



**Universität Vechta**  
*University of Vechta*



Cooperation Projects

**University of Vechta and  
St. Augustine University of Tanzania**



## The Partnership

<http://www.uni-vechta.de/internationales/kooperationen/weltweit/tansania/>



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed during the first visit of the Vice Chancellor of St. Augustine University, Rev. Dr. Charles Kitima, at the University of Vechta in 2008.

This was followed by a Fact Finding Mission in 2009, sponsored by DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service), of a delegation of lecturers and administrative staff to St. Augustine University. Many of the activities outlined below are based on the understanding the two universities arrived at during this visit.

## The DIES Project: Quality Management in Student Services and Administration



How do you improve the quality of services for students during registration? How do you optimise the process of admission? What do international students expect in terms of assistance? - These are some of the questions that were tackled during familiarisation visits or in workshops during the four-year project „Quality Management in Student Services and Administration.“ The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) has been funding this cooperation

between St. Augustine University of Tanzania and the University of Vechta within the framework of their programme „Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies“ (DIES) since 2010.

The focus on quality management in administration was a result of the keen interest that SAUT displayed in its active participation in the quality offensive in teaching started by DAAD in cooperation with the Inter-University Council of East Africa of which SAUT is a member. The Vice Chancellor was therefore interested in including administration in its quality management concept.

After the Kickoff-Workshop which was attended by management of both universities and during which details of the cooperation were discussed and agreed upon, the first workshop in Mwanza concentrated on organisational development and process management. Some 60 staff both from Mwanza main campus and affiliated colleges all over Tanzania alternately listened to presentations and developed ideas during groupwork periods.

Another workshop concentrated on the student life cycle and associated services offered to students, including internationalisation of students and



staff. The last workshop covered different aspects of staff development as a contribution towards quality management. Familiarisation visits of Tanzanian colleagues with their German counterparts followed. The project will conclude with a conference at the end of this year.

Responsible: Dr. D. Bediako, M. Mushi

### Promotion of Young Researchers



The Ministry of Science and Culture of Lower Saxony, within its state partnership with Tanzania, started funding the promotion of young Tanzanian researchers (mainly Ph.D. candidates) from 2010. The programme which funds between five and six candidates per annum from St. Augustine University aims at enhancing the qualification of young lecturers and the internationalisation of the Tanzanian university.

So far, the State of Lower Saxony has funded six-months stays of 19 Ph.D. students mainly in Sociology/Gerontology, Geography, also Education, Mathematics, and English Literature.

The first candidate, Sr. Deusdedita Lutego, received her Ph.D. in Mathematics Instructions in August 2013.

Responsible: Dr. D. Bediako (organisation), Prof. Dr. H. Künemund (workshops, supervision), Ph. D. supervisors

### Undergraduate and Graduate Internship and Study Abroad Programme for Vechta Students

Based on the German Fact Finding Mission in 2009 and with the support of SAUT, a database of organisations suitable for internships was created and is available for German students. So far, 26 students have gone for internships between 2010 and 2013, they are hosted in the University Guesthouse. Five students have gone for semester abroad studies mainly in Sociology.

All students can take Kiswahili classes to prepare for internship and studies in Mwanza. Kiswahili courses have been offered at the University of Vechta since 2010, with the arrival of the first Lecturer for Intercultural Competences from our partner university, and have been very popular ever since.

Responsible: Dr. D. Bediako, C. Drave, J. Peltz



## Short Term Lectureships, Research and Workshops at St. Augustine University

2011: Dr. Claudia Vogel (Lectures in Gerontology/Sociology)

2012: Nele Tanschus, M.A. (Research in Gerontology)

2013: Sabine Eickelberg (Lectures in Mathematics)

2013: Prof. Dr. Roland Hafen (Music Workshop)

2013: Prof. Dr. Kim Philip Schumacher (Research in  
Geography/Gender)



## The InSPiRE Project

### Initiation of Structured Postgraduate Programmes in Research Methods Education



InSPiRE, a German-Tanzanian partnership in the Social Sciences, aims at jointly initiating structured postgraduate programmes in research methods education for their postgraduate students in the social sciences both at the University of Vechta, Germany, and the St. Augustine University of Tanzania:

The partnership develops structures that help to constantly qualify master students for participation in the PhD programme, to support the most promising among them as later PhD students during this important step of further qualification, and to finally train those who are striving for a scientific career so that they are able to teach in the programme and to further develop its structures. The programme includes curriculum development, lecturer training and exchange, MA and PhD workshops and exchange, and evaluation measures to ensure self-sustainability. It is a "structured partnership" funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), from 01/2012 until 12/2015.

The group has conducted several workshops in Tanzania, and Tanzanian students have done research at the University of Vechta. Part of the project are Nele Marie Tanschus (Vechta) and Father Pascas Wagana (Mwanza), both of them Ph.D. Candidates, who engage in joint research on ageing in Tanzania and presented their first joint paper at the 1<sup>st</sup> African Conference on Gerontology and Geriatrics in Cape Town in 2012.

Responsible: Prof. Dr. H. Künemund, Prof. Dr. Y. Voelschow, Rev. Dr. T. Mkamwa

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