



University
of Basel

International Office



Years
International
Office



*** See English Version below ***

Liebe Mitarbeitende der Universität, Liebe Kolleg:innen,

"Learning by going" lautet das Motto der schweizweiten Kampagne von Movetia, der nationalen Agentur für Austausch und Mobilität, die ab heute an allen Hochschulen startet. Damit sollen alle Studierenden sensibilisiert und motiviert werden, im Rahmen Ihrer Ausbildung ins Ausland zu gehen. Die Bereicherung des Curriculums und des CVs, unbezahlbare interkulturelle Einblicke, wertvolle persönliche Entwicklung und jede Menge Spass sind Lohn für diesen Effort.

Damit dieser Aufwand überschaubar bleibt, steht Ihnen unser Team des Student Exchange zur Seite. "Learning by going" könnte also nicht nur ihr tägliches Motto sein, sondern auch dasjenige des gesamten International Office: Von Kooperationsverträgen für die Mobilität und Forschung über interkulturelles Training und Staff Weeks bis hin zum Welcome Support reicht unsere Unterstützungspalette.

Die farbigen Visuals der Kampagne mit dem markanten Sneaker werden Ihnen ab heute in

verschiedenen Sprachen auch an unserer Universität ins Auge stechen – sei es in Form von Aushängen oder über Social Media. Apropos: Ab sofort mischt das International Office auf Instagram mit – wir freuen uns auf Follower! Dort wie auch klassisch auf der Website informieren wir unter anderem über unser kleines 10-jähriges Jubiläum und geben hiermit zugleich ein Überblick über die Trends und rasanten Entwicklungen im Bereich des Internationalen bei uns an der Uni und weltweit. Oder anders gesagt: Do you speak international?

Anregende Lektüre,

Dr. Tanja Popović
Leitung International Office
www.unibas.ch/intoffice

Dieser Newsletter richtet sich an alle Unimitarbeitenden; um möglichst alle zu erreichen, halten wir ihn weitgehend auf Englisch.

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Dear University Employees and Colleagues,
“**Learning by going**” is the motto of the Switzerland-wide campaign that was launched today at all higher-ed institutions by Movetia, the National Agency for Exchange and Mobility. The campaign aims to motivate all students to go abroad as part of their education. The required effort to do so is rewarded with an enriched curriculum and CV, priceless intercultural insights, valuable personal development, and plenty of fun.

Our Student Exchange team is here to help you keep this effort manageable. "Learning by doing" could be not only your daily motto, but also that of the entire International Office: Our responsibilities range from cooperation agreements for mobility and research to intercultural training, staff weeks, and welcoming and supporting international newcomers.

Starting today, you'll see the campaign's colorful visuals with striking shoes in various languages at our university, both on posters and social media. Speaking of which, the International Office is now on Instagram - we look forward to followers! There, as well as in the classic format on our website, we'll inform you about our small ten-year anniversary, while also providing, among other things, an overview of the trends and rapid developments in the international sphere at our university and worldwide. Or to put it another way: Do you speak international?

Wishing you an engaging read,

Dr. Tanja Popović
Head International Office
www.unibas.ch/intoffice

This newsletter is intended for all university employees; to reach as many people as possible, we distribute it largely in English.

Student Exchange

Awareness Campaign learningbygoing.ch at Institutions of Higher Education

The place to be.

Spend a semester abroad.

All the exchange possibilities on learningbygoing.ch

a campaign by **movetia**

Universität Basel

Photo credit: movetia

With the campaign that launches today, movetia, the National Agency for Exchange and Mobility, wants to make exchanges and mobility something self-understood.

In 2022/2023, the International Office already initiated activities to motivate various target groups at the university to participate in exchange semesters, staff weeks, or intercultural courses. Through flyers for students titled “Discover New Comfort Zones,” we highlighted our various offerings at bachelor’s and master’s day events, at the start of lectures, and through information and training events in collaboration with departments.

The new campaign targets all levels of education and supports projects for individuals and for groups, both in Switzerland and abroad. It encourages students to take action, step out

of their comfort zone, discover new horizons, and shape social change in the best possible way. The value of such an experience for students is immense. Not only do they learn or deepen their knowledge of a new language, they also acquire important professional and personal skills. These skills facilitate their entry into the job market. Moreover, exchange and mobility benefit both the Swiss education system and the economy, as they both profit from fresh perspectives and ideas.

On the campaign's home page (<https://learningbygoing.ch>), students can find initial information about studying abroad and exchange opportunities, a quiz with a competition, and links to participating institutions of higher education. The campaign will be disseminated through additional channels such as social media and three well-known influencers. Shoes are omnipresent in it as a symbol: they represent our ability to move, to go forth, to go further: "Bring movement into your education."

