Instructors of the Summer School

apl. Professor Dr. Martin H. Trauth
University of Potsdam
Professor Dr. Asfawossen Asrat
Addis Ababa University
Professor Dr. Eric O. Odada
University of Nairobi

Jun.-Professor Dr. Annett Junginger
University of Tübingen
Dr. Matthias Konrad-Schmolke
University of Potsdam
Professor Dr. Mark Maslin
University College London
Professor Dr. Daniel O. Olago
University of Nairobi
Dr. Lydia Olaka, MSc
University of Nairobi
Professor Dr. Frank Schäbitz
University of Köln
Professor Manfred R. Strecker, PhD
University of Potsdam
Professor Dr. Ralph Tiedemann
University of Potsdam
Dr. Gerold Zeilinger
University of Potsdam
Dr. Zuze Dulanya
University of Malawi
Dr. Daniel Melnick
University of Potsdam
Dr. Verena Foerster
University of Potsdam
Dr. Tesfaye Kidane
Addis Ababa University
Anne Hodgson, M.A.
English Business Communication
Ed Manning, MSc
English Proofreading Services

Requirements and Applications

Participants will be selected preferentially (but not exclusively) from East African countries and Germany, by the directors of this program. Applicants are required to hold an M.Sc. degree (or equivalent) and to be currently participating in a doctoral program at an internationally recognised university.

Applications should submit a covering letter, a single-page statement of the applicant's motivation for participating in the summer school, a letter of recommendation from the applicant's supervisor, and a copy of the master's degree.

Please send your full application, as a single PDF file, by email to the following three addresses before March 1, 2015:

apl. Professor Dr. Martin H. Trauth
University of Potsdam
email trauth@geo.uni-potsdam.de

Professor Dr. Asfawossen Asrat
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VolkswagenStiftung

Summer School on

Collecting, Processing and Presenting Information in Bio-Geo-Sciences

Sep 20–Oct 11, 2015
Feb 21–Mar 13, 2016

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
University of Nairobi, Kenya
University of Potsdam, Germany

VolkswagenStiftung

Summer School on

Collecting, Processing and Presenting Information in Bio-Geo-Sciences

2015, 2016

We are pleased to announce two fully sponsored consecutive summer school sessions for 20 doctoral students from the bio-geo-sciences.

The summer school aims to help participants identify interesting and up-to-date research topics, to design projects around these topics using the latest methods of data analysis, and to present project results in an effective and professional manner.

The first module (M1) of the summer school will focus on searching for relevant publications and related data on scientific topics using open access and commercial online citation databases. The aim of this module is to identify scientific hypotheses and controversies that might form a basis for new research projects and scientific experiments.

The second set of modules (M2–M3) is concerned with analysing the scientist's own data (published or unpublished) using sophisticated statistical and numerical methods such as, for example, time series analysis to detect climatic variations, or GIS-based remote sensing techniques for spatial mapping of environmental changes in order to define areas of increased georisk.

In the third set of modules (M5–M7), the results generated in the previous modules will be prepared for publication. Participants will be instructed in academic writing, poster design for conferences, and giving presentations to both specialist and non-specialist audiences. Throughout the summer school participants will receive guidance from teams of senior researchers and young scientists (some of whom will have participated in an earlier summer school), as well as from two professional trainers in academic/scientific English.

Modules M4 and M8 comprise a series of field-based and laboratory-based practical courses with durations ranging from two hours to a full day. These will be held between the other modules and in the vicinity of the course locations.

Participants in the summer school are expected to form part of a new generation of researchers that is well-equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to assess and mitigate current and future environmental changes.

2015 | Session 1 | Ethiopia

M1
Searching and Reviewing Literature and Data
Sep 20–27, 2015 | Professor Maslin

M2
Statistical Analysis of Bio-Geo-Science Data
M2 | Sep 27–Oct 4, 2015 | apl. Professor Trauth

M3
Analysing BioGeoGraphic Information Systems
M3 | Oct 4–11, 2015 | Dr. Zeilinger

M4
Bio-Geo Field and Laboratory Courses | 1
M4 | Sept 20–Oct 11, 2015 | all instructors

2016 | Session 2 | Kenya

M5
Designing Posters
Feb 21–28, 2016 | Jun.-Professor Junginger

M6
Scientific Writing
Feb 28–Mar 6, 2016 | Professor Maslin

M7
Oral Presentations
Mar 6–13, 2016 | apl. Professor Trauth

M8
Bio-Geo Field and Laboratory Courses | 2
Feb 21–Mar 13, 2016 | all instructors