

News of Freie Universität Berlin Cairo Office, 5/11/2011

1. Freie Universität part of two Erasmus Mundus Consortia with Egyptian and Lebanese Universities
2. Direct Exchange: American University in Cairo
3. Joanne Rowland organizes archeological field school in Quesna
4. Emad Flear Aziz awarded ERC Starting Grant
5. Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies admits 15 new candidates and offers 10 scholarships
6. Doctoral Grants at the Graduate School of North American Studies
7. The Center for Areas Studies announces two new funding lines for Postdoctoral research
8. Ten postdoctoral fellowships for the research project Europe in the Middle East – the Middle East in Europe
9. DAAD Call for Projects: Cooperating with Egypt and Tunisia in transformation

1. Freie Universität part of two Erasmus-Mundus Consortia with Egyptian and Lebanese Universities

From autumn 2011 Freie Universität will be part of two Erasmus Mundus consortia with Egyptian and Lebanese Universities. Bachelor and master students, doctoral candidates, post-docs and academic staff from Egypt and Lebanon can apply for a study and research stay at Freie Universität. Students and scholars from Freie Universität can apply for a study or research stay at any of the Egyptian and Lebanese Universities being part of the consortia. Details of the call and the application procedure will soon be available on our [website](#).

2. Direkt Exchange: American University in Cairo

Until 17 January bachelor- and master students from FU Berlin may apply for a one to two semester direct exchange stay at the American University in Cairo (AUC). AUC offers a broad variety of subjects modeled on American liberal arts colleges. It counts among the most prestigious universities in Egypt and

the region and is of high interest for students in Near East Studies. Selected candidates in the direct exchange benefit from a simplified procedure of credit transfer and the exemption of student fees at the host institution.

3. Joanne Rowland organizes archeological field school in Quesna

From 11 September to 15 October 2011 Joanne Rowland, junior professor of Egyptology at Freie Universität Berlin, organized the first archaeological field school at the site of Quesna in the Egyptian central Delta province of Minufiyeh. The field school was attended by three archaeology students from the University of Minufiyeh at Shibin el-Kom, seven antiquities inspectors from the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) and two MA students from Freie Universität Berlin. They were supervised by a core team of six teachers from Europe and Egypt. On 11 October Rowland presented the results of the field school in the lecture series [“Studies on Egypt and the Middle East in Berlin”](#) jointly organized by the Cairo Offices of Freie Universität Berlin, the German Academic Exchange Service and the German Archaeological Institute. The field school received generous funding from the DAAD. A diary of the field school is available on <http://minufiyeh.tumblr.com/>

4. Emad Flear Aziz awarded ERC Starting Grant

The Cairo born physics professor Dr. Emad Flear Aziz, a scientist working at Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin (HZB) and at Freie Universität Berlin, has been awarded an ERC Starting Grant by the European Research Council. With this grant of 1.5 million euros over a period of five years, Aziz will be able to continue his research on functional materials. The title of his project is “Structure and Dynamics of Porphyrin-based Materials in Solution vs. Interfaces.” This is the first ERC Starting Grant awarded to a scientist at HZB. In addition to the ERC Grant, the Helmholtz Association supports Aziz’s research with 250,000 euros. [Read more ->](#)

5. Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies admits 15 new candidates and offers 10 scholarships

The Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies investigates the plurality, changeability, and global connectedness of Muslim cultures and societies. The area of study includes Muslim societies in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, as well as Muslim communities in Europe and North America. In close cooperation with its partner institutions in Germany and abroad, the Graduate School offers doctoral candidates a broad educational programme of exceptional quality coupled with intensive mentoring for individual PhD

projects, training that will qualify graduates to hold leading positions in academia, the media, and politics. The Graduate School's three-year doctoral programme begins in October. Fifteen doctoral students are admitted annually, ten of whom are awarded scholarships provided by the Graduate School. The deadline for application is 30 November 2011.

[See the Call for Application ->](#)

6. Doctoral Grants at the Graduate School of North American Studies

The Graduate School of the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies invites applications for the academic year 2012/2013. The doctoral program is interdisciplinary in its approach and focuses on social transformations impacting the United States and Canada at the beginning of the 21st century. Emphases are placed on domestic and foreign policy, economic development, ethnic identity and relations, as well as recent transformations in media, art, culture, and religion. Applicants interested in pursuing a doctorate with a focus on North American Studies must have completed a degree (M.A. or equivalent) with above average marks in one of the following disciplines: American Cultural Studies, American Literature, History, Political Science, Sociology, Economics. Scholarships amount to ca. 1.500 €. It is also possible to apply for admission to the program independently from applying for a stipend. All application materials (completed application form, statement of purpose of 3 pages, outline of the dissertation project of 8 - 10 pages, curriculum vitae, two recent letters of reference, copies of earned degrees, proof of language skills, and writing sample) must be received by January 31, 2012. For more information, please visit: <http://www.jfki.fu-berlin.de/graduateschool/>

7. The Center for Area Studies announces two new funding lines for Postdoctoral research

The Center for Area Studies (CAS) at Freie Universität Berlin (FU) is pleased to announce that it is launching a pilot project to promote early career researchers (postdoctoral) in the area studies. The pilot project aims at supporting early career researchers in the period between completing their PhD research and developing a grant proposal for their individual postdoctoral projects. Thus the Center for Area Studies invites applications for short-term grants (6-9 months) for postdoctoral research projects in the Area studies: 1. seed money & 2. grants on pivotal themes in the area studies. Deadline for applications is November 7, 2011. A second call will be announced in January 2012. More information shall soon be available on the [CAS website ->](#)

8. Ten postdoctoral fellowships for the research project Europe in the Middle East - the Middle East in Europe

The Berlin-based Forum Transregionale Studien invites scholars to apply for ten postdoctoral fellowships for the research project Europe in the Middle East–The Middle East in Europe (EUME). EUME seeks to rethink key concepts and premises that link and divide Europe and the Middle East. The project draws on the international expertise of scholars in and outside of Germany and is embedded in university and extra-university research institutions in Berlin. It supports historical-critical philology, rigorous engagement with the literatures of the Middle East and their histories, the social history of cities and the study of Middle Eastern political and philosophical thought (Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and secular) as central fields of research not only for area or cultural studies, but also for European intellectual history and other academic disciplines. The program explores modernity as a historical space and conceptual frame. Applicants should be at the postdoctoral level and should have obtained their doctorate within the last seven years. Applications should be received by 10 January 2012. [Read more ->](#)

9. DAAD Call for Projects: Cooperating with Egypt and Tunisia in transformation

As a response to the transformation processes in Egypt and Tunisia the German Academic Exchange Service with funds from the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs will support in Egypt and Tunisia a wide array of measures that are intended to strengthen the higher education sectors in the target countries. Essential aspects of the project include, for one thing, the role university teaching and research has played in shoring up civil-societal structures and the process of transformation; for another thing, fostering the two countries' capabilities in science and technology. The program comprises two funding lines:

- Partnerships for transformation with universities in Egypt and Tunisia: Deadline for Applications is 30 November 2011.

- Short and medium-term cooperation measures with universities in Egypt and Tunisia (this is a continuous call, but applications should be handed in at least three months before the start of the project).

Both calls are open to all disciplines, but applications in the humanities and social sciences will be given priority (Political Sciences and Law, International Relations, History and Cultural Studies). [See the Call \(in German\) ->](#)