



Freie Universität Berlin
Center for Digital Systems (CeDiS)
Competence Center e-Learning/Multimedia



Distributed Campus

project presentation

sponsored by **DAAD**



- ▶ Increasing internationalization
- ▶ Demand for mobility, flexibility

▶ **Study / stay abroad**

Optimization of the preparation process via a internet based guidance: (contents, organization and language)

- ▶ Facilitates the integration process
- ▶ Improves knowledge of German language and civilization
- ▶ Supports the US Study Abroad Organizations



- ▶ **FU Berlin Center for Digital Systems (CeDiS)**
Concept, Implementation and Project Management
- ▶ **FU Berlin Division for International Affairs**
Dr. Wedigo de Vivanco (Dean), Guenter Schepker
- ▶ **Duke-in-Berlin Program**
Jochen Wohlfeil (Resident Director)
Dr. Christa Johns (Academic Director)
- ▶ **BCGS**
Dr. Carmen Müller (Residential Administrative Director)
Prof. Thomas Safley (Academic Director)
- ▶ **Stanford University**
Prof. Larry Friedlander
Dr. Karen Kramer (Director Overseas Studies Program in Berlin)
- ▶ **German language Lecturer**
Dr. Detlef Otto
- ▶ **FU Berlin International Club**
Cooperation with Students
- ▶ **FU Berlin Student Counseling Office**
Content creation / review
- ▶ **John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies**
Prof. Ursula Lehmkuhl, Language Tandems for Students

