39 million euros into the regional economy.



"...then our region would be missing out on some fertile minds. **It would be somewhat barren**, actually. Luckily, we have a place where ideas can take root and grow into fruitful new concepts. For the region it means a bountiful harvest."

Ulrich Kelber,
Member of the German Parliament, SPD



"If the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences did not exist then **I wouldn't be on the fast track**, which is where I am now.

The professors, the opportunity to work closely with them and the desire to conduct research – it's all I need to learn lots, quickly! BRSU gives me what I need to meet its high standards."

Alexander Haag,
5th semester student in Computer Science

"I would really miss the central location, the nice neighbourhood, the parties, and the HUMA shopping centre ... I guess I would miss more than just the university."

Benedikt Wienke,
2nd semester student in Electronic Engineering

"...then businesses and organisations in the region would have to think hard about where to turn for highly qualified personnel and research. They'd most likely set up a university of applied sciences ... And when the CEOs and managing directors think back to when they were students, they would try to create a place that filled young people with inspiration and enthusiasm for their studies, projects and various other activities – a place very much like the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences."

Wiltrud Terlau, Founding Director of the International Centre for Sustainable Development (IZNE)



"If the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences didn't exist yet, then I would do everything I could to make sure it was founded. BRSU has established itself as a lighthouse institution for study and research and is highly reputable in the region and beyond. It is great to see and I wish the university all the best as it continues with its success."

Norbert Röttgen, former Federal Minister for the Environment and former party chairman of the CDU North Rhine-Westphalia



Employment: the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences created or secured approximately 1,900 full-time jobs in 2009.

"I wouldn't know where else to study. There are so few programmes that combine technology and language."

Nele van Leeuwen,
3rd semester student in Technical Journalism

"Sankt Augustin would be missing an important landmark! All I had to do is mention the building with the two bright blue circles in the logo and my friends from Düsseldorf were able to place Sankt Augustin. This goes to show that the city and the university are perceived as one."

Bernd Klein, Professor for Electronic Circuit Design and Microprocessor Technology, EMT Department

"The trench around BRSU would no longer be home to its many frogs and toads ... but at least there would be **some real cows.**"

Amir Haddad,
4th semester student in Mechanical Engineering





"I'd miss many enriching experiences without the university. How should I stay young without the contact with the students?"

Gaby Stolzenburg, Security

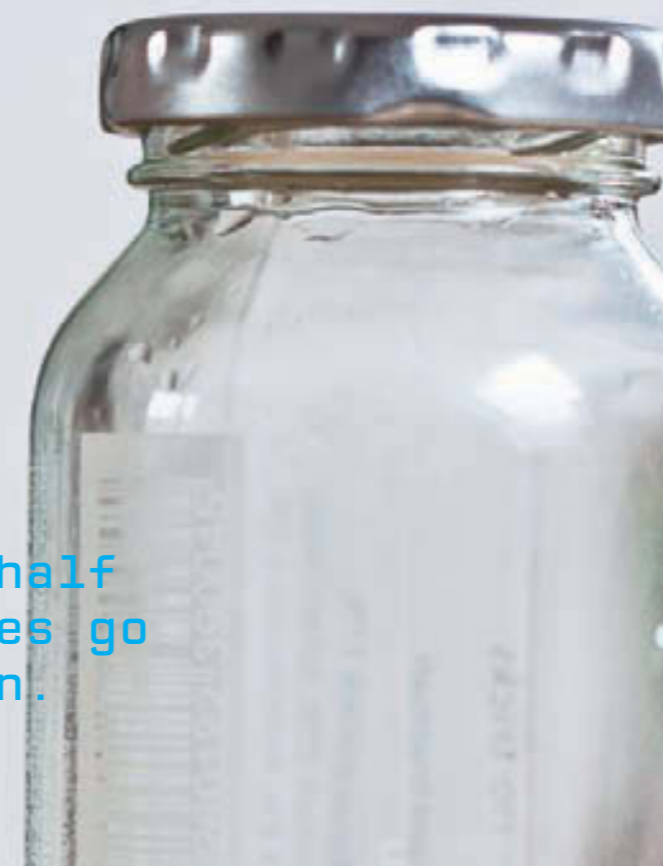
Specialists: More than half of BRSU's 1,000 graduates go on to work in the region.

"If the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences did not exist, then neither would the many exciting and innovative businesses and spin-offs that drive our region forward. Missing would be the many jobs it creates that make our lives better – and I cannot help but think of those **incredibly delicious smoothies** that I cannot name for reasons of hidden advertising (but I am sure every vitamin-lover knows what I am referring to)."

Katja Dörner, Member of German Parliament, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen

"Then I would have to study in Mannheim. And let's be honest – Sankt Augustin is much nicer!"

René Sturm, 2nd semester student in Electrical Engineering (dual)



Businesses: 70 percent are interested in working together with BRSU students, professors and teaching staff.

"If BRSU didn't exist then we'd have to create it – a university of applied sciences that offers top-notch expertise and is known far beyond the Bonn/Rhine-Sieg region as an innovator."

Dr. Gerhard Papke, Member of the State Parliament, FDP



"We'd miss some very special customers. We get a lot of high school students around lunch time, but the students are usually in a much better mood."

Bui Huyen, Thai Food, Thai restaurant



Region

- Strong Engine for the Region
- The World at your Doorstep
- Education Funds and Scholarships
- PR for the Alexander-Koenig-Gesellschaft
- Three Questions for ... Reiner Clement
- Growth Industry: Medical Tourism
- BusinessCampus: The Benefits of Proximity
- People: Former District Administrator Franz Möller

Strong Engine for the Region

Regional study results are positive overall

To take stock of 15 years of university operations, BRSU together with its partners from the banking segment, Kreissparkasse Köln and Kreissparkasse Rhein-Sieg-Kreis, commissioned ExperConsult in Dortmund to conduct a regional impact analysis. The results of the study, which considered the regional economic impact of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and its future integration in the strategic development of the region, were predominantly positive.

“The region benefits significantly from the transfer of knowledge, technology and personnel as well as from the many start-up companies.”

District Administrator Frithjof Kühn

A success story

With 16 percent of all students in the region enrolled at BRSU, it is the second most important university among the six in the region. BRSU’s investments and operational expenditures, as well as consumer spending on the part of its teachers and students, generated around 39 million euros of revenue for the region in 2009. The university has created or secured – either directly or indirectly – 1,900 jobs in the surrounding area. Of the roughly 800 students who graduate each year, 60 percent stay in the region.

“The university is a success story,” emphasised District Administrator Frithjof Kühn at the presentation of the study. “The region benefits significantly from the transfer of knowledge, technology and personnel as well as from the many start-up companies.” Based in part on 200 written company surveys and roughly 40 discussions with experts, the study provided a first-time look at the university’s exact strengths and weaknesses.

The university received particularly good marks in the area of teaching and instruction. Companies and university rankings give BRSU positive quality ratings for its practical, hands-on educational approach. In the area of knowledge transfer, the study showed that both the university and its company partners are satisfied with existing collaborative efforts. However, the analysis also revealed that companies would make greater use of BRSU’s research services if BRSU communicated these services more clearly and transparently. The study recommended that BRSU be more proactive about contacting companies and conducting exploratory talks. These and other recommendations are already being implemented.

