Dear readers,

Studying in a foreign country, surrounded by people speaking a different language may be daunting. Yet, with determination and willpower, students overcome obstacles again and again, resulting in impressive achievements. In this edition, we feature Natalie Ng, who decided to learn German so fluently, she was accepted to study medicine in Heidelberg. Read about her experience on page 6 and about what it takes to study medicine in Germany on page 5.

Our newsletter is a great way to keep up to date on what is happening. However, be sure not to miss any events, calls for applications and updates by regularly checking our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/daad.singapore](http://www.facebook.com/daad.singapore) as well as our website [http://ic.daad.de/singapore/](http://ic.daad.de/singapore/)

On the page [http://ic.daad.de/singapore/news.html](http://ic.daad.de/singapore/news.html) universities may advertise courses and programs that they consider relevant to the Singapore market.

We hope that you will enjoy reading this edition of our newsletter. If you have any queries, feedback or ideas regarding the content, please do not hesitate to contact us via [info@daad-singapore.org](mailto:info@daad-singapore.org) or Facebook Messenger.

Best regards,

Kerstin Schulze & Claudia Finner

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**Doing a Doctorate Info Seminar - 17th May, 2:30pm**

Interested in doing a PhD or Post-Doc in Germany?
Looking for an appropriate programme and funding opportunities?
Ready to take the next step in your career?
Join us and visit the “Research in Germany”-Team at our information seminar.

**Find out more about:**
Funding opportunities – options that are available to help you finance your research
PhD programmes – discover the different paths to achieve your goal
Grand programmes – find out how you can apply for and receive grants
Practical advice – all you need to know about moving to and living in Germany

The event is open to anyone interested in doing research in Germany. It is free of charge and will be conducted in English.

**SIGN UP until 15th May:** [www.research-in-germany.org/informationseminar_singapore](http://www.research-in-germany.org/informationseminar_singapore)

**Location:** Singapore Polytechnic, SIT@SP building, Level 5, 510 Dover Road, SG 139660
Recent Events

Career Fair Anglo Chinese School (Independent) - 8th March

What courses are available in English? How much does it cost to live in Germany? When are the application deadlines? Questions like these and more were answered to interested students at the annual Higher Education fair at ACS. We enjoyed talking to interested students and will welcome them for further discussions at our office should they consider studying in Germany.

Career Fair Anglo Chinese School (International) - 3rd April

Career Fairs such as ACS are a great opportunity for students to explore their options post high school. For students, it may be a surprise to learn that there are often no tuition fees involved when studying in Germany; or that they may be able to find the course of their choice being taught in English. We look forward to continuing the discussion with interested students and parents after the fair and are always reachable via email for further questions that could not be addressed in the short amount of time.

Science Lecture - 5th April

Together with TUM, the DAAD organizes scientific talks on various subjects. On 5th April, researchers and students came together to discuss “Emerging Trends and Developments in the Aerospace Sector.”

Welcome speeches were held by a representative of the German Embassy Singapore as well as the DAAD and followed by interesting presentations by Dr. Henry Johan, Principle Research Scientist at Fraunhofer IDM@NTU and Prof. Volker Guemmer, Head of the Institute of Turbomachinery and Flight Propulsion at Technische Universität München (TUM).

Upcoming Events

Infoseminar “Doing a Doctorate” - 17th May
Details on page 1. Sign up for this free event HERE

Science Lecture - 2nd June
Join us for Part 2 of our Science Lecture Series with TUM Asia with the topic of ‘Advanced Methods of Control and Automation’ www.tum-asia.edu.sg/speakerseries

Study in Europe - 30th September
With over 12 countries from Europe present, the DAAD is proud to represent Germany at this event. Mark your calendars and take the opportunity to chat with DAAD and university representatives, as well as Singaporeans who studied in Germany and German students.

German Opportunities Day - 28th October
The German Opportunities Day gives you an excellent chance to get to know Germany better. German trial classes for kids by the Goethe Institut, an interactive screen by the Embassy, presentations about studying in Germany by the DAAD, a German puppet theatre for the little ones, company representatives and much more await you at the National Library.
Study in Germany - Costs

What are the tuition fees in Germany? What are the living costs I have to expect?