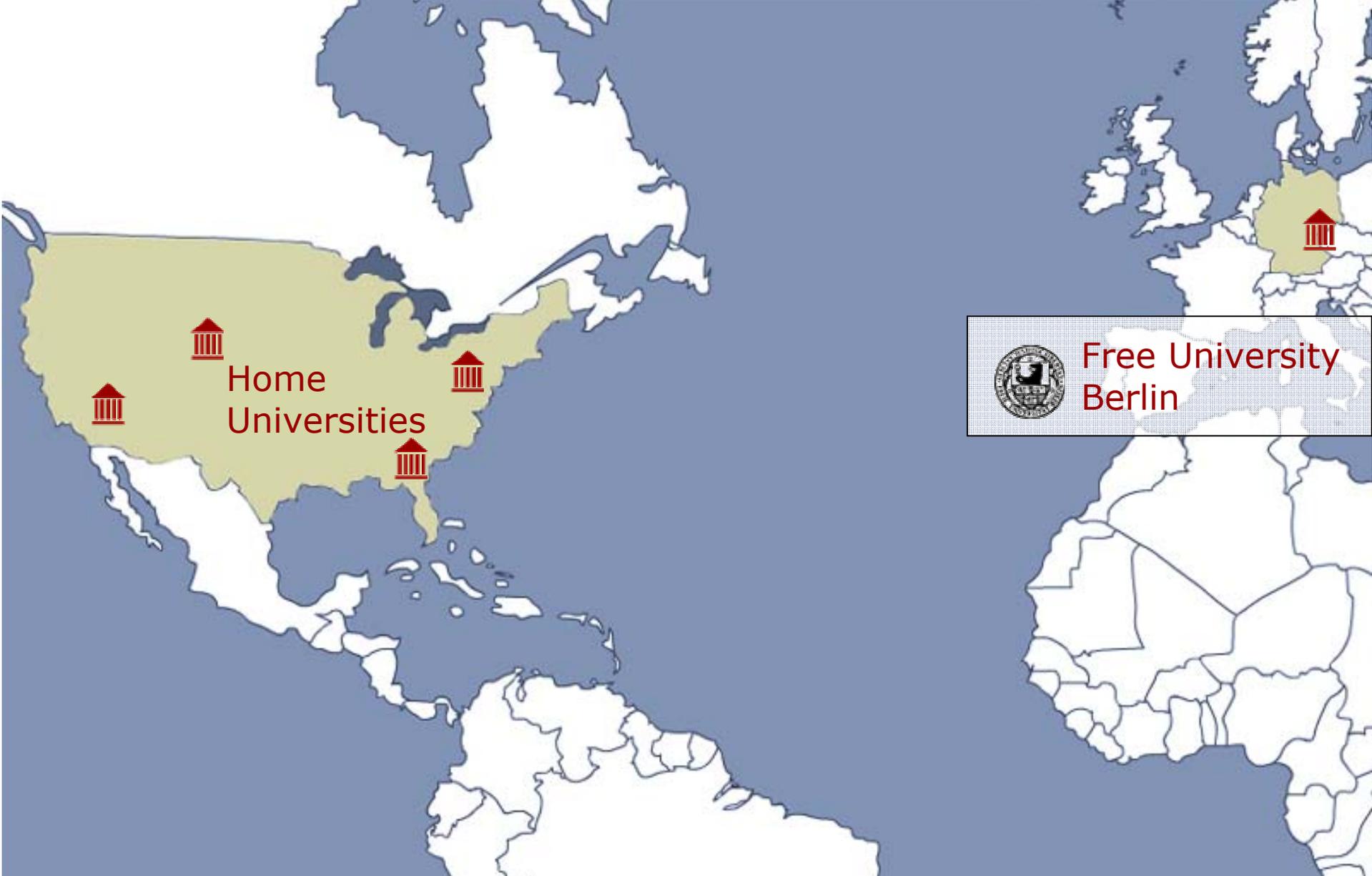


Poll among students

Topics - further optimization:

- ▶ Differences in university / academic life
- ▶ Everyday life: bank, health...
- ▶ German civilization: politics, history
- ▶ Social life: contacts to German students
- ▶ Berlin: Information about the German capital city
- ▶ German: specific reading and writing skills
- ▶ Access to extensive communication environment: administrators, support staff, professors
- ▶ Authentic multimedia materials
- ▶ Access to reliable and up to date material