Regional and international

BRSU’s sphere of influence is not only regional. While most students do come from the surrounding region, 5 to 6 percent of enrolled students come from foreign countries. “This provides an important complement to our regional focus,” says President Hartmut Ihne, “and the internationalisation is also positive for the region.” The study also concludes that the university’s dual emphasis on regional and international development is in no way a contradiction. With most local institutions and medium-sized businesses already active internationally, the university’s approach is very much in line with regional needs.

http://www.h-brs.de/Regionalstudie_2011.html



Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences: A driving force in the region – much like its racing team



The World at your Doorstep

BRSU partners with international companies in the region

“A truly applications-oriented university must work in close cooperation with the business community,” says University President Hartmut Ihne, “and in the Bonn/Rhine-Sieg region, this means mainly small and medium-sized businesses.” BRSU is proactive about initiating collaborations with regional companies and presenting itself as a valuable partner for research, development, and personnel recruiting in the face of worker shortages.

With this in mind President Hartmut initiated a series of discussions with business leaders in late 2011 – discussions that will continue through 2012. “Many of the companies are very receptive and very pleased that a university is taking the initiative on dialogue like this,” says Dr. Udo Scheuer, director of the Centre for Science and Technology Transfer. The discussions focus on establishing common interests and exploring opportunities for collaboration. How much manpower will be needed in which areas? What skills will be required? Where are the opportunities for knowledge transfer between the university and the business community?

One of the initial conclusions of the dialogue is that employers need people who are versatile and who can be deployed in the international context. Companies such as Hennecke GmbH say that BRSU is on the right track with its international focus. Hennecke, which produces machine technology and manufacturing equipment for polyurethane processing, is based in Sankt Augustin but also has locations in the USA and China. “With an export rate of more than 80 percent, the Hennecke Group is a global company,” says HR director Jens Frandrup. “Which is why internationally-oriented people with intercultural skills and experience are essential for the growth and development of the company.”



Research centre for SMEs in the region



Strength in innovation on the international level is an important issue for many companies in the Bonn/Rhine-Sieg region.

Emitec GmbH in Lohmar, for example, has more than 2,000 patents in the area of metal supports for exhaust catalysts and diesel particulate filters, which makes Emitec a global leader in its segment. But many small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) cannot afford the kind of research and development

necessary to achieve innovation on this scale. To address the problem, BRSU President Hartmut Ihne is looking for investors to finance a research centre for SMEs in the region. The centre will require an investment of some 40 million euros and will be located on the Sankt Augustin campus. “There is great demand for a centre like this,” says Ihne. “We need new markets and this will require future-oriented research, development and innovation.”

Investments that Pay Off

Education funds and scholarships

Funding for two semesters of Mechanical Engineering in the amount of 1,800 euros or a full scholarship worth 20,000 euros for young talents from developing and transition countries pursuing a degree in Germany – these are just a few of the many ways people and companies can invest in education at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. In 2011, 25 companies chipped in to finance a total of 57 scholarships. Fidegnon Adeossi from BRSU's fundraising unit has made it her mission to match potential donors with a suitable scholarship from the education fund.

The majority of participating companies donate to either the Deutschlandstipendium project, a funding initiative from the federal government, or the NRW-Stipendium, a scheme sponsored by the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Both are one-year scholarships awarded to outstanding students at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences.

In each of the schemes, the national and state governments commit to matching each private donation of 1,800 euros in full. A similar funding arrangement from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), which supports exchange students from abroad, attracted five participants from the private business sector in 2011. "For companies, investing in the education fund not only promotes talent but is an effective marketing measure," says Fidegnon Adeossi.

While always on the lookout for partners to participate in government, state or DAAD sponsored scholarships, the university also seeks sponsors for private funding schemes. These include grants for students from developing countries or for low-income students from Germany. What makes privately sponsored scholarship so attractive is that the sponsor can determine the selection criteria as well as the funding amount. "Important for all of our sponsors is to remember that their investment is an investment in the university's education fund, and not a recruiting strategy," says Fidegnon Adeossi. "Scholarships are first and foremost an expression of social commitment and engagement and are in no way binding for students."



www.h-brs.de/NRW_Deutschlandstipendium.html



Solving the shortage of specialists together

What are the region's needs in terms of knowledge transfer and qualified personnel? This question is central for the research and teaching at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. The university has entered into a number of new partnerships to explore the issue.

Together with the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) the university plans to develop, conduct and evaluate dual degree programmes with the goal of helping the region meet its need for qualified professionals.

First-semester students, students who leave the university before completing a degree and students who change their major all need better guidance. To ensure that these student groups get the attention they need, BRSU has strengthened its partnership with the regional Employment Agency.

BRSU is a committed partner to the SME sector and supports these small and medium-sized enterprises as they face the challenges of globalisation. The Handwerkskammer Köln (Chamber of Trades in Cologne) and the IHK Bonn/Rhein-Sieg (Chamber of Industry and Commerce) are important partners for bringing the university and companies together.

Freshening up the Image

Students advise the Alexander-Koenig-Gesellschaft on PR

Contemporary and cool or traditional and square? Academic and distant or practical and hands-on? Sixteen students in the Technical Journalism/PR programme wanted to find out what young people think about Bonn's Museum Koenig and they took on the task of developing a PR concept for the museum. The Alexander-Koenig-Gesellschaft – the association that funds the museum – wants to attract more young visitors to its museum. So it made sense for them to seek out BRSU's budding journalists and PR specialists for the job.

In the 2011 summer term, the fourth-semester students got to work. They analysed the museum's visitor profile, the association's membership structure and considered the strengths and weaknesses of the museum's website. They also surveyed members and sponsors of the Alexander-Koenig-Gesellschaft, as well as young people without any special connection to the museum.

Do more for young families

The students concluded that the image of the Alexander-Koenig-Gesellschaft could use some freshening up and the museum's website could be more user-friendly. The assessment also revealed that the website neglects an attractive target group: young families. The association's board of directors was impressed by the students' work and now several of their suggestions will be implemented by a new group of students.

BRSU Professor Andreas Schümchen is interested in pursuing more of these kinds of projects on behalf of non-profit organisations. "It's a way for budding technical journalists to gain experience outside their own area of focus," he says, "and I think it's great that the students showed such dedication on this project."



A man in a dark suit and light blue shirt stands in a modern office space. He is smiling and has his hands in his pockets. The background features large windows, a large indoor plant, and a table with chairs. The floor is made of light-colored tiles.

Cafeteria

BusinessCampus Sankt Augustin

“The collaboration between Deffor Ventures GmbH and Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences facilitates the realisation of our SOCIAL E-LEARNING for Africa and the Ghana Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Economic Development projects.”

Walter Deffor

Founder of the SOCIAL E-LEARNING for Africa project

Three Questions for ... Reiner Clement

Innovation is Reiner Clement's core focus area. Clement is Professor of Economics and Innovation Economics in the Department of Business Administration and Vice President for Innovation and Regional Development at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. He talks about his work and responsibilities in these two roles.

You are Vice President for Innovation and Regional Development. What are your responsibilities in this area?

I identify innovative potential within the university and, at the same time, am on the lookout for new developments and innovations on the outside that match BRSU's strengths. I work to create conditions that allow innovation to flourish. This includes sufficient freedom for the individuals involved, an open and lively culture of debate and exchange, a readiness to collaborate, and a suitable environment for teaching, learning and working. The dialogue and exchange between the academic and business communities is another important driver of innovation and growth – and this is also on my agenda.

How do BRSU's innovations benefit the region over the long-term?

There are three important aspects with regard to the region. First, we try to strengthen our students' ties to the region so that graduates stay in the area. In this way, BRSU makes a significant contribution to filling the need for skilled managers and workers at a time of demographic change. A second aspect is the knowledge transfer between the university and regional companies, which is a significant economic factor. And the third aspect has to do with academic and research marketing. The university, local communities and companies can work together to generate awareness for the large number of research institutions and international organisations, the appealing university environment and the advantages of the region as an attractive place to live and work.



What conclusions do you draw from the regional study commissioned by the university?