Tuition Fees

Most university programmes in Germany are completely tuition free. However, fees are charged for certain Bachelor programmes (very few), Master or PhD programmes. Furthermore, most private universities charge tuition fees. The cost of tuition can vary significantly, but this in no way reflects the quality of the education.

Irrespective of tuition fees, all students in Germany pay a semester contribution fee. This fee has nothing to do with the course fees, and is a compilation of fees for the student union and for the student administration (AstA). At many universities, the semester fee also includes a semester ticket for local public transport. The actual amount differs for each university, but it will be somewhere between 100 and 250 euros per semester. The semester fee needs to be transferred on enrolment for the course before the start of every new semester. Any possible additional costs for the course material or textbooks depend on the specific course.

NEWS on Tuition Fees in Baden-Württemberg

The Federal State of Baden-Württemberg, which includes university cities such as Stuttgart, Freiburg, Karlsruhe and Heidelberg, recently passed legislation which will introduce tuition fees for international students from non-EU countries. The fees are set at 1,500 Euros per semester (for Bachelor's, Master's, Diplom and state examination degree programmes), amounting to approximately 4,500 SGD per year. These fees are to be introduced in the coming winter semester 2017/18 and will only apply to new students, not those currently enrolled at the affected universities or exchange students. Universities may decide to add additional scholarships or relief programs for selected students.

If you are planning to start your studies this year in Baden-Württemberg, you should anticipate this added cost and plan your finances accordingly.

For any questions or when in doubt, please contact the International Office of your chosen university to clarify the new tuition fee structure.

We will include updates on any further development in our future newsletters.

Cost of Living

Living expenses in Germany are relatively low in an international context. There are affordable options for grocery shopping, rent and public transport available and students often are eligible for discounts (health insurance, entertainment tickets, public transport). To help you budget, below is a guideline on the average expenditure of a student in Germany.

WHAT DO GERMAN STUDENTS PAY FOR EVERY MONTH?

- Rent (incl. ancillary expenses): EUR 298
- Food: EUR 165
- Clothing: EUR 52
- Travel (car/public transport): EUR 82
- Health insurance and medical costs: EUR 66
- Phone/Internet/Radio/TV fees: EUR 33
- Course/learning materials: EUR 30
- Leisure, culture and sports: EUR 68

Total: EUR 794

(Dt. Studentenwerk, 20th Social Survey)

*Living costs in large or popular cities such as Munich, Stuttgart or Hamburg may be more expensive than those in smaller towns.
Study in Germany - Financing your studies

Proof of Finance
Even before you come to Germany for your studies, you will need to prove that you can financially support yourself during your stay. The “Finanzierungsnachweis” requested for your visa would usually come in the form of a blocked bank account. You can find more information here: https://www.study-in.de/en/plan-your-studies/requirements/8000-euros-for-one-year_27533.php

Part Time Jobs
Many German students study away from their hometown and it is very common for them to have a part-time job to help with living costs. While some find jobs in the F&B sector, another good opportunity is to find positions at the university itself; working for a professor, or helping with labs (“studentische Hilfskraft”). With the student visa you are allowed to work 120 full or 240 half days.

Note that internships will count towards this limit unless they are required for your degree.


Scholarships
The DAAD is the world’s largest funding organisation for the international exchange of students and researchers and offers a variety of scholarships.

The DAAD offers scholarship programmes targeted at German and international students, graduates and researchers; university summer courses (German language courses), research grants, study scholarships for international graduates in specific subjects, even study visits and exchanges of academic.

Note that application deadlines are often very early (up to a year or more before the start of studies).

Further scholarships are available through various other foundations, organisations and research institutes.

You can search the DAAD database for specific types of scholarships offered by the DAAD and other funding organisations.

