

8th Edition; 11/15/2007



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I. Current status of the application process for the Transatlantic Program 2008

As most of you already know, the Transatlantic Program's funding from the German government through the ERP Funds has been significantly reduced after three years of full funding (this is common for these types of programs). Students now have to contribute more in order to participate, however, 50% of the costs are still generously provided through ERP Funds, corporate sponsors, and the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest.

Despite these major changes, we are more than pleased to announce that we have received a decent number of applications for the Transatlantic Program 2008 and that we will be able to continue the program! The application deadline was at the end of October, 2007. While we received fewer applications than last year, as expected, we were excited to receive enough complete and high-quality applications, so that we have a great pool of candidates to work with.

Currently we are working intensely on evaluating the applications, in order to start the interview process with potential candidates soon. As in past years, we expect to have our final selection made by the end of December. More news to come...stay tuned!

II. Alumni Reunion January 2008

We are delighted to let you know that former US Ambassador J.D. Bindenagel has accepted our invitation to be the guest speaker at our upcoming TAP Alumni Reunion in Chicago on January 12, 2008. Please see his attached biography for further information. If you have specific topics you would like him to address, please email Sabine Klensch (klensch@gaccomm.org).

Our co-presidents Laura Harvey, Matt Bigelow and Eric Bartling sent you an Evite for the upcoming reunion in Chicago on the weekend of January 12-13, 2008. The costs for accommodation and meals during the reunion will be covered by the Transatlantic Program; each participant is responsible for their own transportation to Chicago. You can check online to see who has already signed up. Did not get the Evite? Let us know and we will send you another copy.

If you have not yet decided whether or not you will be able to attend, please let us know by **December 10, 2007** at the latest, so we can finalize the reservations. We look forward to seeing you all in Chicago!

III. Winner of the raffle to promote TAP!



Raffle Winner: Drake Dowsett,
TAP 2006 participant.

During the meeting of our co-presidents in Chicago at the beginning of November, we finally drew the winner: **Congratulations Drake Dowsett, you won a \$150 flight voucher to our Reunion 2008 in Chicago!**

In our previous newsletter we mentioned **Drake** (TAP 2006), who was the first one to advertise the new Transatlantic Program at the German Club opening event at his university, the University of Texas in Austin.

Nobody knows more about the benefits of the Transatlantic Program than our Alumni do! We received pictures from you showing how you promoted the Transatlantic Program in front of fellow students.

We reached our goal for the number of applications for the Transatlantic Program 2008. This would not have been possible without your help in communicating your experiences to others and motivating fellow students to apply.

~ **Thank you for your involvement in this** ~ it really made a difference!

IV. Pictures & News:

Barbara from GACCoM met with our long-term interns Scott, Joe and Gail in Münster, November 1, 2007.



*Left to right: Scott Werner, Joe Vahle,
Barbara Zollmann and Gail Love*



Visiting in Münster



Sabine and Barbara from GACCoM met with co-presidents Eric Bartling (TAP 2006), Laura Harvey (TAP 2007) and Matt Bigelow (TAP 2005) in Chicago, November 8, 2007!



**HAVE A NICE THANKSGIVING
HOLIDAY EVERYONE!!**

Your GACCoM Team!

*From left to right: Sabine Klensch, Barbara Zollmann, Eric Bartling,
Laura Harvey and Matthew Bigelow.*