



3rd TAP-YTL NEWSLETTER 2010

First TAP-YTL Delegation to Germany with a Focus on Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning



The German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACCoM) successfully conducted its first "Transatlantic Program - Young Technology Leaders" (TAP-YTL). The program brought together 12 young leaders with technical backgrounds for an intensive 8-day visit to Germany. It focused on "Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning" and took place September 19-27, 2010.

The delegation witnessed Germany's leading role in crafting new communities and energy efficient spaces for living and working first-hand. Their agenda consisted of theme-focused site-visits, presentations and personal interaction with innovative companies, networking functions with peers and industry leaders, cross-cultural training and language building. Program highlights included:

- Europe's largest urban development project "HafenCity," in Hamburg - the EU Green Capital in 2011
- Experiencing Passive House technology
- A visit to Germany's most sustainable neighborhood Freiburg-Vauban
- A Tour of the German Parliament Building with a focus on its energy concept
- Seeing the 2007 & 2009 Solar Decathlon Winning Houses at TU Darmstadt, lead by members of the student teams

[TAP-YTL Summary Flyer](#)

The overall goal of the program series is to bring future decision makers from the US and Germany together at the beginning of their professional careers or late in their studies, to build networks and promote know-how transfer through intensive, content-driven encounters and experiences. Applicants must be from the field relevant to the focus of each trip, interested in modern Germany and have a basic knowledge of the language. One of the key aspects of the program remains to promote professional development within a transatlantic mindset through alumni activities. TAP-YTL takes place under the patronage of Dr. Klaus Scharioth, German Ambassador to the United States. Future programs will feature topics such as "Logistics & Transportation" and "Water Management."

Greetings from TAP-YTL Program Patron Ambassador Scharioth



Learn why the Ambassador is continuing his support and patronage of the GACCoM TAP programming, by being a patron of TAP-YTL. Please click [here](#) to read his greetings.

TAP Alumni Reunion Coming Up in Chicago, Jan. 22-23, 2011



From January 22-23, 2011, GACCoM will host the Annual TAP Alumni Reunion in Chicago.

The upcoming Reunion will incorporate time for socializing, (re-)connecting, and further develop and increase communication within our alumni community, which has increased to over 130 members. Alumni will also have the chance to become more acquainted with opportunities offered by GACCoM's network. Last but not least, a presentation on German-American business is planned. The Reunion officially starts on Saturday, Jan. 22, 2011 in the early afternoon with a lunch in Downtown Chicago and ends on Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011 after brunch at GACCoM's new downtown office location (321 North Clark Street, Suite 1425, Chicago, IL) around 12 pm.

GACCoM will cover one night of accommodation from Saturday until Sunday for "out of town" Alumni at Hostelling International Chicago (www.hichicago.org).

RSVP to Daniela Daus (daus@gaccomm.org) to attend, or book your overnight stay for the Reunion. The deadline has been **extended to January 5, 2011**.

Word of Greetings by 2010 TAP-YTL: Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning Co-President Sharon Weiner



I am excited to introduce myself as Co-President of the 2010 TAP-YTL: Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning program. It is an honor to represent this dynamic group of future leaders comprised of architects, planners, engineers, specialists in graphic design and historic preservation, and more. I am committed to fostering a thriving network for all of us through a combination of live and virtual programming that will help us stay connected and support one another throughout our careers. In the immediate future, I look forward to working with GACCoM and my fellow Co-Presidents to arrange the annual TAP Alumni Reunion. In the coming months, I look forward to working with our new Communications Chairperson, Alexander Al-Hamdan, to foster a strong online community of TAP and TAP-YTL Alumni.

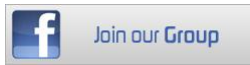
I currently work as a Development Manager with The Habitat Company to develop affordable scattered-site and mixed-income housing in the City of Chicago. Prior to joining Habitat, I worked in public health and completed Masters degrees in Public Health and Urban Planning. My connection to Germany grew out of studying German in grammar school, was solidified by a high school exchange program, and deepened as I enjoyed access to philosophy and other writings in the original German. The TAP-YTL trip was an outstanding professional development and intercultural experience that I know we will all continue to build on, and once again, I am pleased and honored to serve as your Co-President.

TAP and TAP-YTL on Facebook

- Like Transatlantic Program-Young Technology Leaders (TAP-YTL) on Facebook to receive updates and program news.



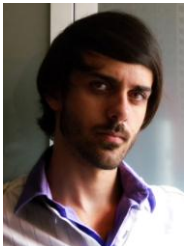
- Exclusive Transatlantic Program Alumni Group on Facebook



GACCoM would like to cordially invite TAP and TAP-YTL Alumni to join our "TAP Program Alumni" group on Facebook. This is an exclusive, by-invitation-only group and its content and affiliates are only visible to group members. Once TAPlers have joined the group, they can (re-)connect with their fellow Alumni and post content, such as pictures from their TAP experience. GACCoM has created this platform, so Alumni can communicate more easily and continue to live the mission of TAP. We also see this as an opportunity for TAP and TAP-YTL Alumni from different years to connect and to get to know each other.