Information on application deadlines and how to apply can also be found in the database: www.funding-guide.de and a summary on our website: http://ic.daad.de/singapore/scholarships.html

New VLOG: The German Higher Education System

Studying in Germany is a great experience. Meet Katreece from Jamaica and Srush from Iraq in our Vlog! They study in Berlin and Potsdam and will accompany you through the summer semester 2017.

Follow their journeys to get some first-hand insights and learn more about living and studying in Germany.

https://www.study-in.de/blog/videoblog-2017/vlog-17-episode-one/
Studying Medicine in Germany

In Germany, medical training takes place solely at universities. Across the whole of Germany, the degree course of human medicine is offered at one private and 35 state universities. Some 11,000 university places are available for new students every year. About 1,700 of these freshman students are from abroad. What all universities have in common is their high-quality standards in training. This applies equally to the teaching staff and the students. Anyone interested in studying medicine should therefore have excellent grades in biology, chemistry and physics, as well as a basic understanding of medicine and natural sciences, a good spatial sense and powers of observation, as well as communication skills. Good German language skills are essential in order to be able to follow lectures or to talk to patients. Studying medicine is very time-intensive and involves a lot of examinations. You therefore need comparatively high levels of personal resilience.

After the end of the degree course, students must complete a year of practical training which prepares them for professional practice. The degree of medicine ends with the national Final Examination for Doctors, also known at the “state examination”.

Requirements and regulations relevant to Singaporean students

Medical studies, including pharmaceutical studies, veterinary science or dentistry, have special requirements to other subjects and restrictions applicable to Singapore.

A-Level holders should note that their subjects must include maths and a natural science or two natural sciences.

All medical subjects are only taught in German. Applicants must therefore pass a language proficiency test on C1 level such as TestDaF (https://www.testdaf.de) or DSH (http://www.fadaf.de/de/rund_um_dsh/) prior to applying.

The Singapore Medical Council currently only accepts medical degrees from the following 4 universities: Ruprecht-Karls-University in Heidelberg, Johann-Wolfgang-Goethe University in Frankfurt, Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich and Charite-Universitätsmedizin in Berlin. You can find this information under this link: http://www.healthprofessionals.gov.sg/content/dam/hprof/smc/docs/becoming_registered_doctor/Second%20Schedule%20-%20Registrable%20Basic%20Medical%20Qualifications.pdf

While other universities offer as high quality medical studies and degrees, if you plan to one day work as a doctor in Singapore, you should only apply to those four universities.

Find more interesting information on medicine studies, career prospects, research opportunities and specialisations in the DAAD brochure on medicine (printed in 2011). https://www.daad.de/medien/deutschland/nach-deutschland/downloads/wd-medicin_en.pdf
“Studying in Germany – an experience unlike any other” - Natalie Ng, graduated from NUS High School and studied Medicine at the University of Heidelberg

Most of the pre-university students I’ve met for a brief Q&A session begin our conversation with the same concern: How is it possible to study a course in a foreign country without any prior knowledge of the native language itself? I usually flash a grin and counter with the reply, “Well, you understand ‘Kindergarten’, ‘Strudel’, ‘Kaputt’, right? Then you speak more German than you already know.” This definitely does not mean you will only encounter words like “Bratwurst” and “Autobahn” in every university lecture in Germany. It does mean, however, that the prospect of studying a course in German is not impossible. In fact, from my own personal experience, it’s highly achievable. The strongest piece of advice I offer to worried juniors is an old German adage that I’ve occasionally found to be very useful: “Augen zu und durch”. This maxim, loosely translated, means that sometimes the best way to immerse yourself in a foreign language is to simply dive right in.

Apart from honing your foreign language skills, studying in Germany has opened my eyes to many beautiful aspects of studying abroad. Since I’ve begun studying medicine in Germany 5 years ago, I’ve learned to appreciate the exciting benefits of studying abroad - experiencing a foreign country with new outlooks, customs, and traditions. Personally, I’ve been constantly fascinated by different cultural perspectives and their impact in various social settings. Studying abroad is truly a gateway to experiencing seeing the world from a fresh perspective - it has taught me to be more effective, assertive and respectful of other cultures, political and economic systems other than my own nation.