BRSU is very well known in the region. We can say with pride that we are perhaps *the* model project for the Bonn region's structural change. The academic programmes correspond well to the needs of regional companies and approximately 60 percent of our graduates find employment in the region. And the companies surveyed rated their collaboration with the university very positively.

But there is still more potential, and we would like to create an institute for applications-oriented research to help tap into it. This would be a place where BRSU professors and regional companies could conduct joint research – all under one roof. But the university cannot finance this project alone. The communities and businesses in the region will need to get on board and contribute as well.

Growth Industry: Medical Tourism

Research project drives innovation

77,000 stationary patients and an estimated 115,000 ambulatory care patients come to Germany from abroad each year for treatment. And they bring with them a total of 930 million euros in additional revenue for Germany's clinics. BRSU's Department of Business Administration is researching this medical tourism phenomenon and supporting the development of this lucrative sector.

Landmark in the Land of Ideas

For the researchers, the innovation competition "365 Landmarks in the Land of Ideas" confirmed that their approach makes a valuable contribution to Germany's long-term global competitiveness. "I am particularly pleased that we – as a university – won the prize in the business category as opposed to the science category," says Jens Juszcak, who is in charge of the project within the department. "This demonstrates the great economic relevance of the subject." While the researchers' data is based only on the direct revenues of the clinics and hospitals, the overall revenue potential is actually significantly greater. Especially patients from Russia and the Arab countries often come with family or other accompanying persons, who stay in hotels and shop – mostly in the luxury segment. "The 930 million euros in clinic revenue is matched by at least that much coming into the tourism segment," estimates Juszcak.

To help the region tap this potential, Juszcak developed a project concept together with the organisation HealthRegion CologneBonn focusing on medical tourism along the Rhine from Düsseldorf to Cologne to Bonn. The goal of the project is to bring together service providers in medicine and tourism in the region and to market its medical excellence abroad. The idea took first place in the "Erlebnis.NRW" competition to promote the competitiveness of the tourism industry in North Rhine-Westphalia, and received a grant in the amount of 1.5 million euros.

Host of the Medical Tourism conference

The department's expertise in medical tourism is based on several years of experience. In September 2011, the university hosted its third national medical tourism conference. As part of the 2011 conference, around 100 experts from Germany and abroad met in Sankt Augustin to talk about their experiences with international patients.

Together with various partners, the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences also hosts workshops on topics such as international marketing, organisation and process management and recruiting visiting doctors. One workshop provides special training in dealing with patients from Russia and the Arab countries. This makes BRSU the largest training provider in Germany in the area of medical tourism. Jens Juszcak is convinced that this market will continue to grow. "Germany is improving its marketing and we're seeing almost double-digit annual increases in the number of medical tourists."

<http://www.auslandspatienten.de>



The Benefits of Proximity

BusinessCampus opens third location

A young company doesn't necessarily need 200 square meters of office space. In the early phases a single small room is often enough and this can be difficult to find. The BusinessCampus at BRSU provides a solution to this problem. It houses 40 companies and in 2011 opened its third location to make room for more interested renters.

The BusinessCampus GmbH was founded by the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, the Kreissparkasse Köln and the Rhein-Sieg district Economic Development Agency.

Founded in 2004, the goal of the BusinessCampus is to reduce the start-up costs for young companies and thereby promote their growth. To this end, the BusinessCampus leases office and lab space at its university-based locations in Rheinbach and Sankt Augustin. As a way to save on

costs, tenants share the use of meeting and conference rooms, kitchen facilities and a cafeteria. The BusinessCampus also offers consulting and training for young company founders.

In 2011, the BusinessCampus GmbH decided to expand from 2,400 to 3,000 square meters. It has also opened itself up to new customers from outside the university. Up until now the tenants were mostly university staff

and graduates, but as of last summer, external companies can also let office space at the BusinessCampus' third location on Marie-Curie Street in Sankt Augustin. The original location in Sankt Augustin was also moved from the university campus to the Haus der Wirtschaft business centre.

These changes are very favourable for the tenants, says Dr. Udo Scheuer, director of BRSU's Centre for Science and Technology Transfer and one of three managing directors of BusinessCampus GmbH. "Graduates come into contact with older company founders who have business backgrounds and much different personal and professional experience." It's just the right mix for an informal and productive exchange of ideas. Indeed, the BusinessCampus also brings benefits to the external companies. "The proximity to the university makes the BusinessCampus very attractive," says Udo Scheuer. "The companies have access to personnel, such as working students and recent graduates, and innovative ideas."

<http://www.bc-rs.de/>



Pointing the way: Making room for businesses



People

100% commitment – Franz Möller

Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences probably would not exist if it hadn't been for Dr. Franz Möller. In the 1990s, when the capital was moved from Bonn to Berlin, he fought hard as the district administrator for the Rhine-Sieg district to make sure that the region surrounding Bonn was compensated both financially and politically for this loss. Franz Möller's campaign was a success – and the founding of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences was one result. "The university has become a beacon for the future within the region – it's everything we had hoped for," Möller says. "Many of BRSU's graduates settle in the region and enrich it with their knowledge." One of Möller's many inspirations, the degree programme in Technical Journalism, has proven one of the university's success stories. Franz Möller was named Honorary Senator of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences in January 2011 for his service to the university.



International



- Mechanical Engineering Students in Ethiopia
- Study Buddies
- Cooperation with Ghana
- Intercultural Competence
- Three Questions for ... Jürgen Bode
- German-Argentine Master's
- Conference for Spanish Teachers
- People: Professor Irene Fahrenhorst

Feasibility Analysis: Wind Energy

Mechanical engineering students in Ethiopia

Christopher Rath and Christian Kumm celebrated Christmas twice in 2011. In Ethiopia, where they worked on their Bachelor theses from December 2011 to March 2012, Christmas is celebrated on January 6th. "We celebrated the German Christmas, the Ethiopian Christmas and New Year with one of the instructors from the Agrotechnical and Technology College, together with his family," recalls Kumm. The two mechanical engineering students were also invited to take part in an Ethiopian coffee ceremony. "It is an integral part of social and cultural life – and we were able to experience this tradition up close!"

Teaching for Development

At the Agrotechnical and Technology College (ATTC) – an initiative of the "Menschen für Menschen" foundation – Christian Kumm and Christopher Rath contributed to various projects in line with BRSU's "Teaching for Development" motto. Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has been involved in Ethiopia since 2010, when Professor Elvira Jankowski initiated a wind energy

project. "The assignment included a feasibility analysis in the area of wind energy," explains Jankowski from the EMT Department, who also supervises the two Bachelor students Kumm and Rath. "A company in Overath, Germany is planning to sponsor a wind turbine for electricity production and this paper is a prerequisite for that project," says Jankowski. Students Kumm and Rath also developed training courses in renewable energy and machine-tool programming and conducted further training for the Ethiopian teaching staff.

A worthwhile experience abroad

Alongside their Bachelor thesis work, the students constructed a solar-biogas stove and learned a lot about Ethiopian culture and hospitality. "Of course we saw poverty and injustice, too," says Rath. "But overall the weather, the country and the people make it very easy to feel comfortable here." Kumm adds: "For me the experience was very worthwhile. I gained a new perspective on how a university works and how beneficial it can be to improvise."

The mechanical engineering students developed training courses in renewable energy and machine-tool programming and conducted further training for the Ethiopian teaching staff.



Helping to Settle in

Study Buddies provide support to foreign students

Enrolling at the university, registering with the municipal office, signing up for health insurance, opening a bank account, signing the dormitory lease contract – these are just some of the many hurdles for foreign students coming to Germany. At the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, so-called "Study Buddies" are available to help incoming foreign students settle in to life in Germany. On a volunteer basis, Study Buddies will usually pick up newcomers at the train station or airport, accompany them on visits to the authorities and help them integrate into student life in Bonn. "To ensure a smooth transition, we make sure to establish contact before they leave for Germany," explains Ute Schriefers-Jung from the International Welcome Centre.

