

Time schedule of the study visit of IUT Colmar and Hochschule Karlsruhe

Thursday, 3 December 2009

02.00 p.m. Welcome by Christine Gangloff (Director of the IUT Colmar) and by Roland Pelurson
Presentation of the IUT Colmar
Presentation of the IUT network in France
Presentation of the GIS (Risk Management Project)
Presentation of the Université Haute Alsace und its research activities

Friday, 4 December 2009

10.30 a.m. Welcome by Prof. Dr. Dieter Höpfel (Vice-President of Karlsruhe UAS)
Presentation of Karlsruhe UAS (Höpfel)
Report on research activities at Karlsruhe UAS (Prof. Dr. Markus Stöckner)
Tour of the laboratory
a) Gas sensors for efficient control of firewood fuelled residential fireplaces (Prof. Dr. Heinz Kohler)
b) Faculty of Electrical and Communication Engineering (Prof. Dr. Günter Langhammer)
c) Computational Material Sciences and Engineering (Michael Selzer)

IUT Colmar

The French IUT-System

The IUTs have been founded in 1966. They are integrated in the universities and they stand for a job-related education at higher education institutions. At present, there are 115 IUTs in France and they offer 26 different study programmes. 143.000 students are enrolled at IUTs. IUTs are engaged in basic research as well as in applied research.

The IUTs offer two year study programs which lead to the DUT (Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie) and a range of three-year study programs which lead to a "Bachelor Professional". The education at IUTs aims at the training of future middle managers in the industrial and service sector. The curriculum is job-related, but academic and fundamental knowledge is also taken into account. Study programmes of IUTs are very popular, and interested persons have to apply for a study place. The number of applicants is sometimes ten times higher than the number of places. About 20 percent of the graduates of IUT leave the higher education sector with a first degree and start a professional career. The others pass into other study programmes and they go for a higher degree. As IUTs are part of the universities, and most of the teachers work for the IUT and the university as well. Their teaching load is about 6 hours per week.

IUT Colmar and its research domains

The three domains of research at the IUT Colmar are law, high-energy physics and network und telecommunication. In the domain of law The focus of research in the domain of law lies on legal questions in connection with accidents and catastrophes, for instance traffic accidents with many victims. About 20 researchers and 12 PhD-students are active in this unit. The IUT has no basic funds for research. It works on a contract basis with different ministries, the civil security and the fire brigade.

"University of the Upper Alsace"

The University of the Upper Alsace has about 7.800 student, 280 researchers and 150 study programmes. It works in a close network (EUCOR) with the universities of Basel (Switzerland) and Freiburg (Germany). 15 research laboratories are situated at the university and they focus on three main disciplines; chemistry, engineering and humanities and social sciences.

The UAS Karlsruhe (Hochschule Karlsruhe)

The institution

Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences is a state-owned institution of higher education. Its roots go back to the year 1878. In the early 70's questions about recognition and equivalence of engineering studies within the EU led to the foundation of the Universities of Applied Sciences in Germany. In October 1971 the Karlsruhe State College of Engineering became the Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences. The University has today 6000 students and about 175 teachers. It has an extensive range of study programs in the engineering and business fields. A Bachelor's degree can normally be obtained after seven semesters, including a mandatory one-semester internship in industry. This means that students will hold an internationally recognized academic qualification after 3.5 years and will then be ready to enter the workplace. The higher-level qualification, the Master's degree, can be obtained after additional three or four semesters of study. One of the mission of the university is to bridge the gap between the theoretical world of lectures and the practical world of the workplace. Degree programs at the University are therefore designed to combine an academic education with the requirements of industry. The University has developed partnerships with about 80 universities worldwide. Across its faculties the University offers a range of international degree programs leading to dual qualifications. A tripartite degree program is offered in the field of Civil Engineering involving universities in Basel (CH) and Strasbourg (F). It allows graduates to obtain French, Swiss and German degrees.

Research at Karlsruhe UAS

The University is very active in the area of applied research.

The Institute of Applied Research (IAF), the central unit for research and development at the University, maintains contact with all research activities and thus establishes an environment in which applied, interdisciplinary research and development is possible. In order to undertake research projects the IAF not only has its own equipment but can, when necessary, access the resources of the departments.

The main objective of the IAF is to ensure that the scientific potential of the University is made accessible to interested parties, especially industry, through a variety of cooperative activities.

Research and development at the University is closely linked to the area of technology transfer. The "Transfer Centers" perform work in consultancy, research, and industrial studies offering complete solutions to a variety of challenges while contributing to the field of further education.

With the *focos* GmbH the University has set up a company where contract research and development for private companies can be carried out as well as activities involving technology transfer. In addition to services in the area of knowledge transfer and training, for example through the provision of training courses, *focos* is also involved in the control and management of research projects and the management of the tender process for research projects.