DIES ProGRANT Proposal Writing for Research Grants

Practical-oriented Training for New Researchers in Vietnam

DIES ProGRANT in Vietnam: Practical-oriented Training for New Researchers

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) the DIES ProGRANT Co-ordination Centre at the University of Cologne, together with the the DAAD Regional Office Hanoi and the DAAD Information Center Ho Chi Minh City are organizing the training course:

“ProGRANT Proposal Writing for Research Grants: Practical-oriented Trainings for New Researchers”

**Seminar I: January 26th–30th 2015, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**

*E-Learning Module: February–May 2015*

**Seminar II: August 17th–21st 2015, Hanoi, Vietnam**

**Course Description**

The course is part of the DIES (Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies) programme of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Rectors’ Conference (HRK). The aim of DIES ProGRANT is to train researchers and young PhD holders in developing a promising research proposal for national or international research funding (every participant will have the opportunity to tailor their application to the funding institution of their choice). Researchers from all disciplines can apply for this course. Each group will consist of 30 participants from the region. Because of its multicultural nature, DIES ProGRANT is also an effective tool for promoting international research and relationships.
Learning Approach

Using a blended learning approach, DIES ProGRANT is structured in three modules: two on-site seminar modules (Seminar I and Seminar II) and a trainer guided E-Learning module.

Seminar I (January 26th–30th 2015, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam)

Seminar I will provide basic knowledge and basic technical skills that are needed to design, write and budget a potentially successful research funding proposal (e.g. to transform an abstract research idea into a proposal) on the basis of lectures, group work and exercises. Attendance and active participation from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm is required.

E-Learning Module — February–May 2015

Primary objective of E-Learning is to enable the participants to submit a 10 page draft of their research funding proposal.

During the E-Learning module the participants will work on their research funding proposal (including creation of a working plan and a budget plan) at their home institution and further develop it under the guidance and online counseling of the trainer team. Eleven online chapters for self-study will be offered. Each chapter includes additional learning material and exercises. This content is specifically designed to help turn theoretical knowledge into practical skills that will help develop a successful research proposal. Additionally, personalized online support will be offered to all participants. This includes a virtual classroom for meetings and discussing with coursemates and trainers. Participants should budget three hours per week in order to optimize use of the E-Learning module (submission by May 8th, 2015).
Seminar II (August 17th–21st 2015, Hanoi, Vietnam)

During the second seminar, the research funding proposal drafts will be presented, discussed, evaluated and fine-tuned in a participative review process. The objective of this seminar is to engage in a collaborative feedback process between trainers and participants and ultimately develop a final draft. At the end of Seminar II, the research funding proposals should be ready for submission to research funding organizations. Attendance and active participation from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm is required.

Participant Profile

Potential participants are researchers and PhD-holders from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar. Selection criteria are that participants:

- Must hold a doctoral degree or have equivalent research experience
- Have an affiliation to an academic institution in the above mentioned countries
- Possess excellent English language skills, both written and spoken
- Be preferably at the beginning or middle stages of their research career.

Trainer Profile

The trainer teams consist of German and regional experts. Grant writing experts will share their knowledge in the field of research funding, subject-specific trainers will provide expertise on the nuances and details of their particular field.
Partner Profiles

The University of Cologne: The University of Cologne (UoC) combines innovation with tradition in its research and teaching since its foundation in 1388, which establishes its academic excellence as one of the best-known German universities. In 2012 UoC was distinguished as German University of Excellence.

proWiss (Consulting Services for Researchers): proWiss Consulting Services assist individual researchers and institutions of the higher education sector to develop and enhance research activities and to improve the efficiency of the institutions’ researchers, faculty members, staff, and administrators.

Funding

The costs for this training course will be mainly covered by funds from the DAAD provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The following expenses will be covered:

• Course expenses (expert-honoraria, infrastructure, organization, material): approx. 1.250 € p.P.
• Travel to and from the course venue up to a pre-defined maximum rate. Travel arrangements will be organized for you.
• Accommodation and meals during the two 5-day seminar modules in Vietnam (according to DAAD regulations).

Expected co-funding: Participants and/or their home institutions are expected to cover local transportation in their home countries (for example: taxi to airport), visa costs (if applicable) and possible additional per diems for the stay in Vietnam. Also, health insurance and other additional costs will have to be covered by participants and/or their home institutions. Use of a computer is not required during Seminar I and II, however participants who have a laptop at their disposal should consider bringing it.

Application Requirements and Process

Applications can be submitted on our webpage at http://proposalwriting.globalsouth.uni-koeln.de Following the link under “Information for Applicants” you will find the Online Application Form, which will be available beginning on September 2nd 2014. Please fill out all fields and upload all other application requirements (as mentioned below) on that form.

Exposé

We request that you submit a 2-page exposé (approximately 5,000 characters) outlining your intended research project. This exposé should include the following sections and information:
1) **Title Page:** Applicant name, disciplinary area of the proposal, and title (approximately 100 characters)

2) **Introduction:** Please introduce your research idea: Based on pertinent literature, please briefly demonstrate that there is a research gap and a need for this gap to be filled.

3) **Aim of the project:** Please state the aim of your intended research. If possible, please state the research question you intend to answer. Tell us about the innovative potential of your project.

4) **Methods:** Briefly describe the methods you are going to apply in order to achieve the aim of your project (to find an answer to the research question).

5) **Significance/Relevance:** Briefly state the expected outcome, explain the significance/relevance your project might have for scientific and, if applicable, non-scientific stakeholders.

In case you already know, please indicate the funding agency you want to apply to.

**Academic CV**
Please provide a brief resumé of your academic career.

**Letter of Support**
We ask that you submit a Letter of Support from the University you are affiliated with. Your home institution should provide information about your relationship to, and functions at the University, and express support in you participating in the DIES ProGRANT course.

**File Format**
Please title all pdfs according to the following example:
“familyname_firstname_expose”
“familyname_firstname_CV”

**Deadline for applications is October 24rd 2014, 11:00 pm German time.**

30 participants will be selected according to the quality of their exposé and also based on regional and institutional profiles. Applicants will be given a final decision by mid December 2014.

**Contact and Information**

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