Ironically, studying abroad has also led me to discovering and understanding myself better. While exploring a new environment elicits curiosity and excitement, it has also tested my ability to adapt to diverse situations at unexpected times. Although this can be overwhelming initially, I’ve learned to break free from the “kiasu” frame of mind, embrace new challenges and stop avoiding difficult situations on purpose.

To say that studying medicine in Germany was a good experience is an understatement. It has moulded and taught me many important values that I will treasure and bring home with me. As a physician, it has trained me to work efficiently, and communicate effectively with my patients, even in a foreign language when necessary. It has helped me develop interpersonal and intercultural skills that I believe will continue to influence my career path unequivocally. It has given me lifelong friends from different backgrounds, each unique to me in a special way.

It has impacted my personal, professional and academic life, and given me a fresh outlook on life that I probably would not have attained had I chosen to study locally. Pursuing your studies abroad is undoubtedly eye-opening, but in my personal opinion, studying in Germany is an experience unlike any other.
Master of Science in Space Sciences and Technologies (Space-ST)

Study in the Land of Ideas, Innovation and High-tech! Join our M.Sc. program “Space Sciences and Technologies – Sensing, Processing, Communication”!

Science and technology for space applications have made significant progress in recent years and many new challenges are ahead of us. Hence, excellent job opportunities for scientists and engineers will arise. The University of Bremen, Germany, provides methods and tools to be part of this exciting new progress of humanity! Study Space Sciences and Technologies!

For more information visit: www.space-st.uni-bremen.de

Call for Applications - Green Talents Award 2017

Are you a young scientist engaged in the field of environmental and sustainability research? Would you like to gain access to first-class research facilities in Germany? Are you interested in sharing ideas and opinions with leading researchers in your field? Then apply for the “Green Talents Award 2017” with which the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) promotes 25 young scientists each year in the field of environmental and sustainability research.

Requirements for applicants:

- enrolment in a Master’s or PhD programme in any field related to sustainable development or a degree (Master’s/PhD) completed with significantly above-average grades in a similar programme no more than three years before the end of the application process
- excellent proven command of English
- a non-German citizen or anyone not residing in Germany

What form does the funding take?

The winners are invited to the “Green Talents Science Forum”. During this roughly two-week science tour of Germany, they will be given access to top-class German environmental and sustainability research facilities and have the chance to share ideas and opinions with experts of their choice. They also have the opportunity to spend up to three months conducting research at a research facility of their choice in 2018. The Science Forum visit and the research period are funded by the BMBF. In addition, the winners will become part of the global Green Talents Network, which regularly gives rise to cooperative and collaborative ventures.

Application Deadline:

23 May 2017 (12.00 p.m. CEST).

Find out more at: www.greentalents.de

Goethe Institut
Courses: www.goethe.de/ins/sg/en/spr/kur.html

FaDaF—courses and DSH
For courses: www.uni-german.de/en/
Information on DSH: http://www.fadaf.de/de/rund_um_dsh/

Test-DaF

telc Deutsch C1

German Language Courses and Tests

To study a course which is taught in German, a language proficiency test is required prior to starting your studies. The sites below contain course and test information, dates and often sample tests. Even if you study in English, learning some German will help you getting around and making friends.
Useful weblinks

www.studienwahl.de
This page offers short descriptions of all the academic fields offered in Germany along with a database containing information and links to all degree programmes. The website also provides a whole range of information and advice on studying for foreign students, such as the market situation, the various kinds of higher education institutions, on how to finance studies, on insurance matters and much more.

www.internationale-studierende.de
The National Association of Student Services Organisations is the umbrella organisation of student services organisations (Studentenwerke) in Germany. These organisations are partner organisations of the universities that support around two million students in Germany with study-related services.

www.tatsachen ueber deutschland.de
Information on Germany and its people, on social life, politics, economy and industry etc.