Schriefers-Jung devotes special attention to preparing the Study Buddies for the visits to the authorities. "They receive a schedule with information on the opening hours – and we show them on a map where the administrative offices are located." Another challenge is being open and sensitive to the culture of the foreign students, adds Dr. Roland Weiß, director of the International Office. "This is why the Study Buddies take part in intercultural training session, to increase their awareness of cultural differences." The training covers theoretical basics as well as dealing with potential conflict areas. "One source of conflict can be the different expectations with regard to punctuality," explains Ina Schlegel from the International Office, who adds that the learning culture in many countries is different from Germany.

"The Study Buddies take part in intercultural training to increase their awareness of cultural differences."

Roland Weiß, International Office Director

According to Weiß, the foreign students are not the only ones who benefit from the Study Buddy programme: "The volunteer 'buddies' also gain international experience – even if they are not the ones going abroad to study. And every Study Buddy receives a certificate that documents their intercultural experience. This can certainly help when applying for a job."

www.facebook.com/BRS.University.International



Blogging in English

Not just speaking English, but writing in English, too – especially for non-native speakers, this can be a real challenge! Students of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and the Université Paris-Sud took on this challenge as part of a new blogging course. "A real-world task is the best way to motivate," says Regina Brautlucht, Business English department head at the Sankt Augustin campus. The students selected the topics, wrote articles and took part in discussions online. "The intercultural experience made the communication

even more exciting for the students," says Brautlucht, who organised the project together with her colleague Eileen Küpper from the Rheinbach campus and another colleague from the Université Paris-Sud.

www.spz.h-brs.de/spz/en/Home.html



Engagement in Africa

From Germany to Ghana and back

While the so-called slave castles along the Gold Coast bear witness to Ghana's grim past, the scenes on the country's streets today offer a picture full of optimism. "Ghana is an up-and-coming country with a stable political situation and two-digit growth rates," says Jürgen Bode, Professor in the Department of Business Administration at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. "The spirit of optimism and exhilaration is palpable. And there's lots of construction underway on the University of Cape Coast campus." Bode visited the partner university, known as UCC, together with four other staff members from BRSU. They also travelled to Accra, the capital city of Ghana. "We wanted to see if we could find suitable partners and businesses who would be interested in collaboration."

Encouraging outcome

Impetus for the fact finding mission in December 2011 was the "Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Economic Development" project. Jürgen Bode, who heads the project as part of the university-wide Teaching for Development (T4D) initiative, was encouraged by the outcome. "The School of Business at UCC is planning to expand its Centre of Entrepreneurship. We can support them by sharing what we've learned from our own

BusinessCampus and from our work in the areas of business start-ups and promoting SMEs." The project is slated to receive funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) until 2014. "Our partnership with UCC is one of three pilot projects within the University-Business-Partnerships Programme," explains Bode, a BMZ programme that provides funding to university collaborations in partnership with the private sector. "This format is perfect for showcasing the strengths of applied sciences universities."

One of the main objectives of the Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Economic Development project is to promote the exchange of students and teachers in both directions. The project will also offer professional development for the future staff of Ghana's Centre of Entrepreneurship as well as support in the building of infrastructures for teaching and promoting entrepreneurship. "At present, more than 40 businesses are using our BusinessCampus for their market entry," says Udo Scheuer, who travelled to Ghana as both the head of the Centre for Science and Technology Transfer and managing director of the BusinessCampus Rhein-Sieg GmbH. "UCC could potentially build a facility much like our own."



"The School of Business at UCC is planning to expand its Centre of Entrepreneurship. We can support them by sharing what we've learned from our own BusinessCampus."

Jürgen Bode, Professor for International Management and Presidential Commissioner for International Projects

Making important contacts

In Accra, the BRSU delegation visited the German Embassy, the German Chamber of Commerce, the DEG (German Investment and Development Company) as well as many local companies. "Wilfried Polte, a lecturer at our university, was the spokesperson of the executive board at DEG for several years," says Jürgen Bode. He provided valuable input and established contacts for the delegation. The German guests were also exposed to a few of the cultural differences during their visit. "It's not usual in Ghana to make appointments far in advance," explains Bode. "On the upside, important contacts are often available at short notice."

The delegation visited a variety of businesses – from innovative Internet start-ups to established SMEs. As Udo Scheuer points out, Ghanaian business people have much in common with their German counterparts: "They are hands-on people, direct, open, and decisive." Ghana's business community often complained of its lack of junior management talent. "That's because higher education in Ghana tends to focus more on theory." Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences wants to help change this by sharing its own experience with praxis-enhancing activities, such as in-company semesters and university start-up projects. UCC is not the only one standing to benefit from the partnership. "Africa is an up-and-coming market," says Scheuer. "And as the cooperation has shown us already, there is plenty of opportunity here for German companies."

University partnership with Namibia

Johannes Mockenhaupt, Professor for Medical Computer Systems in the Department of Social Security Management at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, has taught at the Polytechnic of Namibia in Windhoek as a visiting professor twice. He is now the lead coordinator of the joint project called "A Coming Together to Improve Learning of Occupational Health: A Joint Research Namibia – Germany". With partnerships already up and running in Ghana and Ethiopia, the collaboration launches BRSU's third cooperation with an African partner university. The partnership was formally established in July 2011.

Both universities hope to learn from one another in the field of occupational disease and will also work together on modernising the Bachelor's programme in Environment Health at the Polytechnic of Namibia. Activities include the method and knowledge transfer on occupational disease management, a structured student exchange and a scientific symposium.



A man in a dark suit and tie stands in a studio. He is positioned next to a white cylindrical podium. Behind him is a whiteboard. The studio is filled with technical equipment, including a large camera rig on a stand to the left and a complex ceiling rig with various lights and cables. The background wall is covered in white curtains. The floor is a speckled grey.

Training Studio

Deutsche Welle, Bonn

“International Media Studies, a joint programme from BRSU and Deutsche Welle, helps students understand the relationship between media, development, politics and society. The free media is an essential component of a culture of political pluralism and tolerance.”

Prof. Dr. Christoph Schmidt

Head of IMS, Academic Director of DW Akademie

Intercultural Competence

Skills that all university staff should have

Ursula Schlenker, from BRSU's administrative staff, took part in an international meeting of university employees at the Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences in Finland – and loved it. "I learned about administrative practices at other universities and was able to make several exciting contacts." The Finland trip was part of a university-wide programme to promote intercultural competence. "For us it's important to get everyone involved," explains Angela Fischer from the Personnel Management and Legal Affairs section at BRSU. "Through these very concrete measures we make sure that all university staff can contribute to network building and internationalisation."

on the subject of intercultural collaboration provide participants with the skills necessary to interface with the university's many foreign students and guests. "We regularly adjust the courses and workshops according to demand."

The response to the language courses has been very positive. And based on the experiences of employees like Ursula Schlenker, Fischer also expects interest to grow in the area of personnel mobility. "I was made to feel very welcome in Finland," says Schlenker. "I would not hesitate to recommend a trip like that to my colleagues."

Intercultural workshops and language courses

Personnel mobility is just one element of this new concept, which also features language courses geared towards the participants' individual language skills and job responsibilities. "Personnel Management offers courses on applying for jobs and conducting job interviews in English," reports Fischer. Student Affairs provides information and support to students in admissions and enrolment matters, and provides counselling on all exam-related questions. In addition, workshops



Bridges to the Arab world

"Avempace" was the name chosen by 10 European universities and 10 universities – five each – in Syria and Jordan for their joint mobility network. It is the name by which 12th-century Arabic polymath Ibn Bajjah was better known in the Western world. A teacher of Aristotelian philosophy in Islamic Spain, he built bridges between the West and the Arabic World, which is also one of the goals of the EU-funded project.

