

# International Newsletter

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## EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

Frankfurt UAS professors and students once again report on the various interesting research and teaching projects they are involved with in this newsletter. Prof. Klein develops an innovative robotic shower system in cooperation with a multitude of European partners, for instance, while other professors from Frankfurt UAS examine and optimize delivery strategies of the booming courier, express and packages service sector. Moreover, Frankfurt UAS has joined the European University Association and is therefore the second university of applied sciences in the state of Hesse that has become an EUA member. You will notice: It is a wide array of topics that we look into at Frankfurt UAS. Just read on and discover even more great projects and news at Frankfurt UAS!

Sincerely yours,



Prof. Dr. Frank E. P. Dievernich

## NEWS AND EVENTS

### Membership Application Successful: Frankfurt UAS Joins European University Association

Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences is now a member of the European University Association (EUA). Its membership application was approved by the EUA council in January of this year. EUA membership is contingent upon institutional ability to meet defined benchmarks in teaching, research and internationalization. Universities must also be nominated by the German Rectors' Conference, a policy-making association of universities in Germany. Frankfurt UAS is proud to be the second university of applied sciences in the state of Hesse to become an EUA member. According to Dr. Frank E.P. Dievernich, President of Frankfurt UAS, EUA membership is an acknowledgment of the university's achievements as well as a commitment to represent the strength and tradition of European universities. With 850 members in 47 countries and 17 million students enrolled, EUA is the largest organization representing European universities. EUA is also the "voice of Europe's universities" vis-à-vis the EU institutions shaping the European Higher Education and Research Area. For its members, EUA provides opportunities to share best practices and to foster mutual learning. Frankfurt UAS looks forward to engaging in new partnerships and joint initiatives within the EUA.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

# Frankfurt UAS Vice President Meets Partner Institutions in North America

Frankfurt UAS Vice President Prof. Dr. Kira Kastell attended a Fulbright seminar for German administrators in International Education at the University of Texas in Austin to gain a deeper insight into the structure of US universities and their approach towards internationalization. In this context, she also visited Huston-Tillotson University, by tradition a black college with also nearly 25% of Hispanic students, and St. Edward's University, a private university. Afterwards, Prof. Kastell took the opportunity to visit some of Frankfurt UAS' closest partner institutions. The collaboration with Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada (a sister city of Frankfurt), began more than 20 years ago and is to be intensified further in the future. At the University of Wisconsin La Crosse, member of the Hesse-Wisconsin partnership program, additional fields of study for student and scientific exchange were discussed, among them early childhood, organizational education with intercultural aspects, (bio)engineering/physics and computer science.

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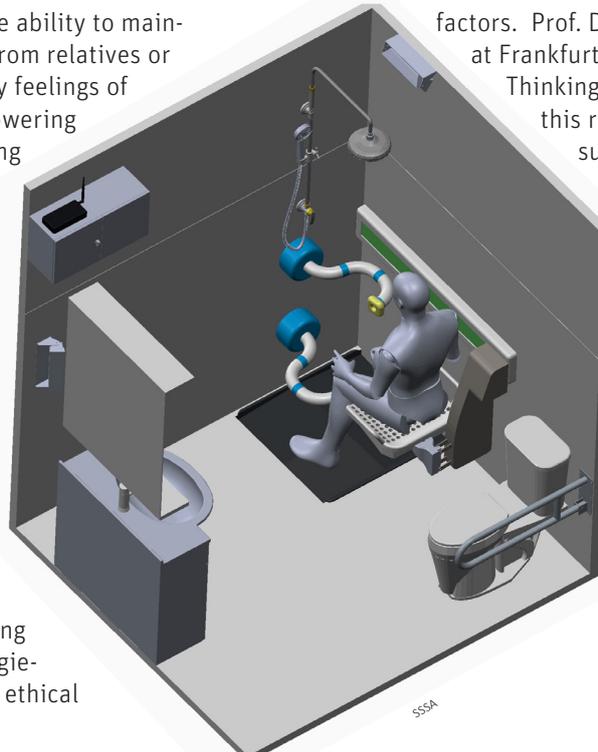


Vice President Prof. Dr. Kira Kastell meets Joe Gow, Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin La Crosse, USA.

## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# EU Research Project Enables Independent Living with the Support of a Robotic Shower System

A crucial factor for independent living is the ability to maintain personal hygiene. Relying on support from relatives or home care services is often accompanied by feelings of shame and helplessness. An automated showering support system can foster independent living with dignity and may relieve stress from family members and/or professional caregivers. The objective of this European research project, called ICT Supported Bath Robots (I-SUPPORT), is to develop an intelligent robotic shower system which enables elderly or disabled individuals to shower without help at home and in care homes, respectively. Nine partners from five countries are cooperating on this interdisciplinary project for a period of three years. The research team from Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences is responsible for analyzing models of user abilities and user behavior, examining gender, cultural and religious aspects of hygiene, as well as investigating acceptance and ethical



factors. Prof. Dr. Barbara Klein, Professor at Frankfurt UAS, is using the Design Thinking Method for developing this robotic shower system. The subsequent dissemination requires the dialogue with the industry, service organizations and other stakeholders in order to contribute to a sustainable development. Find further information at [www.i-support-project.eu](http://www.i-support-project.eu)

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## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# Climate Congress Held at Frankfurt Research Institute for Architecture • Civil Engineering • Geomatics



Reichhardt

Conference participants from left to right: Dr. Ulrike Reichhardt, Wiebke Fiebrig (Head of the energy division, city of Frankfurt am Main), Prof. Dr. Dr. e.h. Dr. h.c. Werner Sobek (Werner Sobek Group GmbH), Prof. Dr. Martina Klärle, Prof. Dr. Holger Techen, Dipl.-Ing. Jochen Krimm, Prof. Dr. Hans Jürgen Schmitz, M. Eng. Antje Quitta, Philipp Winkemann MSc GIS, Vice president Prof. Dr. Kira Kastell, Joost Hartwig, Prof. Dr. Mojib Latif (GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel; University of Kiel), Prof. Claudia Lüling, Dr. Stefan Pützenbache.

The Frankfurt Research Institute for Architecture • Civil Engineering • Geomatics at Frankfurt UAS (FFin) hosted the conference, “Climate Protection with Agglomerations”, in February of this year. The conference focused on the current climate situation and climate prediction models. In this context, measures to limit climate change, as well as structural adaptations to changing conditions, were discussed. Renowned keynote speakers included climate researcher, Prof. Dr. Mojib Latif, and innovative Building and Urban Development Planner, Prof. Dr. Dr. e.h. Dr. h.c. Werner Sobek. Latif concluded that the decisions reached at the last United Nations conference on climate change were not sufficient enough; Sobek demanded the

intelligent integration of Renewable Energy in urban planning processes. The FFin institute hosted symposia on their field of research with the aim of bringing together decision-makers, experts and disseminators of information from tertiary education, administration, industry and manual trades in order to stay current with the latest scientific developments.

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## TEACHING AND LEARNING

# Hessian Cross-University Study Project Improves Organizational Structures at Refugee Homes

Business Administration (B.A.) and Industrial Engineering (M.Sc.) students at Frankfurt UAS teamed up with students from three other universities in the state of Hesse to initiate a project for refugees in the area. The students deve-

loped solutions and concepts for improved management of refugee homes within Frankfurt and communities in the surrounding region. ▶

The project is useful for cities, communities, volunteers and refugees because the students introduced organizational solutions such as a complaint management system within refugee homes and developed apps to help refugees navigate their way around cities. Students from Jordan, who are cur-

rently interning at Frankfurt UAS, also added support to the project.