Distributed Campus: Structure



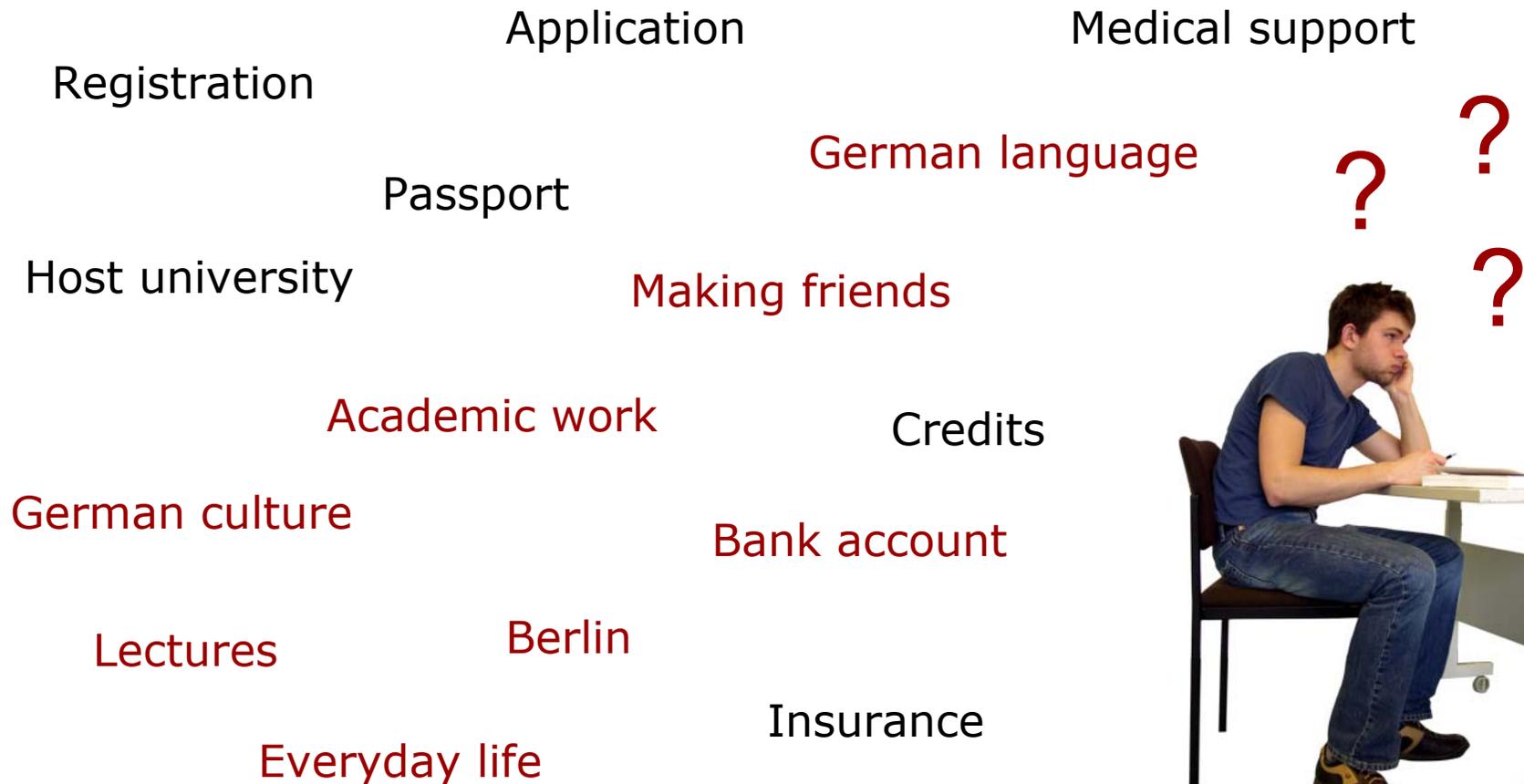
Distributed Campus: Structure



Distributed Campus: Structure



Distributed Campus: **Project Aim**

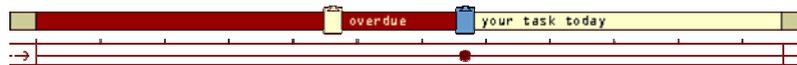


Distributed Campus: Conception Portal



US American student at home university

Distributed Campus
Web Portal



Personalized Navigation via
Timeline through the Pre-
Departure Preparation



US American student at the
Free University Berlin

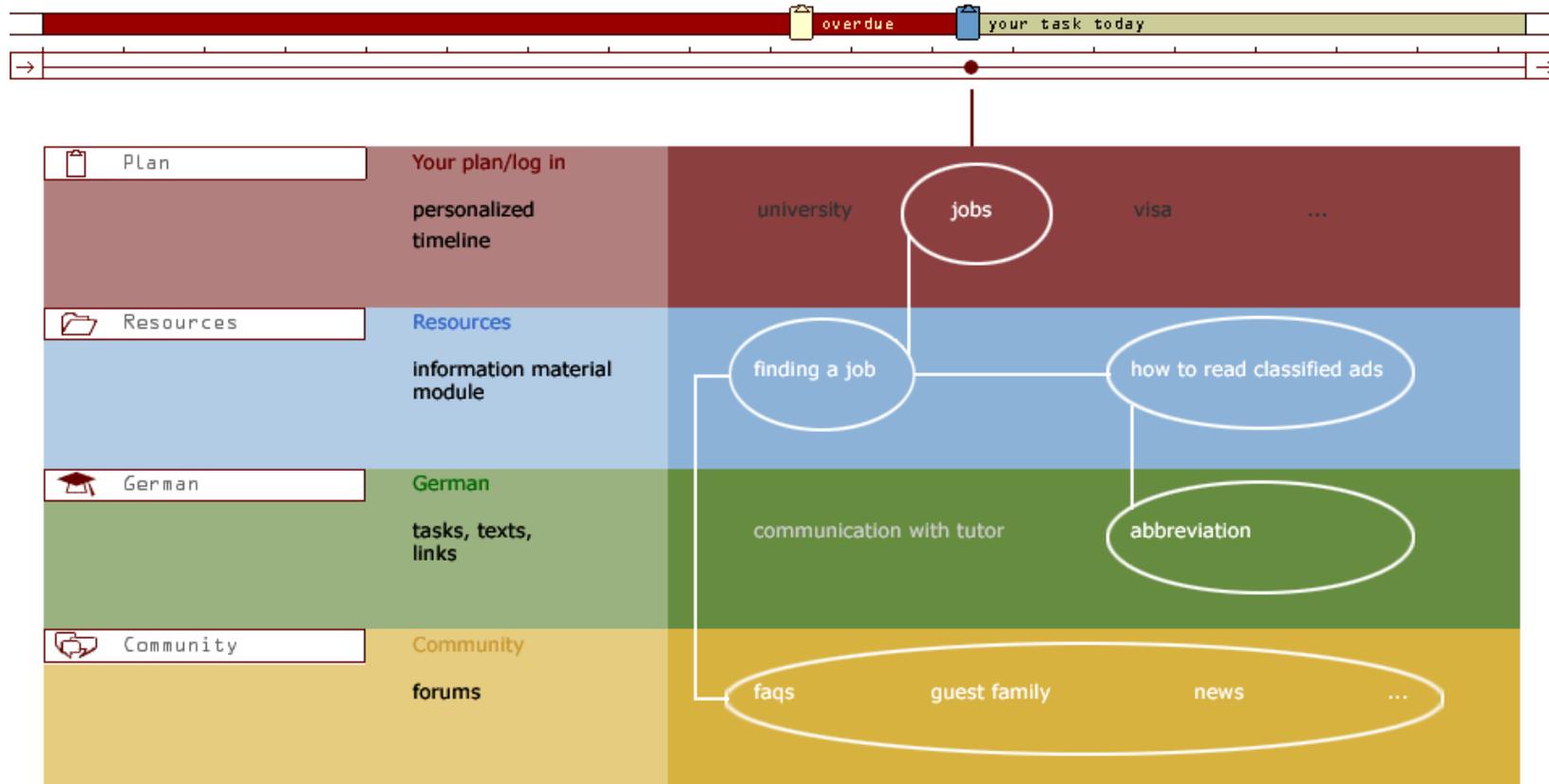


- ▶ **Distance**
Overcoming distance between home and host university
- ▶ **Management of information**
Effective structuring of vast information material
- ▶ **Updating of content**
Decentralized actualization via web
- ▶ **Testimonials**
Experiences of alumni with study abroad life
- ▶ **Personalization und customization**
Increasing attractiveness and actuality of material
- ▶ **Diversification of material**
Interactive, video, audio material



- ▶ **Timeline**
Time sensitive guidance through the pre-departure preparation process
- ▶ **Timeline with tasks to fulfill**
Personalized view with checklist
- ▶ **Community**
For students + Admins
- ▶ **German**
Online course (LMS environment)
- ▶ **Testimonials**
(Audio, Video, Text)
- ▶ FAQ, search

Distributed Campus: Timeline and Content





▶ **DC-Management**

- ▶ Portal including personalization
- ▶ Students access organization-specific material
- ▶ Students directly linked to their specific Organizations
- ▶ Flexible maintenance for Organizations
- ▶ Personal checklist

▶ **DC-Timeline Management**

- ▶ Guidance through the portal via time
- ▶ Structured access to information
- ▶ Topics to do / overdue / done



- ▶ **Administrative part**
Application, registration, health insurance...
- ▶ **Academic Environment**
FU Berlin courses, libraries, lectures...
- ▶ **Everyday life**
Guest family, apartment, bank account, sports, job...
- ▶ **Berlin**
Culture, districts, public transport...
- ▶ **German language**
FU Berlin specifica, orientation, everyday communication...



