



2013 Conference

# The Role of Technology in Institutional Partnerships

**Freie Universität Berlin**  
**Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München**



**GERMAN UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE** | Freie Universität Berlin · Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

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Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

# GUA institutional partnerships

- Partner institutions around the globe
  - FUB: over 40 institutions in North America
  - LMU: 30 institutions in North America
- Technology used innumerable ways, examples:
  - Skype / video conferencing
  - Data exchange in joint research projects
  - Online education, LMU on iTunes
  - Best Practice Example: Distributed Campus (FUB)

## Distributed Campus



- Online coaching tool for international students (degree and exchange) to prepare for stay at FUB
- 5.400 (16 %) international students
  - Poland (700)
  - Russia(350)
  - China (250)
  - France (240)
  - USA (220)
  - ...
  - Colombia(41)

**Goal: facilitate transition & integration**

# motivation



# Before going abroad...



# Once in Berlin....





## Once in Berlin.... (2)



During studies – online



trip  
to host  
country



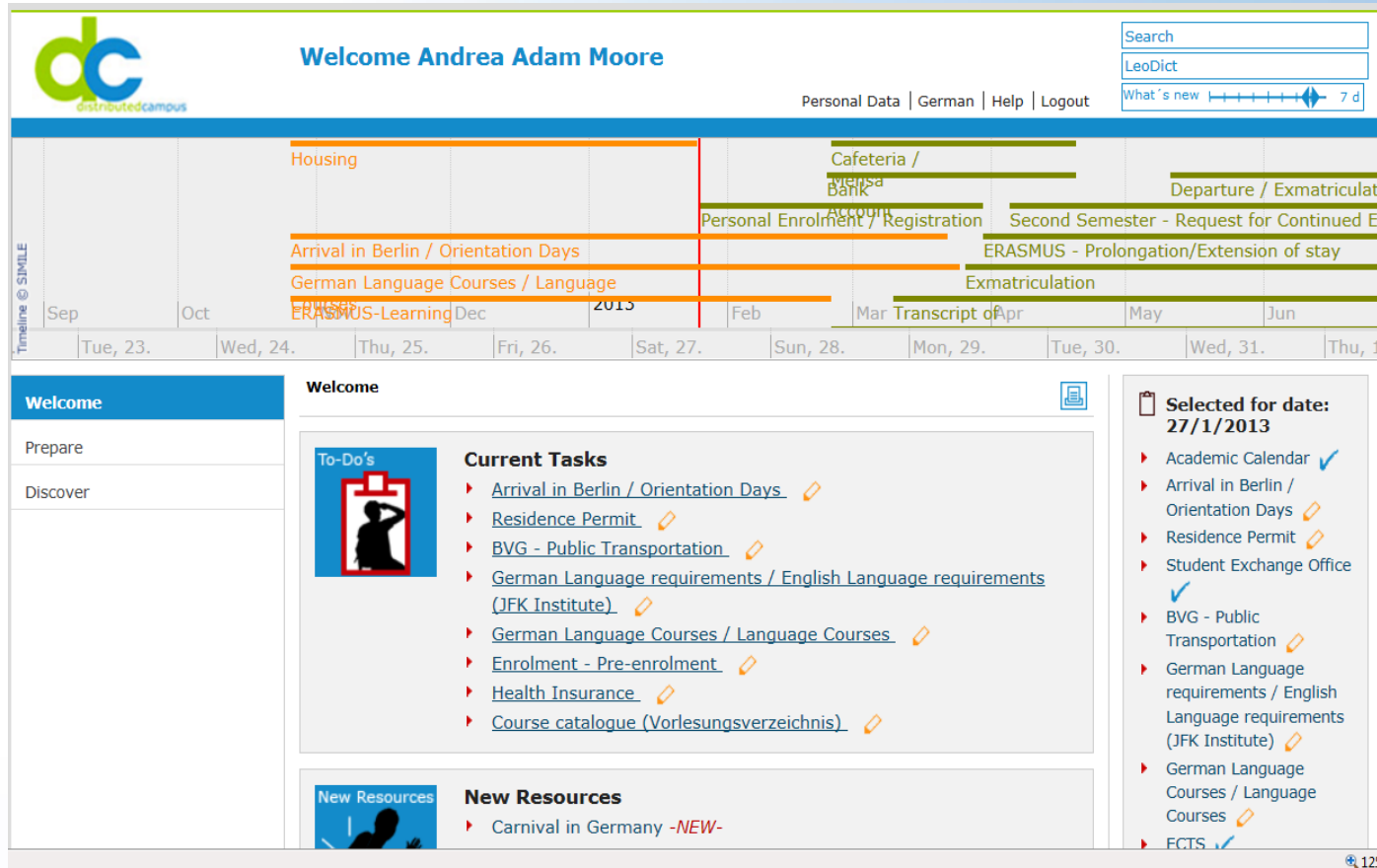
During studies – Berlin



language and culture  
seminars  
personal contact to staff  
on site  
contact to other students  
of the group