Avempace activities focus mainly on development cooperation. Most of the scholarships are awarded to applicants from Jordan and Syria, who can then pursue an academic degree at one of the European

partner universities. In the Germany, participating universities include the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and TU Berlin. Additional partners include the famous Sciences Po in Paris and the Universidad de Barcelona, one Spain's largest universities. The project also provides scholarships to EU-based academics for shorter study, research and work stays at one of the partner universities in Jordan or Syria.

www.avempace.eu



Three Questions for ... Jürgen Bode

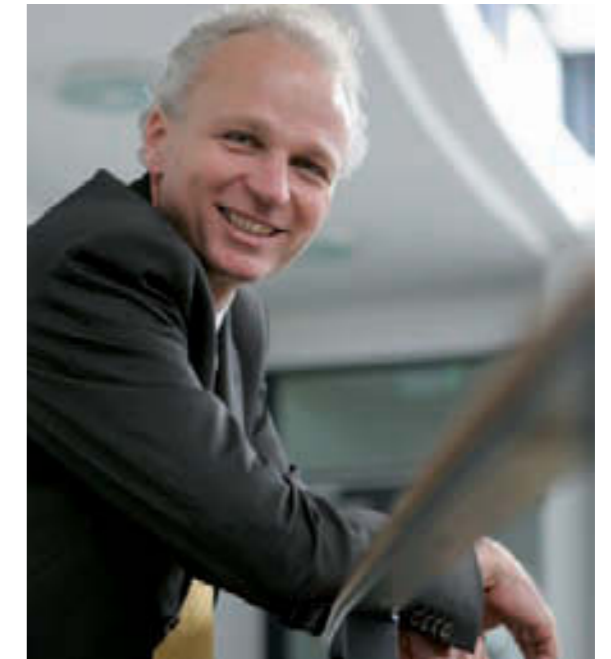
Jürgen Bode is Professor of International Management in the Department of Business Administration and Presidential Commissioner for International Projects at BRSU. He talks about why international skills and experience can be important for launching a career, even here in the region.

One of the university's focus areas is "regional internationality". How do you define this?

Many might see this as a contradiction: strong roots in the region with an international orientation. But it's not a contradiction. The two aims are very much interconnected and complement each other. Many of the successful companies in the Bonn/Rhine-Sieg region are also well positioned internationally. And we can better serve the needs of these companies if our university reflects this internationality.

How do the students benefit from this?

The demand for internationally trained students is very high. This pertains not just to employment abroad. International companies here in Germany need people with international experience and insight when it comes to making international, company-wide decisions. And companies also want to have people that they can send abroad for foreign assignments as needed.



How would you assess the interest among foreign students?

At the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, total enrolment includes approximately eight percent foreign students. This is a respectable rate, but one that we want to increase over the medium term. We want to be a truly international campus and we are taking a multifaceted approach to achieve this goal. This includes the 2+2 programme with our partner university in China, Hunan University. As part of this programme, Chinese students study two years in China and two years in Germany and graduate with a dual degree in Business Administration. We would very much like to expand this programme to other departments. Foreign students also respond very positively to other degree programmes such as International Media Studies in cooperation with Deutsche Welle or the English-language programme NGO Management. By offering these kinds of programmes, we expect to attract significantly more foreign students over the short and medium term.

"At the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, total enrolment includes approximately eight percent foreign students. This is a respectable rate, but one that we want to increase over the medium term."

German-Argentine Master's Degree

Degree programme in Engineering with focus on ecological agriculture

South America is an up-and-coming region – but the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences did not yet have a partner university there. Electrical engineering student Tim Kutz wanted to change that. He took a one-year leave of absence and travelled with his backpack to his dream travel destination: Argentina. And there he made an interesting and unexpected acquaintance. “Monika Gonzales, the mother of a friend of mine, is commissioner for internationality in the natural sciences department of the Universidad de San Luis,” he explains.



After returning to Sankt Augustin, Tim Kutz began looking for ways to initiate a partnership between the two universities. A call for proposals by the German-Argentine University Centre (DAHZ) for the promotion of bilateral dual degree programmes presented the perfect opportunity. Tim Kutz turned to Professor Alejandro Valenzuela, Internationality Commissioner in the EMT Department. He worked with Monika Gonzales to lay the groundwork for the new partnership. “We are planning a Master’s in Electrical Engineering with a focus on systems design for ecological agriculture,” says Alejandro Valenzuela. “With the use of innovative technologies, we want to contribute to sustainable development in the region in a way that benefits everyone.”

“It’s remarkable that a student was able to initiate the partnership with the Universidad de San Luis.”

Alejandro Valenzuela, Professor for Network Engineering and Data Security and Commissioner for Internationality in the EMT Department

Sustainability as leitmotif

The focus of the new degree programme is right in line with BRSU’s commitment to the strategic principles of internationality, innovation and networking. The overarching leitmotif is sustainability, as demonstrated by university-wide initiatives such as Teaching for Development (T4D) or the International Centre for Sustainable Development (IZNE). Pending funding approval by the German-Argentine University Centre, the first six students – three from each university – can commence the bilateral Master’s in Electrical Engineering in the 2013 summer term. And Tim Kutz wants to be one of them.

“It’s remarkable that a student was able to initiate this kind of a project,” says Alejandro Valenzuela. His colleague Annette Menke is also impressed by students who define unusual goals for their study abroad and

take the initiative to achieve them. “Sometimes these things can develop into permanent partnerships,” says Menke, who is responsible for student exchanges in the Department of Natural Sciences. These kinds of university partnerships are the basis for stays abroad for most students. The Department of Natural Sciences has collaborated for more than ten years with the Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen and has a total of twelve partner universities in Europe and two in Australia. “When choosing a partner university, we consider how well the experience will enrich our students both academically and personally,” says Menke. The students can take a semester abroad at any of the partner universities. At five of the partner universities, there is the option of a joint dual degree programme.

Intercultural training

Regardless of the country of destination, being prepared is an important success factor. “Surprisingly, the best example of this was with our neighbour the Netherlands,” says Menke. “Our students had a difficult time getting used to the competency-based and project-oriented learning approaches there.” This is why BRSU offers intercultural training to prepare students for their stays at one of over 60 partner universities in over 30 countries. The large number of foreign students enrolled at BRSU also brings internationality directly to the campus.

Alejandro Valenzuela, himself a native of Argentina, has also thought about possible adjustment problems for exchange students. “Of course Argentina is more foreign than the neighbouring countries in Europe,” he says. “But among the other South American countries, it’s the most similar to Europe. So the culture shock shouldn’t be too big.”

Seeing ecosystems in their entirety: The new bilateral Master's programme is a perfect fit for BRSU.



Conference for Spanish Teachers

Language Centre cooperates with the Universidad Nebrija in Madrid

“The Universidad Nebrija in Madrid has a highly respected Master’s degree in Spanish as a foreign language,” explains Claudia Ruiz Vega, head of the Spanish department in BRSU’s Language Centre. In Madrid, Ruiz Vega was able to meet the chair of the Master’s degree programme and was “very enthusiastic about the possibility of a collaboration.” One result of their meeting was the conference for BRSU Spanish teachers and other Spanish teachers from the region, which was organised in part by students in an Event Management course. “The students got very involved. The conference ran smoothly and professionally and the support services for participants were first class,” recalls Ruiz Vega.

The conference programme consisted of six lectures and three of the speakers came through Ruiz Vega’s contacts to the university in Spain. These included two very well known authors in the field. “That was a real plus for the language teachers, especially the very interesting discussions on the theoretical aspects of foreign language acquisition,” says Ruiz Vega.