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## TEACHING AND LEARNING

# A Decade of Success: German-Spanish Double Degree Program “Mechanical Engineering” with Universidad de Cádiz, Andalusia

Since 2007, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences has been offering a German-Spanish Double Degree Program in Mechanical Engineering in cooperation with the Universidad de Cádiz (UCA), Andalusia, Spain. The degree program spans eight semesters: the first four are completed in Frankfurt and taught in German, the fifth and the sixth in Cádiz, and the last year – including the final thesis – is held in Frankfurt again. After having completed the double degree program, students receive the German “Bachelor of Engineering: Maschinenbau” and the Spanish “Grado en Ingeniería Mecánica”. The first cohort of students successfully completed their studies in May 2013. With a steady input of first year students and a steady output of graduates, as well as a regular exchange of students and professors from both universities, the double degree program is an ongoing success story. Registration for the program is possible at Frankfurt UAS until the beginning of each winter semester (mid-October). Requirements are a pre-study industrial internship of 13 weeks and a Spanish language level of at least B1.



Guided study visit to the Universidad de Cádiz for students of the Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering (16 - 20 May 2016), conducted by Dr. Wiltrud Hasenkamp, Language Center of Frankfurt UAS.

Link (website is in German only): [www.frankfurt-university.de/maschine\\_es](http://www.frankfurt-university.de/maschine_es)

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

# International Association of Schools of Social Work Elects Frankfurt UAS Professor to the Board

Prof. Dr. Ute Straub, Professor in the Faculty of Health and Social Work, was elected Member at Large to the Board of Directors of the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW). Members are elected for a four-year period

and all member universities are eligible to vote. There are only five member universities from Germany within the association, underlining the high academic esteem of Straub’s work at an international level. ▶



Prof. Dr. Straub was elected Member at Large to the Board of Directors of the IASSW at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development 2016, in Seoul, Korea.

As a member of the association, Straub is now involved with the work groups “International Projects” and “Women Interest Group.” The IASSW is the international umbrella organization for universities offering study programs on social work, and currently represents 402 universities in 68 countries. It develops guidelines and standards such as the “Global Definition of the Social Work Profession,” ethics standards and standards for the education in and teaching of social work. The association also plays an advisory role for several committees with the United Nations. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will take place at the University of Nairobi, Kenya, and is scheduled for January of next year. Further information on the IASSW can be found here: [www.iassw-aiets.org/](http://www.iassw-aiets.org/)

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

# Welcome Center Opens: One More Step in the International Direction

Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences is now ready to welcome more international guests to campus. As part of the institutional internationalization strategy, the International Office took a concrete step in recently establishing a Welcome Center for international scholars interested in teaching or participating in research projects at Frankfurt UAS. The main goal of the Welcome Center is to help international guests, academic departments and central university services with non-academic topics such as visa applications, hiring procedures, accommodation searches and questions concerning everyday life in Frankfurt and Germany. Welcome Centers are becoming increasingly sought-after services at German universities, as institutions strive to create a more

welcoming culture in order to promote Germany as an attractive place for teaching and research. Frankfurt UAS is one of the first universities of applied sciences in Germany to offer a Welcome Center, thus making it a unique choice for applied research and teaching for international scholars. More information about the Welcome Center is available in English under [www.frankfurt-university.de/en/international/welcome-center.html](http://www.frankfurt-university.de/en/international/welcome-center.html).

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## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# Longitudinal Study on Health Behavior and Injuries during School Age

Why do children suffer injuries in their school environment? This is the central question the team, led by Prof. Dr. Andreas Klocke, strives to answer with a longitudinal survey of roughly 11.000 students in 150 secondary education schools. The study is financed by German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV) and its local partners, who hope to gain new

insights useful for the development of preventive measures, which may be implemented in schools. The research group’s hypothesis with respect to the project “Health Behavior and Injuries during School Age” (GUS) is that injuries do not happen at random, but show identifiable regularities. ►

To find out what these patterns are, the team tracks the individual biographies of injuries of children from fifth to tenth grade and links them to an extensive number of characteristics. These include structural properties such as the integrity of school facilities and a more or less dangerous commute to school, as well as psychosocial resources and factors like risk aversion or concentration. The first wave results already show that boys suffer from injuries more often than girls;

this may largely be attributed to their higher readiness to assume risks. Additionally, the research team was surprised to find that children from privileged socioeconomic backgrounds also show higher injury rates.