- ▶ **Bi-lingual**
German and English resources
- ▶ **Linked to DC-German**
Content is used directly for German language and exercises
- ▶ **Testimonials**
Experiences of alumni with study abroad life
- ▶ **Authentic Video / Audio Material**
Problem based material increases attractiveness
- ▶ **Access to Resources**
Via tasks or via alphabetical order (index)



German language preparation

- ▶ **Bridge** between language courses at home university and on-site language training in Berlin
 - ▶ **Deepening of**
 - ▶ **German civilization**
 - ▶ **Everyday life communication**
 - ▶ **German university vocabulary**



German language
courses at home university

German language
course in Berlin



▶ **Homogeneous**

- ▶ Educational background (undergraduates)
- ▶ Intrinsic motivation (study abroad)
- ▶ Mother tongue (American English)
- ▶ Internet access

▶ **Heterogeneous**

- ▶ Language level German
(advanced beginners – near native speakers)



Exercises on intermediate level

- ▶ **Extension of target group possible**
- ▶ **Home universities can make use of DC-German in their courses**



- ▶ **Non linear course, modular system**
- ▶ **Components:** vocabulary, grammar, reading and writing skills...
- ▶ **Link between language and content:** everyday life, university life, academic questions...
- ▶ **Exercises:** quizzes, fill-in-the-blanks, matching, multiple choice, reading comprehension and writing skills
- ▶ **Evaluation** of test results
- ▶ Direct online contact to **German Lecturer / Tutor**



- ▶ **Various forums:** academic issues, life in Berlin, jobs, intercultural experience
- ▶ All forums with **moderation**
- ▶ Establishing contacts between **German and American** students
- ▶ **Language tandems** in cooperation with the JFK Institute (FU Berlin)
- ▶ Establishing contact to **residential and academic staff** on site in Berlin
- ▶ Communication platform for **organizers**



- ▶ Based on **PHP**
- ▶ **Registration** necessary for full operation (single sign on)
- ▶ Free usage of the information and the community part
- ▶ **Features**
 - ▶ Unlimited amount of forums
 - ▶ Private messaging, e-mailing
 - ▶ Member profiles
 - ▶ Buddy list
 - ▶ Ignore function
 - ▶ Topic subscriptions
 - ▶ Search engine



Jetspeed-Portal (Apache Jakarta groups product)

- ▶ User can access the portal via **web browser**
- ▶ Open Source implementation of an Enterprise Information portal
- ▶ Using Java and XML
- ▶ Portal makes **network resources** (applications, databases etc.) available to end users
- ▶ Developing **new portlets** with features
- ▶ Integration of **Learning Management System** (LMS)
- ▶ Integration of **Content Management System** (CMS)
- ▶ Integration of **Community**

