

**Germany Today 2023****German Higher Education Institutions and Their Collaboration with Industry****June 11 – June 17, 2023****Bielefeld, Ruhr Valley, Düsseldorf, Aachen, Cologne, Bonn**

**DAAD invites representatives from universities, research institutions and funding agencies in the United States and Canada, as well as colleagues from the fields of education policy and politics, to join us for our “Germany Today 2023” information tour.**

DAAD’s information tour “Germany Today” is designed to give participants a broad overview of Germany’s higher education landscape. This includes:

- An overview of Germany’s higher education and research systems
- An update on current developments, innovative projects, and structural reforms
- Details about BA and MA programs, as well as PhD training at various institutions
- Information on funding opportunities for academic exchange and institutional cooperation

This year’s tour will focus on the cooperation of German universities with industry.

Germany has a long tradition of a close cooperation of universities with industry, especially in engineering. There are different levels of cooperation, one being the creation of affiliated institutes, funded by industry associations and companies. This close cooperation can contribute to a speedy transfer from theory into practical applications. It allows for a practice-oriented study program, which opens interesting job perspectives, but it may also raise the challenge of ensuring the independence of researchers from company interests. Furthermore, university industry cooperation provides access to a broad spectrum of internships and is a valuable asset in international cooperation. The Germany Today program addresses cooperation at the regional and the national level and pinpoints the specific strengths of the different institutional types.

The Germany Today 2023 tour offers participants the opportunity to exchange best practices, effective methodologies, and lessons learned between the German hosts and the North American guests.

The tour includes on-site visits to a variety of higher education institutions, research institutions, and companies in Bielefeld, the Ruhr Valley, Aachen, Duesseldorf, Cologne and Bonn.

The program will be interactive: our hosts will provide valuable insights into their activities, and you will be asked to share your perspectives and expertise with them. North American participants in this program are typically senior administrators at leading universities in the U.S. and Canada (such as provosts, deans, vice-presidents, or heads of international offices), policy makers in federal and state/provincial governments or associations and other experts in the higher education field or in the respective research topics.

The program will be in English. Program-related costs in Germany (accommodation, domestic travel, most meals) will be covered by DAAD. The program officially starts in Bielefeld on Sunday afternoon, June 11, 2023, and ends with a dinner on Friday evening, June 16, 2023, in Bonn. The night from Friday, June 16, to Saturday, June 17, is also booked and covered by DAAD. Intercontinental travel is at the participant's expense.

Applicants must have U.S./Canadian citizenship or permanent residency. They should have a demonstrated interest in Germany and transatlantic co-operation, and a relevant professional position. They should not have recently participated in another information trip to Germany.

Applications – ideally as one pdf-document – must be received by **Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. Please contact Uta Gaedeke at DAAD's New York Office at [gaedeke@daad.de](mailto:gaedeke@daad.de) for further information.

### **Host Institutions:**

#### **Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences**

<https://www.fh-bielefeld.de/en>

Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences (UAS) works closely with industrial communities and businesses in the region, with regards both to teaching and applied research. Bielefeld UAS has over 150 partnerships worldwide and is constantly expanding its international collaborations. Its more than 10,000 students are enrolled in over 60 degree courses across three campuses in Bielefeld, Gütersloh and Minden. With a choice of different study models, many degree courses are offered in cooperation with local companies. There are six faculties: Design, Minden Campus (Architecture, Engineering, Computer Sciences), Engineering and Mathematics, Social Sciences, Business, and Health.

As member of Campus OWL, a network of five higher education institutions in the region OstWestfalenLippe, a joint liaison office in New York was established in 2019 to promote opportunities for study and research and to facilitate collaboration with North American partner institutions from academia and industry. <https://www.campus-owl.org/>

**University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr)**

[www.uaruhr.de](http://www.uaruhr.de)

[www.northamerica.uaruhr.de](http://www.northamerica.uaruhr.de)

The UA Ruhr is an alliance between **Ruhr University Bochum, TU Dortmund University, and the University of Duisburg-Essen**, the three largest universities in Germany's thriving Ruhr Area. Each of our institutions has a strong tradition of breaking down walls between disciplines. We believe in the benefits of collaboration on all levels of scholarship and research, which is one of the reasons we came together in this unique university alliance.