Contact: Gerald.Zimmermann@unibas.ch

Link: <https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Mobility.html>

International Relations

Visit by the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research



Photo credit: Sofie Pehrsson (Strategiska)

Financed by the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (Strategiska), a high-ranking delegation from Sweden visited the University of Basel on 24 September in the framework of a highly competitive leadership program. The International Office together with the Grants Office (both part of the Vice President's Office for Research) invited the group to the Kollegienhaus on the Petersplatz for an exchange. After introductions and overviews concerning the university, its international outreach, and the funding of grantees within the European Research Council scheme (ERC), Prof. Philipp Treutlein, the deputy head of the Department of Physics and an ERC-grantee himself, provided an overview of his department's work and its funding structure. By sharing insights on career development and selection processes for open positions at his department, he engaged members of the group in a lively debate. All the participants work at public research institutions and went through a rigorous selection process before joining this leadership program, which is chaired by the former vice chancellor of the Royal Institute of Technology KTH, Prof. Dr. Peter Gudmundson.

In the afternoon, the group was received by the Biozentrum, its director, Prof. Dr. Alexander Schier, and high-ranking researchers.

Contact: Erich.Thaler@unibas.ch

Link: www.unibas.ch/intoffice ; <https://strategiska.se>

Student Exchange

Welcome to Our New Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship Holders in Basel



Photo credit: Tanja Popović

This September we were delighted to welcome eighteen new recipients of Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships at the University of Basel and the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland. The scholarships are awarded by the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students (FCS). The recipients, who come from all over the world, have started their fine arts programs and research stays as part of their PhD studies. The Student Exchange Office supports them before and during their grant period here in Switzerland. This year's cultural program started with a guided city tour focusing on the history of education in Basel and was rounded off with a small apéro at the Teufelhof.

We wish all the FCS scholarship holders a successful and inspiring time in Basel and at our university.

Contact: Andrea Delpho, mobility@unibas.ch

Link: [Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships \(admin.ch\)](https://www.admin.ch)

Welcome & Euraxess Center

New Team Member in the International Office



Photo credit: Marijana Mirkovic

We are delighted to welcome a new colleague to our team: Marijana Mirkovic took over the leadership of the Welcome and Euraxess Center in mid-July, with a gradually increasing workload. While her responsibilities will revolve around newcomers (international and ESKAS) at the university, she herself is not new to our institution, having worked in a versatile, key position as an assistant to the vice president for research since 2022. Through this experience, she has acquired a thorough understanding of university structures, developed deep insights into various areas, established valuable contacts with many departments, and has already worked closely with our International Office.

In her new role, Marijana supports and advises international university members, from students to professors, on nonacademic matters from before their arrival through to their departure, helping them settle into life at the university and in the Basel region. Additionally, she will support the International Office with event organization and enrich our communications by developing new formats—our expanded social-media presence being evidence of this.

Contact: Marijana Mirkovic, welcome@unibas.ch

Link: [Welcome Center](#)

Student Exchange

News from Our Internationals

Yukiko Tomooka, PhD student in biomedical engineering



Photo credit: Reinhard Wendler

Yukiko Tomooka, a PhD student and Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holder, started her doctoral studies at the University of Basel in the fall of 2021 at the Bio-Inspired RObots for MEDicine-Laboratory (BIROMED-Lab) in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Basel under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Georg Rauter.

Yukiko's PhD research has focused on developing miniature robots for minimally invasive medical applications. She is currently working on designing an intraoral robot to allow automated high-accuracy tooth treatment; her research is also part of an Innosuisse project.

Yukiko has now won a very competitive early career grant from the Leading House Asia (located at the ETH Zurich) to finance a research stay at Hokkaido University in Japan, where she did her bachelor's and master's studies. She will conduct a mechanical design analysis of the robot developed at the BIROMED-Lab to investigate the robot's structural robustness and identify desired design parameters for developing the next prototype.

Well done and good luck, Yukiko!

[Homepage – Leading House Asia | ETH Zurich](#)

The Leading Houses for different regions of the world are mandated by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).

[Bilateral Cooperation Programs \(admin.ch\)](#)

[Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships \(admin.ch\)](#)

Contact: Andrea Delpho, mobility@unibas.ch

About this Newsletter

Technically it is not possible to remove individual recipients from the university-wide group lists.

If you want to permanently stop receiving our mails please add the address *international-quarterly@unibas.ch* to your block list or mark it as spam.
(Find the *link to the Outlook WebApp Manual here.*)

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