Gaining experience: Event managers

Following the successful premiere in September 2011, Ruiz Vega wants to make the conference a regular event, especially given the lack of training opportunities for Spanish teachers in the region. The conference has a double benefit: first, for the BRSU Spanish teachers and their colleagues from around the region and second, for the students, who gain experience in event management.



Exam information online

Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences has a host of helpers that make sure its foreign exchange students feel right at home. In Section 5, which houses the International Office and Student Affairs, the staff members responsible for examinations see to it that the foreign students, like their German cohorts, register for their exams – and later view their results – using the Student Information System (SIS). “SIS lets students take care of formalities whenever it’s best for them,” explains Michaela Heinrich, who heads up this area. “The foreign students are given

an e-mail account as access to the system by their department’s administrator.” SIS also provides English-language grading equivalents for students interested in having their coursework accepted back in their home countries. Michaela Heinrich also points out, “Students can still access their data online after they have left Germany.”



More information about the Welcome Centre on page 44

People

At home here and abroad – Irene Fahrenhorst

“Regionally and internationally – our university thinks in both directions,” says Irene Fahrenhorst, Professor for Private and Commercial Law with an international focus at the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences. Everything about the multifaceted legal scholar is cosmopolitan, from her work to her life story. An EU project took Irene Fahrenhorst to Algeria for one and a half years, where she helped shape the country’s legal education system. She spent her time there teaching commercial law and procedural law and their constitutional implications to Algeria’s rising judges. “I have many academic contacts thanks to my extensive experience abroad – not only in Algeria but in the US, Japan, Great Britain and Brazil,” says Fahrenhorst, whose connections often benefit her students. Just recently she invited a visiting professor from Algeria to the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences.



International

Facts and Figures

- Programmes of Study
- Student Statistics
- Organisational Structure
- International Partnerships
- Awards

Facts and Figures

As of April 2012

Programmes of Study

Bachelor's programmes

- Applied Biology
- Business Administration (B.A. and B.Sc.)
- Chemistry with Materials Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering (cooperative)
- Computer Science
- Mechanical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering (cooperative)
- Forensic Science
- Social Security Management
- Technical Journalism / PR
- Business Information Systems

Master's programmes

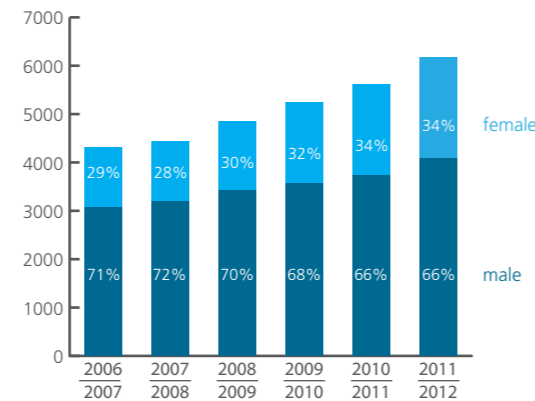
- Autonomous Systems
- Biomedical Sciences
- Controlling and Management
- Electrical Systems Design
- Computer Science
- Innovation and Information Management
- International Media Studies (cooperative)
- Communication Systems and Networks
- Mechatronics
- NGO Management
- Technology and Innovation Communication

New programmes as of Winter Term 2012/2013

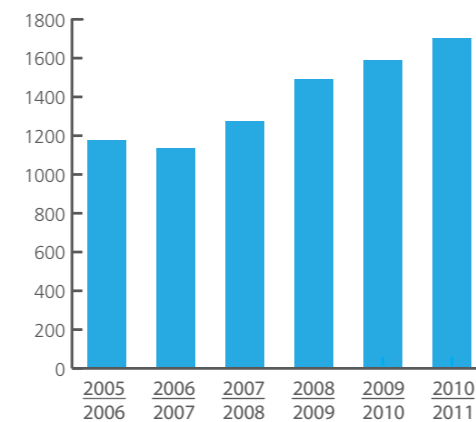
- Economic Psychology (Bachelor)
- Analytical Chemistry and Quality Assurance (Master)

Students 2006-2011

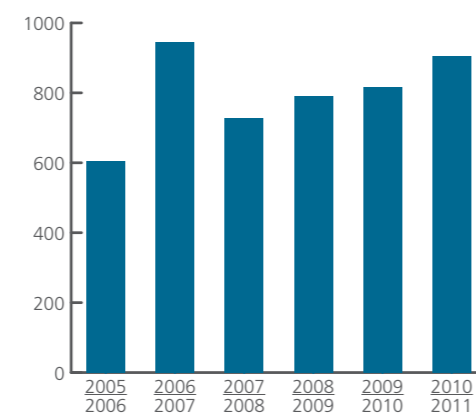
Number of students



First-semester students

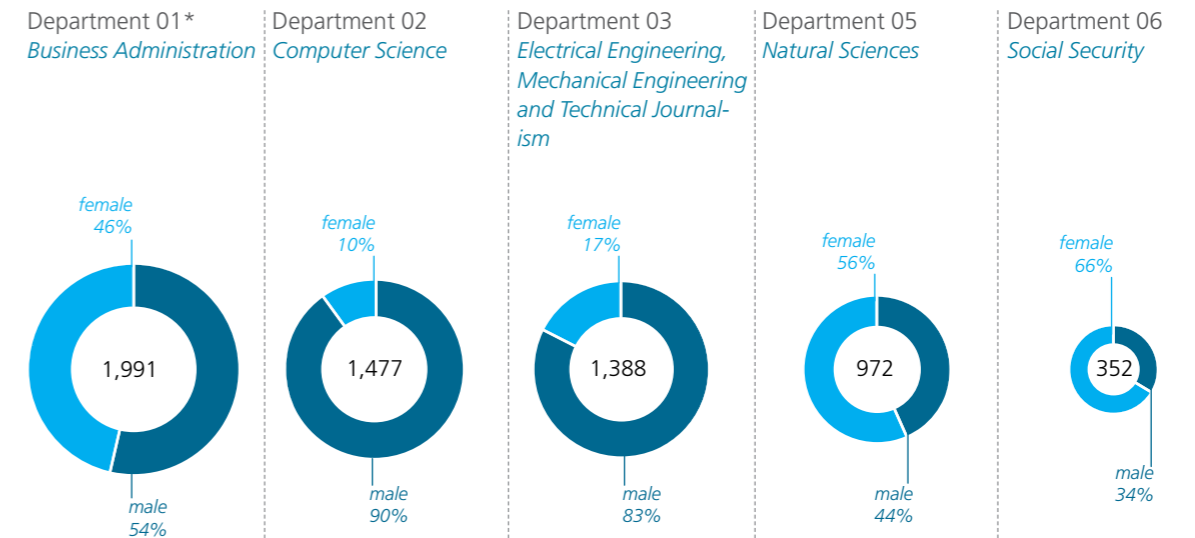


Graduates

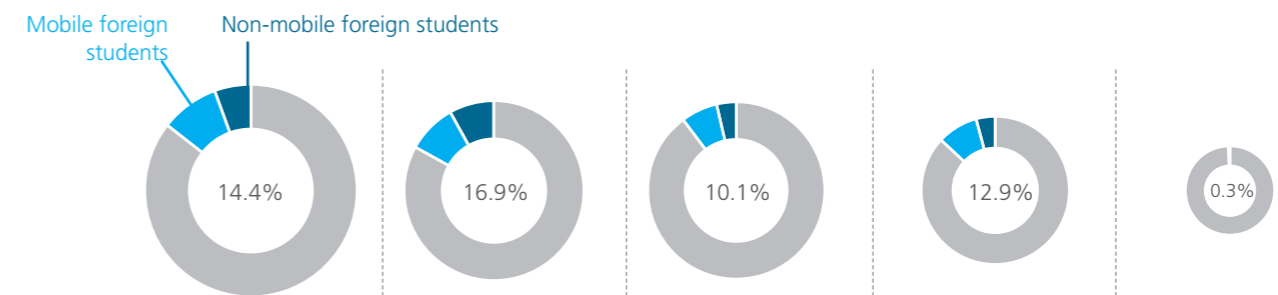


Students in the Winter Term 2011/2012

Students by department and gender



Percentage of international students in the departments



* Department 01 and Department 04 have been merged under Department 01

A university in figures. Visit the following website for detailed statistics and data on Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences:
www.h-brs.de/statistiken



Organisational Structure



The University Council of Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences

The current members of the University Council were appointed in August 2007: four external members and four members of the university. The University Council is responsible for all strategic matters relating to the university. It advises the Office of the President and monitors the way the Office of the President conducts its business. Furthermore, it appoints the President of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences and acts as his/her supervisory body.