BE PART OF THE FALLING WALLS LAB SINGAPORE ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2017

The Falling Walls Lab is an interdisciplinary forum for aspiring scientists and professionals from around the world. It is part of the annual, internationally renowned, conference for breakthroughs in science and society, the Falling Walls Conference. With the slogan “Share Your Idea!” the Falling Walls Lab offers hundreds emerging talents, entrepreneurs and innovators a stage to pitch their research work, initiatives or business models to their peers and a distinguished jury from academia and business.

In the course of the year, international Falling Walls Labs are organised by academic institutions throughout the world. The winners of each international Lab travel to the Falling Walls Lab Finale in Berlin, which takes place every year on 8 November. At the Berlin Lab, 100 innovators receive the opportunity to present their work in front of a distinguished jury and attend the Falling Walls Conference on 9 November where they meet the world’s top scientists. The three winners of the Berlin Lab will get the chance to present their ideas once more on the grand stage of the Falling Walls Conference to an international audience.

The Falling Walls Lab addresses a broad range of people from all professional backgrounds and disciplines.

We are looking for:

- Scholars, researchers and scientists (BA-students, MA-students, PhD-/ doctoral candidates and post-docs)
- Entrepreneurs, engineers and young professionals (Start-ups, inventions, initiatives and business ideas)
- Innovators from all areas - science, the humanities, arts, business and technology

The selection criteria are as follows:

- If a person has a Bachelor’s degree, the degree should not date back more than 10 years.
- If a person has a Master’s degree, the degree should not date back more than 7 years.
- If a person has a PhD, the degree should not date back more than 5 years.
- Postdocs and students currently enrolled in university are also eligible to apply.
- The applicant has to be of legal age (18 years or older) in order to participate in the Falling Walls Lab.

Look at some videos from last year’s Falling Walls Lab Singapore and Falling Walls Berlin:
Highlights from Falling Walls Lab Singapore 2016: https://youtu.be/PhlfWww8lf8
Highlights from Falling Walls Lab Berlin 2016: https://vimeo.com/191254641

Apply via http://falling-walls.com/lab/apply

The registration will close on 16 June 2017.

Visit the website http://www.falling-walls.com for more information.
ADVANCED METHODS
IN CONTROL & AUTOMATION

Control & Automation companies are crucial for the successful operation of industrial plants, infrastructure and buildings. Nine of the world’s top 10 Control & Automation companies already have significant operations here, making Singapore the leading process control hub in Asia. Today, many companies are also at the frontier of Industrial Internet of Things (IoT) adoption and the global trend of digitisation, enabled and enhanced by IoT technologies across all sectors are changing the face of automation. Businesses are now looking towards transforming their products, services and business models to ensure that they are connected real-time so as to stay relevant in a data-driven marketplace.

With the appropriate application of IoT technologies, new service offerings such as predictive and preventive remote maintenance, optimised asset management and big data-enabled production life-cycle management will be made possible. Through sharing from experience academics and researchers on key emerging trends and developments, we hope to raise awareness in tackling modern manufacturing issues, from the inception of products to robotics application, focusing on modern manufacturing techniques and practices while addressing the fundamental science and technology involved.

SPEAKERS

"Industrial Robotics & Its Applications"
by Dr. Tao Pey Yuen
Research Scientist
Singapore Institute of Manufacturing Technology (SIMTech), A*STAR

"Interactive Urban Robot IURO"
by Prof. Martin Buss
Head, Institute of Turbomachinery and Flight Propulsion
Technical University of Munich (TUM)

"3D Vision & Intelligence for Automatic Visual Inspection"
by Dr. Xiong Wei
Lab Head and Senior Scientist
Institute for Infocomm Research (I2R), A*STAR

EVENT DETAILS

Where
510 Dover Road, Singapore 139660
SIT@SP Building, Level 5
Lecture Room - SR5A

Date & Time
2 June 2017, Friday
3:00pm – 5:30pm
(Refreshments will be served)

Registration
This session is free and open to the public. You may register at www.tum-asia.edu.sg/speakerseries before 1 June 2017.

To find out more about the topics covered & programme of the day, please log onto www.tum-asia.edu.sg/speakerseries