- Central content – main editor (administrative, intercultural matters, language prep, social life, everyday orientation, academic work)
- Decentralized content – group specific, group editor (academic, program specific, requirements)
- Preparation timeline (chronological individualized checklist with all preparation steps)
- Interactive: student input (comments, rating), contact to other students before arrival
- Authentic and multimedia content in German and English
- Direct links to university service units





The screenshot shows the 'Welcome Andrea Adam Moore' interface. At the top, there's a search bar and navigation links for 'Personal Data', 'German', 'Help', and 'Logout'. A calendar view at the top displays events from September to June 2013, with orange bars indicating key dates like 'Arrival in Berlin / Orientation Days' and 'German Language Courses / Language Courses'. The main content area is divided into three sections: 'Welcome' (with links to 'Prepare' and 'Discover'), 'Current Tasks' (listing tasks like 'Arrival in Berlin / Orientation Days', 'Residence Permit', 'BVG - Public Transportation', 'German Language requirements / English Language requirements (JFK Institute)', 'German Language Courses / Language Courses', 'Enrolment - Pre-enrolment', 'Health Insurance', and 'Course catalogue (Vorlesungsverzeichnis)'), and 'New Resources' (listing 'Carnival in Germany -NEW-'). On the right, a sidebar shows a 'Selected for date: 27/1/2013' list with checkboxes for various tasks, some of which are already completed (marked with a checkmark).

welcome screen - overview

Timeline © SIMM

Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Tue, 23.	Wed, 24.	Thu, 25.	Fri, 26.	Sat, 27.	Sun, 28.	Mon, 29.	Tue, 30.	Wed, 31.	Thu, 1.	Fri, 2.

German Language Courses / Language Courses  
ERASMUS-Learning  
Exmatriculation  
Transcript of Records

Welcome

Prepare

Discover

Discover

Click a pic! Discover more!

Resources  
A to Z

A-Z Resources

Berlin

Berlin

Everyday

Everyday Life

Freetime

Free Time

Alumni

Freie Universität Alumni

German

German Lessons

Country

Germany

Multimedia

Multimedia

Newsletter

Student Inputs

Studies

Selected for date: 27/1/2013

- Academic Calendar ✓
- Arrival in Berlin / Orientation Days
- Residence Permit
- Student Exchange Office ✓
- BVG - Public Transportation
- German Language requirements / English Language requirements (JFK Institute)
- German Language Courses / Language Courses
- ECTS ✓
- ERASMUS-Learning Agreement ✓
- Enrolment - Pre-enrolment
- Health Insurance
- Courses / Modules ✓
- Semesterticket and Social Fees ✓
- Locations ✓

resources to “discover”

Arrival in Berlin / Orientation Days				ERASMUS - Prolongation/Extension of stay			
German Language Courses / Language				Exmatriculation			
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar
Tue, 23.	Wed, 24.	Thu, 25.	Fri, 26.	Sat, 27.	Sun, 28.	Mon, 29.	Tue, 30.
ERASMUS-Learning				Transcript of			


Welcome

Prepare


**Discover**

Discover ► **German Lessons**


Click a pic! Discover more!



**German Lessons**




**A-Z German**




**Communication**



**Grammar**




**Landeskunde**




**Listening Comprehension**



**Reading Comprehension**



**der die das**



**Schreib mal wieder!**

**Selected for date: 27/1/2013**

- ▶ Academic Calendar ✓
- ▶ Arrival in Berlin / Orientation Days ✗
- ▶ Residence Permit ✗
- ▶ Student Exchange Office ✓
- ▶ BVG - Public Transportation ✗
- ▶ German Language requirements / English Language requirements (JFK Institute) ✗
- ▶ German Language Courses / Language Courses ✗
- ▶ ECTS ✓
- ▶ ERASMUS-Learning Agreement ✓
- ▶ Enrolment - Pre-enrolment ✗
- ▶ Health Insurance ✗
- ▶ Courses / Modules ✓
- ▶ Semesterticket and Social Fees ✓
- ▶ Locations ✓

## German lessons

[illegible]

example  
exercise  
(+tutor)

- Delivering optimal up-to-date information material
- One central reliable platform with authentic multimedia materials
- Reducing email inquiries for both home and host institution in preparation phase
- Reducing print and mailing expenses
- Consistent information, transparent processes
- Better preparedness of the incoming students
- Better awareness of procedures and deadlines
- better monitoring of capabilities on staff level



- Potential benefits for partnerships:
  - Using DC for outgoing students (partner institution content)
  - Using DC as tool for administrators, staff, faculty
- Partner institution join open dc
  - <http://opendc.distributed-campus.org/referenzen/index.html>

- Contact:

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Open DC / Distributed Campus

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**Thank you very much for your attention!**

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