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I. Application Process for TAP 2009

The application deadline for the Transatlantic Program 2009 has come and gone, and we are again very pleased with the level of interest shown in the program! This year's applicant pool again consists of students from all across the country and from a large variety of disciplines and interests. We have just begun the interview process and are looking forward to welcoming another great group of participants for the Transatlantic Program 2009 soon!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners for their crucial support during the promotional phase of the Transatlantic Program 2009. A special "thank you" goes to the American Association of Teachers of German, the Goethe Institute in Chicago, German Academic Exchange Service - DAAD, to all the nominating professors of universities and colleges throughout the US, the sponsors KOMET & WHU, and of course to our TAP Alumni, who motivated prospective participants to apply.



II. Annual Transatlantic Program Alumni Reunion in Washington D.C.



The 4th TAP Alumni Reunion will begin on Friday, January 16, 2009 and take place in Washington D.C., the weekend before Inauguration Day. The official reception will take at the residence of the US Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany by invitation of the German Ambassador to the US and official Patron of the Transatlantic Program, Dr. Klaus Scharioth, on the evening of Friday, January 16th.

It will be an exciting weekend with lots of activities, discussions and exchange of experiences and reached almost 100 alumni. Over the years our Alumni Network has grown bigger and bigger. Therefore it is an even more valuable platform to strengthen ties between former TAP participants and the German-American business community.



III. Well wishes to Barbara from the TAP family



After seven years with GACCoM and seven generations of TAP, Barbara will return to Germany to work with the parent organization of the German Chambers (DIHK) in Berlin. At the DIHK (which stands for Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce), Barbara will be responsible for coordination of the German Chambers abroad, in particular for the Chambers located in North and South America as well as Western Europe. Barbara's commitment was crucial in making the program over the years such a success. We wish her all the best to her new challenging position and will make sure that she stays always closely connected with the TAP network.

IV. Greetings from Lisa Markaj, TAP 2006 and Julia Eiszner, TAP 2008

"I landed a position at the Pepsi Bottling Group and will be the Compliance and Control Analyst for part of Southeast Michigan; they were extremely impressed with my background, especially my experience abroad in Germany. I just wanted to thank you all for the opportunity that has opened so many doors for me. I learned a lot in that experience, both professionally and personally. I think I had the hardest time adjusting to be away from home at that time, but it was the most amazing experience and has molded the foundation of my future. I plan on taking the Pepsi Bottling Group to Germany (they aren't there YET)." (Lisa Markaj, TAP 2006)



At the end of November our last four participants of the 2008 program will return to the U.S. Julia Eiszner recently sent us a message from Germany about why the TAP program is a great opportunity for students who want to go to Germany and do an internship:

"I've been asked a few times since I have been in Germany, what it is that makes the TAP program worth it, why didn't you just look for an internship in Germany independently? I've answered them that alone the people I have met through my

participation in the program have made it entirely worth it. In the past 6 months I have made many good friends, and gained useful business contacts for my future professional career. The time we spent together in Berlin at the start was also a unique advantage of TAP over any other possible internship abroad. In the first 10 days alone, which are packed full of tours and seminars and discussions, I learned about German culture, business, and politics, from a very different perspective than I could ever hope to get at my University in the US." (Julia Eiszner, TAP 2008)

V. New Website will be launched soon - Send us your "TAP experience"

Your TAP team is working on a new website with more information and more features. Now we need your help! For every TAPer, the time spent in Germany is an experience full of impressions and lasting images. We are continuously looking for pictures, movies, quotes and/or drawings from you. Ask yourself "what was my most vital experience within the TAP that I would like to pass on to future participants?" Go through your picture folders on your desktop and send us images of you spending time at work or simply enjoying everyday life in Germany. Be creative! The sky is the limit. The deadline for submitting is December 14th.

Please mail all your materials to Mandy Herrmann (herrmann@gaccomm.org)



CONTACT: Sabine Klensch, Program Manager | Klensch@gaccomm.org | +1-(312)-494-2166