

US-GERMAN

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

In cooperation with universities in the Southeastern region of the USA

For the second time AmCham Germany and Bridgehouse Law organized the US-German Internship Program in 2011, affording 24 students from renowned universities in the Southeastern region of the United States the opportunity to complete three-month summer internships with 19 top international companies.

Under the patronage of Hannelore Kraft, Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, and UPS Deutschland, the program offers participants the chance to gain insight into the German economy, hone their German language skills and engage with the kinds of cross-cultural challenges that arise in daily business interactions.

To support students throughout the duration of the program, AmCham Germany administers the matchmaking process between companies and applicants, as well as travel preparations, including flight booking and applying for working permits. Students are also greeted in Germany with a welcome ceremony upon their arrival to meet other participants and company representatives before being escorted to their final working destinations throughout the country. Additionally, students meet up halfway through the program to exchange stories and share their newly-gained intercultural knowledge.

AmCham Germany aims to continue to connect American students and German companies in the interest of mediating a positive view of Germany to the future leaders of the United States. Each young American who returns to the US will serve as an ambassador of German-American friendship.

Established in 2010, the US-German Internship Program was organized and implemented together with BridgehouseLaw Atlanta, Emory University, Georgia State University, Georgia Tech University, Kennesaw University, Morehouse College, North Georgia College & State University, and the University of North Carolina, Charlotte.



Through the internship program, AmCham Germany supports the future of the transatlantic network between Germany and the United States. I am proud to oversee the program as Patron.

▶ *Hannelore Kraft,
Prime Minister of North Rhine-Westphalia,
US-German Internship Program Patron*



We know how important the personal dimension is to our relationship. By giving our young people opportunities to get to know us up close and on their and our terms, we can keep the positive momentum of cooperation going from which we have all benefited so greatly.

◀ *Philip D. Murphy,
United States Ambassador
to the Federal Republic of Germany*



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Basic Information for Companies and Interns

Hosting an Intern

Students should get to know your company's procedures and actively work in the context of day-to-day operations.

Costs

Participating companies are obliged to pay a fair monthly allowance of €670 for the students' services. This amount is required by the Agency of Employees' and Students' Affairs (ZAV) at the German Federal Agency for Employment.

Travel associated with the program should also be covered by the company. This includes transportation between Frankfurt and the company's location at the start and end of the program. A get-together will be arranged at the halfway point of the internship. Companies are also asked to provide transportation and one to two nights' basic accommodation for the interns' participation in this event hosted by AmCham Germany.

Mentor

Participating companies are expected to provide a mentor for the intern. The mentor's responsibilities include introducing the student to the field of operation in which he or she will be working and answering technical questions. Since the interns will need to gather experience in everyday life in Germany - an integral part of the program - the mentor is expected to play an important role here as well. An example might be acquainting the intern with the public transportation system. Participating companies may decide to even include the intern in social activities after work hours, such as visiting a restaurant, going to the movies, etc.

Housing

Ideally, participating companies provide an apartment for the student for the duration of the internship. If, however, this is not possible, the company should assist the student in searching for suitable living quarters.

An alternative could be an employee offering to house the student for the three month duration in his or her own living quarters and thus integrate the intern into the family. Another option would be to house the student in a joint residence or perhaps you might be aware of a lessor seeking an interim tenant. We are very grateful for cooperation in arranging accommodations for the student, as it is not always easy for the intern to organize accommodations from overseas.

Visas

AmCham Germany will take care of visa formalities in advance in cooperation with the German Consulate General in Atlanta, GA.

Match-Making Process

The Match-Making Process between companies and interns begins in December of each year. Companies that return the letter of intent receive a password from AmCham Germany to enter the website and view the interns' résumés. Thus, participating companies are able to personally decide if the student meets their criteria for eligibility, e.g. university background, language skills, qualifications, etc. Companies will be able to view each student's profile and make a selection that suits the company best. This will take place on a first come, first serve

basis, i.e. companies who decide early to join the program will have more choice in selecting an intern.

Upon making a decision, companies are to contact AmCham Germany directly with their choice and not the student to avoid any overlap. AmCham Germany will introduce the company and student to each other. After establishing initial contact, an exchange regarding further details and procedures will take place between the company and the student.

Sponsoring Opportunities

Companies and individuals who are interested in supporting the program, but are unable to host an intern, may offer financial support for the students. Money collected is distributed to interns who demonstrate additional financial need in order to complete their internship. It is also used to support all interns during various activities, such as the mid-program get-together.

Benefits for Your Company

Your company's commitment to support young professionals will be rewarded through extensive media coverage through AmCham Germany's newsletter, website and magazine. These broadcast your company's accomplishments in furthering transatlantic cross cultural exchange.

All participating companies are also represented on the official US-German Internship Program website: www.amchaminternship.org

How to Participate

Donations to the program are investments in our future. If you would like to support the program, please contact AmCham Germany.

Contact

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▷ Shortly after their arrival in Frankfurt, the program participants look forward to all that the next three months will bring.

Welcome Ceremony Frankfurt/M

Arrival of Students in May 2011 at Frankfurt International Airport

Twenty-four young people arrived in Frankfurt/M from the US on May 17, 2011, ready to immerse themselves in the German business world. Taking part in the US-German Internship Program, students were greeted at the airport by AmCham Germany and escorted to the welcome ceremony where they met with their company mentors for the first time.