More than 120,000 students, of which 19,000 are international, as well as over 9,000 researchers' study and work within the UA Ruhr universities. Together, the three universities have 800 partnerships with universities in over 130 countries and a combined annual budget of close to 1.4 billion euros – which provides our students and researchers with virtually unlimited possibilities for exchange and resources for development. To support our already strong global network of international exchange and collaboration, the UA Ruhr has academic liaison offices in North America and Eastern Europe/Central Asia. We invite you to [learn more about the UA Ruhr alliance](#) and our universities, and we look forward to welcoming you in the Ruhr Area soon!

**BMZ – BioMedizinZentrumDortmund**

<https://www.bmz-do.de/en.htm>

BMZ is BioMedizinZentrumDortmund is designed as a start-up center for the field of biomedicine. Company founders and young companies in the growth phase will find an optimal environment here for the implementation of their business ideas. As the competence center of the TechnologieZentrumDortmund for the fields of biotechnology and medical technology, the BMZ embodies an optimal workplace for startups that want to be innovative and successful in these fields in the long term. Here, the diverse synergies are used intensively both within the center and in the immediate vicinity on the science and technology campus in Dortmund. BMZ cooperates with the Dortmund Economic Development Agency as well as regional organizations from the field of biotechnology to provide targeted development for entrepreneurs.

**ZBT - The Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Center**

[www.zbt-duisburg.de](http://www.zbt-duisburg.de)

The ZBT is one of the leading research institutes in Europe for fuel cell and hydrogen technologies and a sought-after R&D partner in both European and national cutting-edge research as well as in industrial projects focusing on automotive applications and stationary power generation. For the approx. 150 employees at ZBT an outstanding technical infrastructure is available, which includes production facilities, test facilities, chemical laboratories and high-tech analytics. State-of-the-art IT and software tools complete the portfolio.

**CLIB- Cluster Industrielle Biotechnologie e.V.**

<https://www.clib-cluster.de/en/>

**CLIB** is an international open-innovation cluster of large companies, small- to medium-size enterprises (SMEs), start-ups, academic institutes, and universities, as well as other stakeholders active in biotechnology and the circular bioeconomy. In our non-profit association, our more than 100 members shape our cluster's interests and activities, and we work to promote industrial biotechnology in sustainable processes. Since 2008, we have built a strong and trustworthy network. Together with our members, we are putting our mission into practice: "Networking Biotechnology, Creating Sustainability".

**RWTH Aachen University**

<https://www.rwth-aachen.de/go/id/a/?lidx=1>

The Integrated Interdisciplinary University of Science and Technology, addresses bold scientific questions, transfers forefront knowledge and drives innovative discoveries that impact global challenges by fostering a unique educational and networked research environment which embraces the convergence of knowledge, approaches and insights from the humanities, economics, engineering, natural and life sciences.

RWTH offers competence-, research- and practice-oriented training to more than 47,000 students enrolled in 170 degree programs, developing highly qualified and responsible graduates for leading positions in science, society and business. RWTH is proud to have more than 14,000 international students from 138 countries.

The successful implementation of RWTH's institutional strategy is reflected in the University of Excellence status awarded by the German federal and state governments, the excellent reputation of RWTH's graduates with employers, the exceptional position of the university regarding acquisition of third party funds and the RWTH Aachen Campus, one of the largest university-industry research campuses in Europe. RWTH's great innovation capacity is mirrored in numerous developments that are patented and utilized as well as in the high number of business start-ups.

**TH Köln – University of Applied Sciences**

<https://www.th-koeln.de/>

With about 25,000 students – 4,000 of them international students – and 440 professors TH Köln is the largest and one of most distinguished universities of applied sciences in Germany. Disciplinarily and culturally diverse, it creates social innovation and contributes to solving the challenges of today's society. Its subject range includes the fields of Applied Natural Sciences, Architecture and Construction, Information and Communication, Computer Science, Engineering, Culture, Society and Social Sciences as well as Business Studies. More than 50 undergraduate and 50 graduate programs offer the opportunity for full time as well as part time studies and integrated degree programs.