

FREIBERG STUDENTS TOUR NAMIBIA

A group of Teaching and Master of Administration degree students, who are enrolled in the Geography of Global Change program from the University of Freiberg, Germany recently visited the Polytechnic of Namibia.

Accompanied by their professors, Dr. Thomas Uhlendahl and Prof. Rainer Flavian, the group was in Namibia on a 16-day trip and visited historical sites in Erongo region such as Amieb Ranch, Brandberg Mountains, Swakopmund, Rossing Mine, the Gobabeb Research Center, Hakosfarm and Sesriem.

PON and Freiberg University are partners collaborating in Environmental governance, natural resources management and land management.

During their short visit at PON, the students provided short presentations on their University and a tint of their culture to the Polytechnic students.

On their excursion journey, the students were accompanied by Mitchel Mutonga and Ana Shikumwa both PON students who acted as special guests and cultural exchange advisors.

Before they returned to Germany, the group presented a brief presentation on their experience in Namibia to the PoN community which according to them was an eye opener and indeed an experience which they will cherish for ever.



Exchange cooperation continues between Polytechnic of Namibia and the University of Freiberg, Germany

HEAD OF SAFRI VISITS POLY

Mr. Andreas Wenzel, Secretary General of the Southern Africa Initiative for German Business (SAFRI) and Managing Director of Support for Africa (SFA-GmbH), praised the Polytechnic of Namibia for providing academic excellence during his recent visit.

SAFRI, in association with Mercedes-Benz South Africa, offers six-month internships at Daimler and at other companies in Germany through the Students Experience Programme (STEP). Over the years, students from PON have been awarded internships in this program.

During his discussions on the program with the PON, Mr. Wenzel noted that "PON is a valuable partner" for the program adding that that German companies are very happy and impressed with the caliber of students coming from the Polytechnic of Namibia.

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Two of PON's recent STEP graduates, Joe Kapiye and Jeremy Ngondo, returned with high hopes, a phenomenal experience and the drive to promote STEP by igniting the participation amongst their peers. The two STEP graduates will host an information session for students interested in the upcoming consortium in September. The next co-host of STEP will be start on 1 March-31 August 2012 and eligible students are encouraged to apply. Details on the deadline are available on the PON website.



Pictured from left to right: Ms. Dioné Izaks: International Relations Officer, Dr. Tjama Tjivikua: Rector of Polytechnic of Namibia, Mr. Jeremy Ngondo, Mr. Andreas Wenzel: Secretary General of SAFRI, Mr. Joe Kapiye, Ms. Neavera Olivier: Director of Planning and International Relations.

PIR TEAM VALUES - be solution oriented -

"Most people see only problems. That doesn't require any special talents or abilities. Someone who thinks in terms of solutions in stead of problems can be a difference-maker. A team filled with people who possess that mind-set can really get things done. Solution-seeking team players recognise that: Problems are a matter of perspective... All problems are solvable... Problems either stop you or stretch you..." Excerpt from John C. Maxwell's book, "The Maxwell Daily Reader: 365 Days of Insight to Develop the Leader Within You and Influence Those Around You."

B360

education partnerships
B360 EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS STRONGER THAN EVER

The B360 Education Partnership has such a unique approach and the Polytechnic of Namibia is benefiting tremendously from this Partnership. The core activity of the B360 Education Partnership is volunteer-based transfer of knowledge and capacity-building in developing countries in southern Africa. B360 approaches institutions and companies based on the needs and requests of the partner-organizations. Through this B360 gives students and other interested parties access to private sector experts and practical work experience.

Meet the B360 Volunteer Experts currently at the Polytechnic:



Ms. Marianne Egli, teaching Communication and Marketing in the School of Communication and Media Technology.



Ms. Michelle Holmes, teaching Advanced Organization Development and Change and Compensation Management in the School of Business, Human Resources Department.



Mr. Jean-Pierre Lanz, consultant at the Polytechnic, based in the Department of Hospitality and Tourism.

PIR would like to take this opportunity to welcome our B360 guests to the Polytechnic of Namibia. It is always a pleasure hosting the volunteers. Their efforts and contributions to the institution is highly valued.

PIR SUPPORTS DONATE-A-BOOK PROJECT

The Department of Planning and International Relations (PIR) supported the initiative of the Polytechnic Library by donating books under the Donate-a-Book Project, as part of their Social Responsibility Campaign. PIR believes that serving students should not only be limited to the Polytechnic of Namibia, but that value to Education could be added by serving to communities as well. This challenge sparked interest amongst the PIR team members and compelled them to donate books which were not used in their homes anymore.



Pictured from left to right: Ms. Chriszelda Thabanello: Office Administrator, Ms. Yolandé Geises: International Student Support Officer, Ms. Dioné Izaks: International Relations Officer and Ms. Susan Kambrude: International Student Support Officer.

Mrs. Sima Mpoyi, staff member of the Department of Planning and International Relations, recently returned to the Polytechnic of Namibia after 15 months of study leave to complete a Masters Degree in Rural Development Management. Mrs. Mpoyi completed her qualification at Khon Kaen University (KKU), Thailand, following a partnership agreement that was signed between Polytechnic and KKU in February 2010. She was one of two staff members from the Polytechnic to benefit from the partnership agreement between the two institutions.

"I am indebted to the Polytechnic of Namibia, KKU and the Thailand government, for giving me the opportunity. Without their assistance, I could not have completed my studies. Many thanks to all my colleagues at the Polytechnic of Namibia for their unending patience.

I am also grateful to Dr. Ibo Zimmerman of the Polytechnic of Namibia, who volunteered to review and critique my study proposal from time to time."



With classmates Steve, Moon and Joao at the border between Burma and Thailand.

The Department of Planning and International Relations (PIR) drives the growth of a vibrant campus by preparing globally competent citizens, attracting a network of leading world partners and enhancing national competitiveness through innovative programming.



Striving for Excellence



Inventiveness/Innovation



Responsibility/Accountability