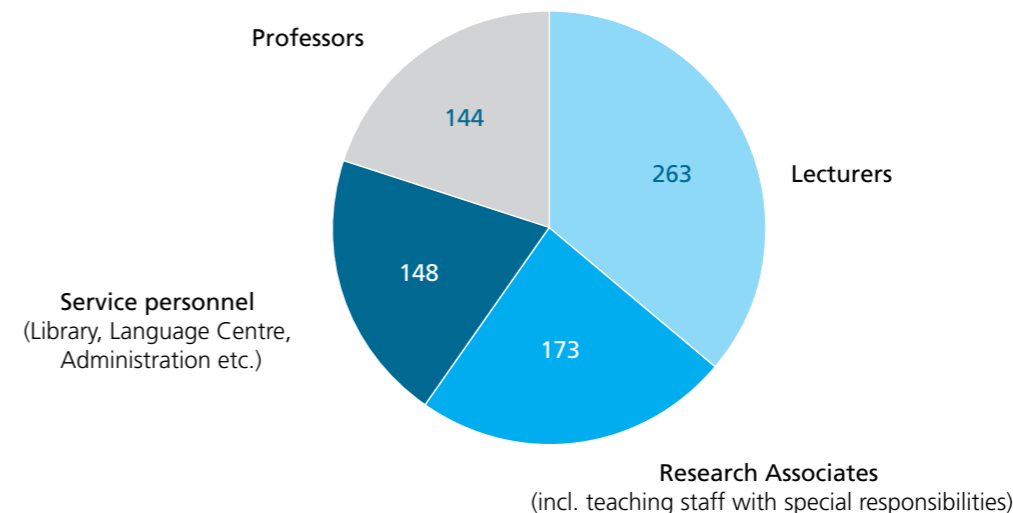
The eight voting members of the University Council are:

- **Prof. Dr. Rupert Gerzer**, Director of the Institute of Aerospace Medicine at the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) – Chairman
- **Prof. Dr. Tobias Amely**, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences
- **Prof. Dr. Elvira Jankowski**, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences
- **Dr. Eckart John von Freyend**, President of the Cologne Institute for Economic Research (IW) - Deputy Chairman
- **Dr. Ines Knauber-Daubenbüchel**, entrepreneur, Knauber (company)
- **Prof. Dr. Gerd Knupp**, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences
- **Prof. Dr. Karl W. Neunast**, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences
- **Dr. Andrea Niehaus**, Director of the Deutsches Museum Bonn

Newly appointed professors

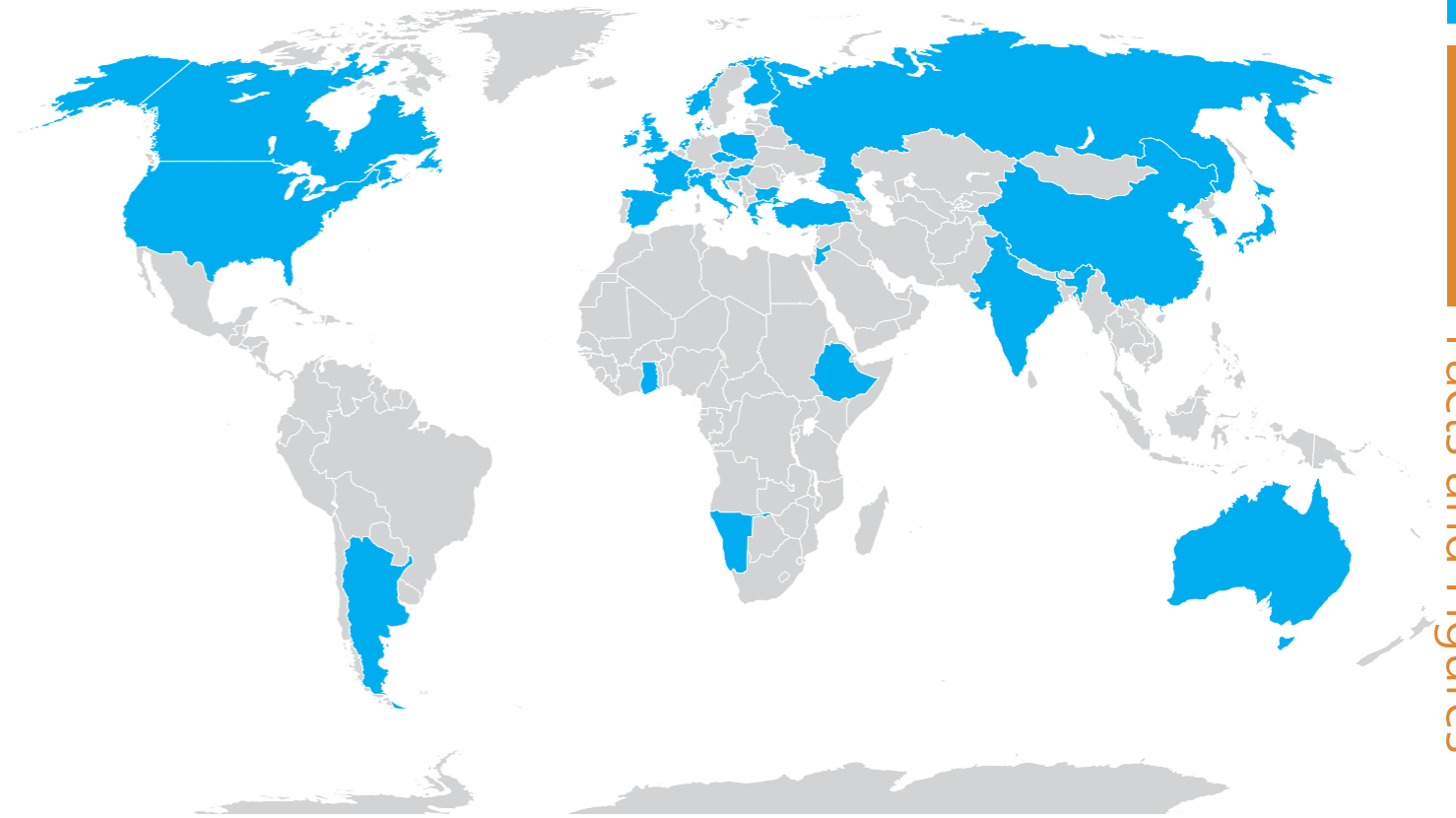
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|----------------|--|
| 1 January 2011 | Prof. Dr. Steffen Witzleben , Department 05,
Professor for Chemistry, esp. Inorganic and Organic Chemistry |
| 1 January 2011 | Prof. Dr. Günter Klein , Department 05,
Professor for the Environment and Resources at IZNE |
| 1 March 2011 | Prof. Dr. Thorsten Bonne , Department 02,
Professor for General Business Administration |
| 1 October 2011 | Prof. Dr. Annette Menke , Department 05,
Professor for Biology, esp. Molecular Biology, Cellular Biology and Cell Culturing Techniques |

