

Call for Papers

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) announces a call for papers for the international conference “**Virtual Exchange – borderless mobility between the European Higher Education Area and regions beyond**” in Berlin, Germany, 11th December 2019.

Background:

The conference takes place in the context of the *Global Policy Dialogue*, an initiative dedicated to strengthening the relations between the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and other Higher Education regions in the world. Hence, the *Global Policy Dialogue* reflects on matters of common concern and relevance for higher education policies with the aim to stimulate cooperation and share ideas and policies that can be mutually beneficial.

The main forum for the *Global Policy Dialogue* is the Bologna Policy Forum, held regularly in conjunction with the Ministerial Bologna Conference since 2009. The next Bologna Policy Forum will take place at the Bologna Conference in Rome in June 2020.

Description of the conference:

“Virtual exchange” constitutes an important element in the current Higher Education internationalisation discourse. Following the definition of the Virtual Exchange Coalition, we hereby refer to programmes which are “technology enabled, sustained, people-to-people education”¹. In the conference context, virtual exchange is highlighted in its role as facilitator for academic cooperation, especially by enhancing, supporting or completing physical mobility and as a component of internationalisation@home approaches.

Connecting two (or more) classes from different parts of the world is didactically and administratively ambitious. With a special focus on the relations between the European Higher Education Area and other regions worldwide, we will address the potential of collaborative online learning scenarios and present good interaction practises. Emphasis is placed on the integration of virtual exchange in local, national and global learning environments. This implies raising questions about restructuring student journeys, the effectiveness of virtual learning experiences, or the need for and use of common standards and guidelines such as quality assurance etc.

Therefore, we invite to submit proposals pertaining the following topics:

- 1) Boosting exchange: digital formats as a mean to enhance international cooperation between EHEA and other regions**
- 2) Curriculum development: how to embed (sustainable) virtual exchange formats in study programs in order to create networked, cross-campus study programs and assure its quality?**
- 3) Administration and management: which governance and IT infrastructures (such as federated campus management systems etc.) of Higher Education Institutions to develop with special regard to virtual exchange?**
- 4) Building up expertise and capacities: what (new) skill and competence challenges arise for higher education students, teachers and staff?**

¹ See <http://virtualexchangecoalition.org/>

Criteria for proposals and selection:

The proposal should be submitted in a written form and may be complemented by online demonstration or examples of artefacts. Collaboratively developed proposals illustrating the partnership- or network-based approach are highly appreciated. Rather than scientifically elaborated papers we aim at innovative, practice driven approaches.

The language of the papers or online demonstration must be English.

- Selection of proposals is based on relevance to one of the four topics and to the *Global Policy Dialogue*. DAAD will select 4 to 6 papers which will be presented during a workshop session at the conference. If suitable, workshop presenters are warmly welcome to use hands-on demonstrations, live demos, digitally supported/interactive formats or to work with partly remote presenters.

The proposals presented at the conference will be published in the form of full papers (not longer than 10 pages) in a conference publication afterwards.

- Selected candidates receive free accommodation for the duration of the conference and travel subsidies based on the location of the home institution. Additionally, a 500 € lump sum is awarded for each selected proposal.

Copyright information:

Please take note of our copyright information. Your consent is a prerequisite for participation and will be requested separately.²

Submission:

Higher Education practitioners and researchers of all academic fields are encouraged to send their abstracts of 400 to 800 words (maximum) and their CVs via our online tool:

<https://www.daad.de/surveys/449895?lang=en> no later than **16th September 2019, 8 AM** (deadline extended).

Individual or multiple authors are welcome. Once the submission is accepted, at least one of the authors must present at the conference. Up to three authors of a selected submission can be subsidized. Presentations or virtual demonstration at the conference should last approximately 20 minutes.

Timeline:

Deadline abstract: **extended until 16th September 2019, 8 AM**

Notification of selection: until 7th October 2019

Deadline presentation for the conference: 22nd November 2019

² Authors confirm that they wrote the submitted article themselves and that it has not yet been published elsewhere. The submitted article is not encumbered with copyrights or other rights of third parties.

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Date of conference: 11th December 2019 (Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Berlin, Germany)

Deadline full paper for the conference publication: 24th January 2020

For further questions please contact bologna@daad.de

With best regards,

Martin Schifferings
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