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## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# Research on Logistic Integrators in Frankfurt: Delivery Strategies for Urban Quarters



Various CEP service providers are delivering packages in Frankfurt neighborhoods.

More and more consumers order goods from all over the world and have them delivered directly to their homes. Due to this increased demand, courier, express and small package services (CEP), i.e. the companies delivering packages, and local authorities are faced with the challenge to process the resulting increased traffic efficiently and ecologically. As a result new delivery strategies have to be developed; however, there is no data set on traffic-related effects of both

previous and current delivery concepts. Such a data set is necessary in order to evaluate the hitherto existing strategies and, based on these evaluations, initiate innovative and efficient distribution concepts within the CEP sector. Two professors at Frankfurt UAS, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Petra Schäfer and Prof. Dr. Kai-Oliver Schocke, are studying current and planned delivery strategies of the CEP sector as part of the research project, "Business Traffics 2.0", in cooperation with leading CEP service providers. In doing so, the delivery strategies are analyzed and compared from a logistical and traffic-oriented perspective. The aim of the project is to identify delivery strategies which consider both in-firm requirements of the CEP service providers and the requirements resulting from communal traffic planning.

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## TEACHING AND LEARNING

# A Mind-Blowing Experience: 4th European Summer University in Global Logistics

Both students from Frankfurt UAS and international students from countries such as Egypt, Brazil, and the USA participated in the 4th European Summer University (ESU) in Global Logistics, a four-week program combining lectures and on-site visits. This specific short-term academic program was designed jointly by Frankfurt UAS and the Rotterdam Business School (RBS) and combines the logistics expertise and location of the two institutions. In Rotterdam, the ESU participants got an inside view of the Port of Rotterdam and learned more about sea and port logistics from highly qualified professors from

RBS. In Frankfurt, participants had the opportunity to deepen their knowledge on air and airport logistics from experts from Frankfurt UAS and from regional companies. ESU participants gained a unique European perspective of logistics through their lectures, leading one participant to sum up the experience as "mind-blowing." More Information can be found on the website [www.esu-frankfurt.de](http://www.esu-frankfurt.de)

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

# Frankfurt UAS Accompanies a Delegation of the Hessian Prime Minister to the USA

In the beginning of May of this year, a business and science delegation led by the Hessian Prime Minister, Volker Bouffier, travelled to the United States in order to confirm and renew the partnership between the states of Hesse and Wisconsin, a partnership which has been in existence for 40 years. Frankfurt UAS was represented by Prof. Dr. Martina Klärle, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Civil Engineering, Geomatics. Prof. Dr. Klärle was a member of the science delegation and visited institutions such as the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the University of California, Berkeley, and Silicon Valley. In Milwaukee, Prof. Klärle met the Dean of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Dr. Robert Greenstreet, as well as the Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science, Dr. Brett A. Peters. Prof. Dr. Klärle had the opportunity to learn more about existing exchange activities, as well as to initiate talks for future exchange for students and lecturers.



Meeting of German and American deans in Milwaukee, USA.

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## NEWS AND EVENTS

# Go Higher in Aviation and Tourism with the New MBA Program “Aviation and Tourism Management”

Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences will start its new MBA-program “Aviation and Tourism Management”, which adds a touristic focus to its original MBA study-courses, in October 2016. The program aims at attracting participants that are already working in the aviation and tourism industry, have at least two years working experience and seek a leadership position within an international environment. The part-time program is held in English, takes four semesters and involves cooperations with partner universities and global companies, such as the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (USA) and the Fraport AG (Germany, Frankfurt Airport). The program is

also open to professionals with a minimum of five years of working experience and no first academic degree, after them taking an extensive aptitude test. The wide range of general management, logistics, aviation and tourism classes, as well as the subsequent possibility to qualify for Ph.D. programs, make this MBA program attractive for professionals who want to go higher in aviation and tourism. Further information for applicants and cooperating companies: [www.aviation-mba.de](http://www.aviation-mba.de)

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