Dr. Renate Sterzel gives a warm welcome to the interns

Sibylle Yaakov represented FrankfurtRhein-Main GmbH, who kindly hosted

the students in their offices overlooking the airport and the Frankfurt econom-

ic region. Also present to welcome the students were Dr. Dierk Müller, AmCham Germany General Manager; Oliver Bolthausen, BridgehouseLaw; Dr. Renate Sterzel, City Council Representative for Frankfurt; William Morgan, US Vice Consul; and Lars Goldenberg, UPS Deutschland, the company patron of the program.

All those who spoke at the event encouraged the students to make the most of their summer in Germany by challenging themselves in the workplace, immersing themselves in the German culture and not forgetting to have fun. After the ceremony, company mentors escorted their interns to their final destinations across Germany.



"Challenge yourselves: it will not always be easy, but working through the hard bits is the most rewarding part."

Joshua Guggenheim takes part in the US-German Internship Program for the second time and shares his experiences with his fellow interns.

INTERNSHIP



▷ The interns standing in front of the Cologne Cathedral, a church older than their home country!

Get-Together in Cologne & Duesseldorf

Interns meet to share their experiences and visit North Rhine-Westphalia's State Chancellery and the US Consulate General

Eager to share their stories, the 24 participants of this year's US-German Internship Program gathered to exchange anecdotes and experiences from their internship placements and time living in Germany. UPS Deutschland welcomed the students to their cargo center at the Cologne Bonn Airport on July 21, giving the students a tour of the facilities and a behind-the-scenes look at the inner workings of international logistics.

The students were then hosted by the North Rhine-Westphalia State Chancellery on July 22 when State Secretary for Federal Affairs, Europe and the Media Marc Jan Eumann, US Vice Consul Whitney Wiedeman, AmCham Germany North

Rhine-Westphalia Regional Committee Chair Dr. Alexander Schröder-Ferkes and UPS Director Public Affairs Germany Uwe Detering were all on hand to greet participants and discuss the importance of personal networks for the future of transatlantic relations. The US-German Internship Program officially ended on August 12, with students saying goodbye to their host companies and returning to the US after a successful three months in Germany.



▷ At the Parliament in Duesseldorf



▷ During their stay in Duesseldorf, the group also heard interesting facts about NRW's political history.

PROGRAM



The US-German Internship Program is an investment in our future.



Good Things Come in Two: Hitachi Hosts Two Interns After a Great Experience Last Year

For the second year in a row, Hitachi Data Systems in Dreieich took part in the US-German Internship Program. "Our experience with the program last year was so positive that we decided to accept two interns in different departments this time", says Oliver Weiss, Senior Legal Counsel. "Our company's spirit is 'Kaitakusha-Seishin', which stands for openness, a pioneering spirit, challenge and change, the same values the internship program reflects."

The two interns at Hitachi Data Systems, Jiaqi Guo and Clifford Mpare, both enjoy the opportunity to work for a multinational market leader and improve their German skills. When addressed in English, Clifford even states with emphasis: "Ich verstehe kein Englisch!", forcing his environment to switch to German again. Both Clifford and Jiaqi have become a part of the Hitachi team and already feel at home in their office.



▲ Clifford Mpare and Jiaqi Guo at Hitachi in Dreieich



▲ Lee Serota and intern Kitrina Daughenbaugh from Emory University who mutually benefitted from the internship

Ernst & Young, Eschborn: A Great Match from the Beginning

For an international team like the US tax department at Ernst & Young, it is very important that newcomers fit in well and adapt quickly. [Our intern] "Kitrina complements our department perfectly. Her career goals, interests and motivation match our expectations, and we benefit as much from the internship as Kitrina", says her company mentor Lee Serota, CPA. Since the atmosphere in the team is very collegial, Kitrina is not afraid to ask questions, especially as "her project", helping US citizens and US companies in Germany with taxation issues, is new for her. Taking his role as company mentor seriously, Lee Serota is always available and willing to offer helpful advice and practical assistance. As an International Business major at Emory University, Kitrina evaluates her internship as a good asset for her further studies and her future career.

But not only the experiences gathered at work have influenced Kitrina; she is also taking part in after-work events and has found new friends when joining the company's own basketball team. After the first half of her stay, Kitrina has come to the conclusion that: "Americans live to work and Germans work to live."



▲ Mathilde Levallois from Georgia Tech University with her mentor and boss Richard Clabaugh agree that the internship exceeded their expectations

Accuracy LLC, Frankfurt: From Guinea Pig to Project Manager in the Making

The internship for Mathilde Levallois at the Accuracy LLC is certainly unique: She can work from home which makes her very independent to determine her own style of work. Her boss and mentor, Richard Clabaugh, jokingly calls Mathilde his "guinea-pig", as the situation is new for both company and intern. Mathilde is helping to develop an online learning platform for languages and has assisted greatly in keeping the project on track for a timely release.

Being the owner of a small company, Richard Clabaugh sees the internship program as a positive growth opportunity for both companies and interns alike and states "the internship has exceeded my expectations." Mathilde also stresses the benefits of her internship: "I get to see a lot about how a company works and makes money which is definitely interesting. Working on a new project, where much remains to be built is a very enriching experience."

Supporting companies' willingness to host interns helps further expand the program and contributes to the future of the transatlantic relationship.

Internship Company Patron 2011



Sponsors 2011



Participating Companies 2011



US-German Internship Program in Brief

The US German Internship Program's purpose is to provide educational internships to US based university students abroad. The program is sponsored by AmCham Germany and BridgehouseLaw. The US-German Internship Program is a not for profit organization registered with the State of Georgia as a charitable organization under the name AmCham BridgehouseLaw Internship Program, Inc. 1170 Peachtree Street N.E. Suite 1775, Atlanta, GA 30309.

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