This is how it works: We can only invite Alumni to join the TAP Alumni Group on Facebook if they are already Facebook friends with the administrator of the group. If you are interested in joining, please add the TAP administrator profile called "[Daniela Dtap](#)" as a friend on Facebook. Once you are Facebook friends with the admin, you will receive an invitation to join the group. Alumni who do not have a Facebook profile and are concerned about privacy issues can create a secret profile, in order to join the Group.

TAP Communications Chair Created



As our network continues to grow, the position of TAP Communications Chair was created in the fall of 2010. The Communications Chair will drive the continued development of the TAP website and Social Media tools. This will include developing marketing efforts to reach out to future potential TAP-YTL participants and increase the value of our Alumni network. This position will have to be confirmed by vote at each Alumni Reunion, starting with the 2012 Reunion. For the 2010-2011 term, the TAP and TAP-YTL Co-Presidents elected the first Communications Chair, Alexander Al-Hamdan. Congratulations and thanks Alex!

[Statement by the 2010-2011 Term TAP Communications Chair Alexander Al-Hamdan, Alumnus of 2010 TAP-YTL: Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning:](#)

Having recently participated in the GACCoM TAP-YTL program, I am honored to be offered the opportunity to have continued involvement in the future of the program. My interest in Germanic studies originates in middle-school, where I chose German as a foreign language. I continued to study German through high school, and as I began pursuing a degree in Architecture, decided to pursue a minor in Germanic Studies. At the University of Illinois at Chicago, I developed a much broader knowledge of German culture, while simultaneously discovering the significant impact Germans have had on the progression of architectural design. I was then able to develop a synergy in my interests in architecture and Germanic studies, which led me to pursue bachelor's degrees in both Germanic studies and architecture.

Post graduation, I worked as an architectural designer in various Chicago based firms, and eventually started a design studio of my own; Arccentric (www.arccentric.com), which specializes in digital media design. As communications chairperson for the TAP-YTL program, I intend to use my experience with

design multimedia to work with GACCoM to increase awareness of the program, while also nurturing and maintaining a strong alumni network. Transmission of knowledge is the heart of the TAP-YTL program, and I look forward to helping create a platform that facilitates this goal for existing and future alumni.

Check Out Our Revamped TAP Website

Our website www.transatlanticprogram.org now offers information about TAP and TAP-YTL programming and is brought to you in an enhanced design.

TAP 2006 Alumna Lorraine Reinsch featured in German World

Read about TAP 2006 Alumna Lorraine Reinsch, a graphic designer residing in Chicago, and learn about how her love for the German language and her professional development intertwined. Please click [here](#) for the article.

Save the Date: TAP-YTL: Logistics & Transport to Germany in May 2011

Upcoming GACCoM Events

[Annual Economic Forum](#)

January 27, 2011

Proudly presented by the GACCs and the Representative of German Industry and Trade (RGIT), this signature event features the U.S. and European economic outlook for 2011, a roundtable discussion with chief economists and company executives, as well as a presentation of the results of the Annual German American Business Outlook, a survey conducted by the GACCs and the RGIT in cooperation with Roland Berger Strategy Consultants.

[Energy Efficiency in Industry Conference 2011](#)

February 1, 2011

To help manufacturers counteract fluctuating energy costs and take advantage of multiple incentive programs, the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACCoM) is pleased to announce a conference on industrial energy efficiency featuring German and US industry and policy experts.

Don't forget to check our [GreenCorner](#) regularly for the latest on Green industry news, GACCoM green events and resources!

Current Job Opportunities at GACCoM's Client Organizations

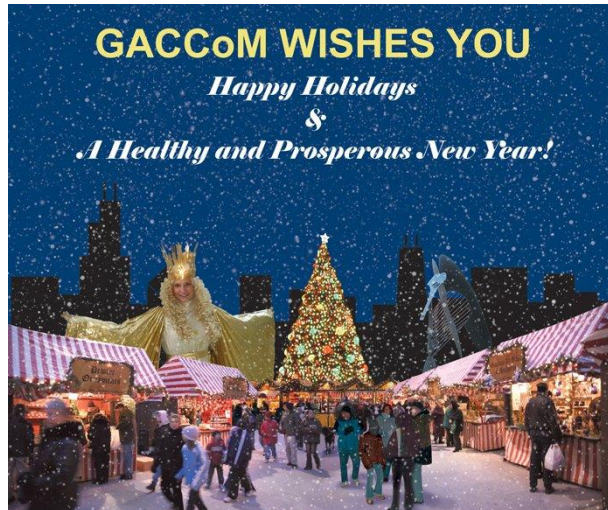
GACCoM is seeking bilingual (English-German) candidates for several positions in the Midwest. See below for more details.

- [Sales Administration](#)
Skokie, IL
- [Machine Tool Mechanical Engineer for Project Management position](#)
Farmington Hills, MI

To see more open positions, please click [here](#).

Holiday Greeting

The GACCoM Team Wishes You a Wonderful Holiday Season! For those of you who stay in Chicago this year, come and experience German holiday spirit at the [Christkindlmarket Chicago](#) on Daley Plaza.



**Best,
Your TAP-YTL Team!**

**Daniela Daus,
Manager, Consulting Projects and Transatlantic Program**

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