University employee structure



International Partnerships

Country	University	Department
Argentina	Universidad Nacional de San Luis	EMT
Australia	Murdoch University in Perth	Natural Sciences (Biology) Business Administration
	Victoria University in Melbourne	Natural Sciences (Biology) Business Administration All other departments
	University of Sunshine Coast, Queensland	Business Administration
	Griffith School of Engineering	EMT
Ethiopia	Agro Technical and Technology College in Harar	EMT
Bulgaria	University of Economics in Varna	Business Administration Computer Science
Canada	York University in Toronto	Computer Science
	Dalhousie University in Halifax	Computer Science
	University of New Brunswick in New Brunswick	Computer Science
Croatia	University of Dubrovnik	Computer Science Business Administration
Czech Republic	Tomas Bata University in Zlín, Faculty of Technology	Natural Sciences (Chemistry with Materials Science) All departments (Ph.D. programmes)
Denmark	Aalborg University Copenhagen	Computer Science
Finland	Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences in Espoo, Institute of Technology	Computer Science
France	Université de Poitiers, Institut d'Administration des Entreprises (I.A.E.)	Business Administration
	Institut Universitaire de Technologie (IUT) Paris Descartes	Business Administration
	Université Paris-Est Créteil Val de Marne (UPEC)	Natural Sciences (Biology)
Ghana	University of Cape Coast	Business Administration
Greece	University of Crete	Computer Science
Hungary	Budapest Business School	Business Administration
India	Indo-German Center for Higher Education	Computer Science EMT (Mechanical Engineering)
Ireland	Institute of Technology Tralee (ITT)	Business Administration
	National University of Ireland in Galway	Business Administration
	Dublin Business School in Dublin	Business Administration
	National University of Ireland, Maynooth Innovation Value Institute	Business Administration
Italy	University of Palermo, Dipartimento di Biologia Cellulare e dello Sviluppo	Natural Sciences (Biology)



Country	University	Department
Japan	Kagawa University in Takamatsu	Business Administration Computer Science EMT
	Nagaoka University of Technology	Computer Science
Jordan	Deutsch-Jordanische Hochschule/ German-Jordanian University (GJU)	Computer Science Business Administration
Korea	Kyungpook National University in Daegu	Business Administration
Malta	Malta College of Arts, Science & Technology (MCAST), Gateway to Industry (MG21)	Natural Sciences (Biology)
Montenegro	University of Montenegro, Podgorica	Computer Science
Namibia	Polytechnic of Namibia in Windhoek	Social Security Management
Netherlands	HAN University of Applied Sciences, Nijmegen	Natural Sciences (Biology)
	Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences	Computer Science
Norway	HiST, Sør-Trøndelag University College in Trondheim	Computer Science EMT Natural Sciences (Biology and Chemistry with Materials Science)

Country	University	Department
People's Republic of China	Nantong University	Computer Science EMT Business Administration Natural Sciences
	Hunan University in Changsha	Business Administration
Poland	Jagiellonian University in Kraków	Natural Sciences (Biology)
	Warsaw University of Technology	Computer Science
Russian Federation	St. Petersburg State University of Information Technologies, Mechanics and Optics	EMT
	Moscow State Institute of Radioengineering, Electronics and Automation (Technical University)	Computer Science
	Ufa State Aviation Technical University	Computer Science
	Tomsk Polytechnic University	Computer Science
Spain	Universidad de Valencia	Natural Sciences (Biology)
	Universidad Politecnica de Valencia	EMT Computer Science
Switzerland	La Haute Ecole Arc	Computer Science EMT
	Zurich University of Applied Sciences in Winterthur (ZHAW)	EMT (Technical Journalism)
Turkey	Istanbul University	EMT (Technical Journalism)
United Kingdom	Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen	Natural Sciences (Forensic Science) Business Administration
	University of Aberdeen	Natural Sciences (Biology)
	University of Dundee	Natural Sciences (Biology)
	Keele University in Staffordshire	Business Administration
	London South Bank University	Natural Sciences (Biology, Chemistry) Business Administration
	Glyndwr University in Wrexham	EMT
	Brunel University London	Ph.D. programmes
USA	Coastal Carolina University in Conway	Business Administration
	Pfeiffer University in Charlotte	Business Administration
	California State University in Sacramento	Computer Science
	University of Bridgeport	Business Administration
	University of California, Riverside (UCR)	Business Administration
	Boston University	Business Administration

Awards in 2011

Department of Business Administration for the project "Medical Tourism along the Rhine Corridor Düsseldorf–Cologne–Bonn"

- Winner of the "Erlebnis.NRW" competition
- Winner of the Innovation Award in the "365 Landmarks in the Land of Ideas" competition, Selected Landmark 2011

Anastassia Küstenmacher, Computer Science

- Ph.D. scholarship from the Equal Opportunities Office

Martina Krämer, Natural Sciences

- Ph.D. scholarship from the Equal Opportunities Office

Daniela Jüppner, Computer Science

- Best Master's thesis by a student, awarded by the Equal Opportunities Commissioner

Winners of the "Gesellschaft der Förderer" (Society of Donors) Awards

Alexander Reimann, Business Administration

Award sponsor: true fruits GmbH

Jochen Wierum, Computer Science (B.Sc.)

Award sponsor: DSG-Canusa GmbH

Daniela Jüppner, Computer Science (M.Sc.)

Award sponsor: Gesellschaft der Förderer

Maja Fischer (nee Bazzet), Electrical Engineering

Award sponsor: Eaton Industries GmbH

Jan Simmer, Mechanical Engineering

Award sponsor: Dr. Reinold Hagen Stiftung

Melanie Zanfrini, Technical Journalism

Award sponsor: Zurich Insurance Group

Laura Theresa Pinsdorf, Business Administration (BA)

Award sponsor: Kreissparkasse Köln

Stefanie Knappe, Applied Biology

Award sponsor: Antiinfectives Intelligence GmbH

Michael Meurer, Chemistry with Material Science

Award sponsor: Siegwark Druckfarben AG

Maren Grabolle, Social Security

Award sponsor: German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV)

Other awards

Martin Weier, André Hinkenjann, Georg Demme, Philipp Slusallek, (Dept. of Computer Science), Dept. of Computer Science, Best Paper Award, Workshop Virtual and Augmented Reality 2011: "SILVA: System to Instantiate Large Vegetated Areas"

Roland Müller, Computer Science (M.Sc.), Study Award from AFCEA Bonn e.V. for the best Master's thesis 2011

Thomas Breuer and Martin Weier, 2011 Study Award from the AFCEA Bonn e.V.

Birgit Honrath, Applied Biology/Biosciences, Society of Biology Prize from the Robert Gordon University as the year's best graduate (Degree: Bachelor of Honours)

Timo Herrmann, Forensic Sciences, Marion Strachan Prize from the Robert Gordon University as the year's best graduate (Degree: Bachelor of Honours)

Sascha Kopp, Applied Biology, Astrium Spacelab Prize 2011 in the area of Micro-gravitation Research

Verena Leisen, Business Administration, Sustainability and Responsibility Award, sponsored by Phoenix Software GmbH

David Hildebrand, Oumar Konaré, Famil Mammadov, Sai Pulagora, NGO Management, IZNE Social Business Award for their project "Sustainable Future Consultancy"

Former District Administrator Dr. Franz Möller, Honorary Senator of the Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences

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