



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



HRK German Rectors' Conference
The Voice of the Universities



DIES ALUMNI FORUM 2022

Higher Education Institutions in Transformation? The Impact of the Pandemic

ONLINE EVENT

27 OCTOBER, 3 NOVEMBER AND 10 NOVEMBER
HOSTED BY UNIVERSITY OF POTSDAM

Call for Proposals

DEADLINE: 22 AUGUST 2022, EXTENDED TO: 12 SEPTEMBER

INTRODUCTION

The DIES Alumni Forum is meant to bring together DIES alumni to share views and perspectives on recent developments in higher education as well as to exchange practices and discuss pressing issues in the dynamic field of higher education management and its capacity building from an inter-regional perspective.

The Forum will be hosted by the University of Potsdam from Germany and carried out in cooperation with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the German Rectors' Conference (HRK), and the European partner institutions who are implementing training courses in the DIES Programme, i.e. Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Leibniz University Hannover, Saarland University together with University of Alicante, University of Applied Science Osnabrück together with Centre for Higher Education, and University of Cologne.

DIES Alumni from Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Southeast Asia will be invited to join this event, making it a unique opportunity to exchange between different HE areas and world regions.

The Forum 2022 will offer three events, each connected to the main theme. It will be held live over **Zoom** on October 27, November 3 and 10 (about 2.5 hours per day).

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MAIN THEME OF DIES ALUMNI FORUM 2022

This year, the central theme of the Forum will be “**Higher Education Institutions in Transformation? The Impact of the Pandemic**”. There has been a great number of discussions about the initial pandemic disruptions, the (emergency) reactions of HEIs and the first lessons drawn. At the time of this Call, when many institutions around the world are getting back into more or even full presence mode of operation again, it is crucial to rethink the learnings and explore the consequences of the pandemic to the higher education institutions and the future higher education. The 2022 Forum thus wants to give the opportunity to exchange and discuss initiated changes drawn from the pandemic experiences as well as open issues arising from them.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

DIES Alumni from all fields of higher education management are invited to contribute to the Forum. The Forum is an excellent opportunity to present strategies and practices in higher education management and its capacity building, share ideas and obtain feedback from peers and stakeholders on topics that are of interest to you.

There are two types of proposals: **(1) proposal of case presentations and (2) proposal as starters for open discussion**. Deadline for submission of proposals is **22 August 2022, 18.00 CET (extended to 12 September)**.

1. Proposal for Case Presentations

Alumni are invited to submit their cases for Track I (HE Management Strategies and Practices) or Track II (Capacity Building in HE Management and Practices):

- Track I: Case Presentations on HE Management Strategies and Practices

- a) The case presentations shall focus on actions, policies and innovative projects or practices initiated at the own institution as a result of the learnings from the pandemic. They should thus go beyond the mere initial reaction to the pandemic, but address consequences and institutional development arising from the pandemic experiences.
- b) The case presentations can also be from a personal perspective of an academic manager & leader, e.g. reflections on initiated changes and measures to consolidate the change as a result of learnings from the pandemic.
- c) The cases presentations can be in the field(s) of internationalisation, quality assurance, university governance, faculty and research management.
- d) The case presentations should go beyond descriptive reporting and include an analytical perspective, e.g., an analysis of success factors, challenges encountered, lessons learnt as well as the impact on HEIs and possible transferability to other contexts.

- Track II: Case Presentations on Capacity Building in HE Management and Practices

Capacity building at institutional, national and regional level is an important part of supporting and initiating change within HEIs and has also been heavily affected by the pandemic. Thus, there are new needs arising in many fields of higher education management.

- a) The case presentations for this track can be handed in on issues revolving around “new” learnings, needs and challenges in capacity building, training and knowledge transfer arising from the pandemic experiences and how they are addressed.

- b) The capacity building, training and knowledge transfer activities can be at the institutional, national or regional level.
- c) The case presentations should go beyond descriptive reporting and include an analytical perspective, e.g., an analysis of success factors, challenges encountered, lessons learnt, new needs to be addressed, measures for sustainability and possible transferability to other contexts.

The selected cases will be presented during parallel sessions on 3 and 10 November. The abstracts of the selected cases will be published on the Forum website.

2. Proposal as Starters for Open Discussion

Alumni are invited to submit proposals for discussion starters. These short contributions will provide an opportunity to present a specific topic, a question, an issue or innovative idea involving higher education management and/or capacity building.

The Starters for Open Discussion do not need to address the main theme of the 2022 Forum. All cases for discussion are welcome as long as they are addressing current issues in either **a) higher education management or b) capacity building in higher education management**. The aim of the session is to promote knowledge sharing among alumni across different continents and fields.

The selected discussion starters will be presented at the beginning of the discussion sessions on 3 and 10 November. The presenters are expected to moderate the discussions.

General Submission Guidelines for Cases under Track I & II and Starters for Open Discussion

Proposals for the Forum should

- be written in English
- identify the presenter(s) including the institution(s), position(s) and e-mail address(es)
- have a maximum of 800 words for case presentations including an abstract of up to 200 words
- have a maximum of 200 words for open discussion starters

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

All proposals need to be submitted to the organiser of the Forum as a PDF file via <https://dies-nmt.org/s/SubForum/en.html> by 22 August 2022, 18:00 CET (extended to 12 September). The proposals will be reviewed by the Programme Committee of the DIES Alumni Forum which includes representatives from the University of Potsdam, the DAAD and the HRK as well as the participating DIES training courses. Notification of acceptance will be communicated in September 2022.

The Review Criteria

Case Presentations	Starters for Open Discussion
The proposed case is relevant to the main theme/tracks of the Forum and has an analytical perspective.	The proposed discussion starter is relevant to higher education management or capacity building.
The structure and writing of the proposal are focused, coherent and understandable.	The proposed discussion starter provides a perspective that will be of interest to the participants.
The transferability and/or measures for sustainability is/are considered.	

IMPORTANT DATES

Event	Date
Deadline for submission of proposals	22 August 2022 (Extended to 12 September)
Notification of acceptance	September 2022
Forum registration	29 Sept-15 Oct (tentative) 2022
Forum dates	27 October, 3 November and 10 November (tentative) 2022

For questions, please contact nmt@uni-potsdam.de. We look forward to receiving your inspiring proposals!