Distributed Campus: Groups and Roles



Organizations



Student



Editor



Tutor



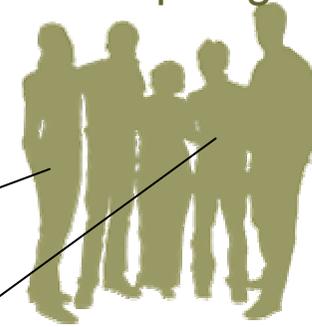
Main editor



Admin



Distributed Campus group



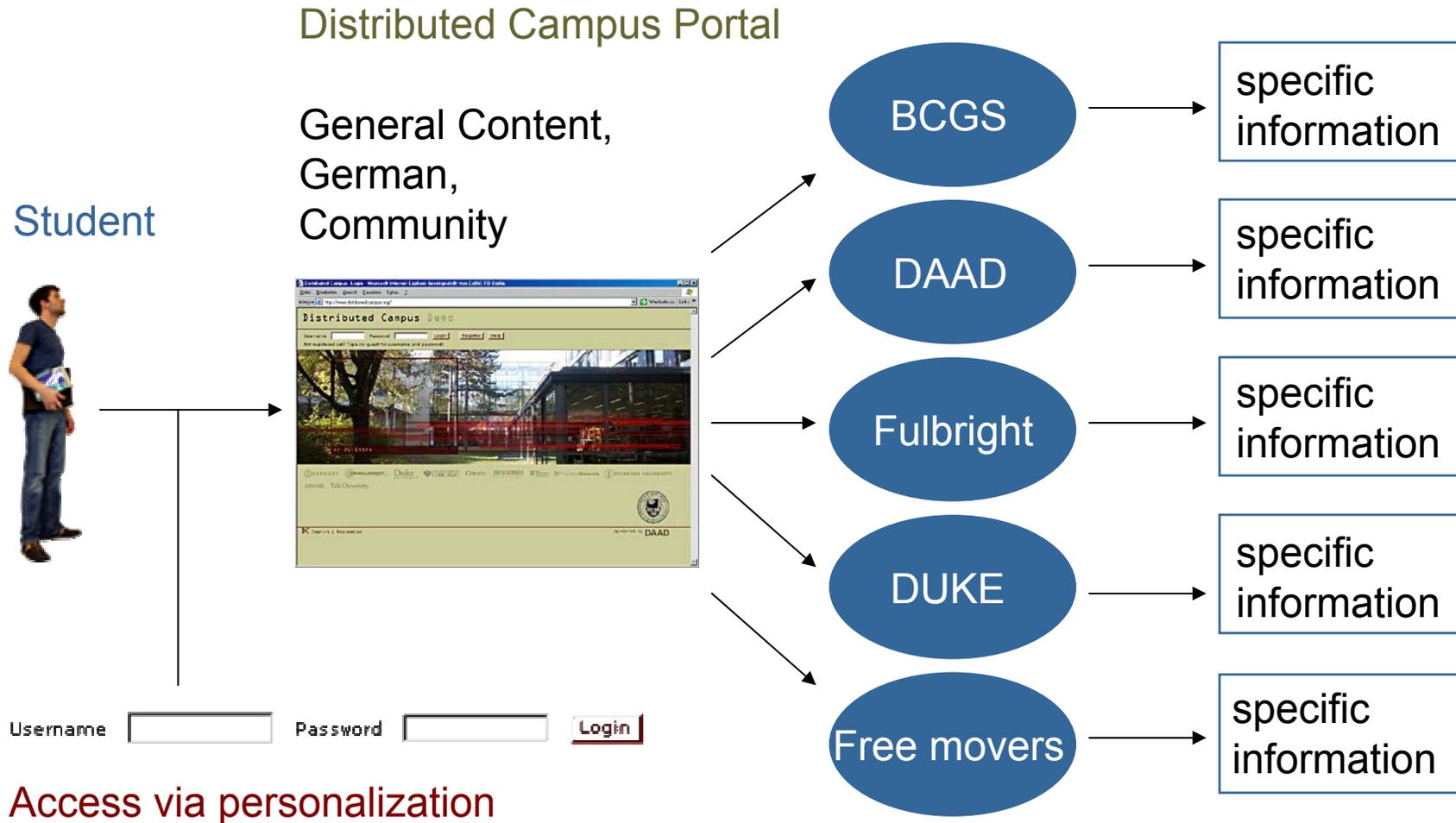
Role

security access to portlets

Permission administration via Jetspeed security



Single Sign On

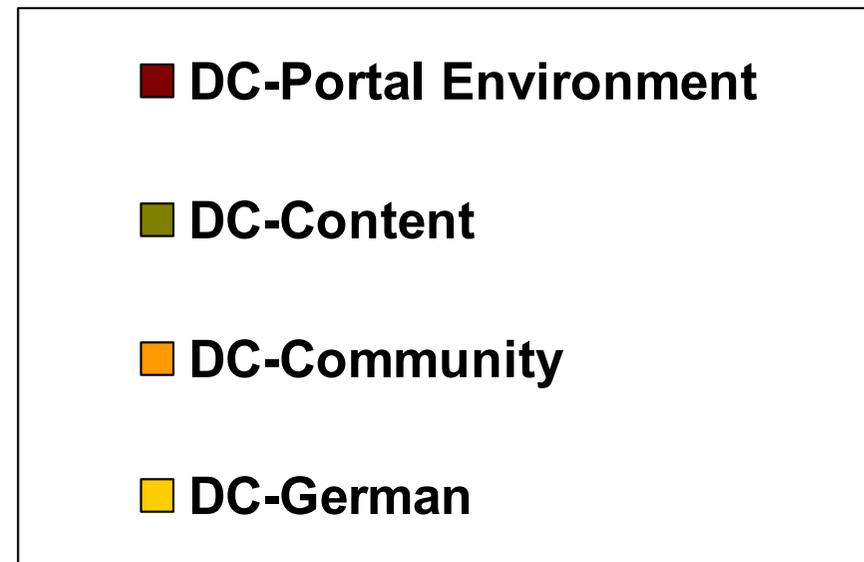
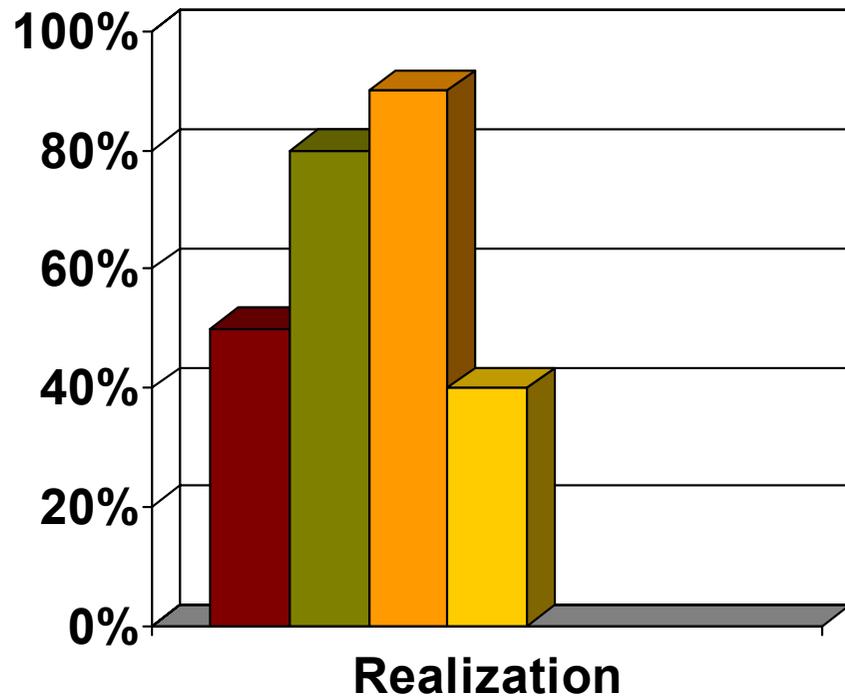




Institution	Role
DC-Team	Initial content creation, technical realization, maintenance
FU Berlin Division of International Affairs	Review, maintenance DC-Content
Exchange programs	Review, maintenance program specific content
German lecturer	Development and Review DC-German
Student	Preparation for studies at FU Berlin



Status of Realization





DC-Content

- ▶ User testing phase, review by partner institutions: 12/2003 – 03/2004

DC-German

- ▶ Content creation: 03-05/2004
- ▶ Implementation content in LMS: 06/2004
- ▶ Test stage: 07-08/2004
- ▶ Release: 09/2004

DC-Community

- ▶ User testing phase: since 12/2003
- ▶ Test stage: 04/2004
- ▶ Release: 07/2004



DC-Timeline Management

- ▶ Implementation: 04-05/2004
- ▶ Test stage: 06/2004
- ▶ Release: 07/2004

DC-Management

- ▶ Implementation: 04-05/2004
- ▶ Test stage: 06/2004
- ▶ Release: 07/2004

DC Demo Version: 04/2004

DC Pre-Release: 05/2004

DC Release 1.0: 09/2004



- ▶ **Extension** to lecture content overview
- ▶ **Links** to academic contents and community
- ▶ **Include** different types of Students and other Academic Institutions
- ▶ **Contacts** between professors / academic staff / Students and partner universities
- ▶ **Extension** to intercultural content
- ▶ **Building an academic, cultural and organizational bridge “USA-Germany”**



www.distributed-campus.org

- ▶ Distributed Campus Team:
distributed.campus@cedis.fu-berlin.de
- ▶ Akademisches Außenamt:
international.office@fu-berlin.de

