

MPM Newsletter

Issue #04

The Graduation of the MPM class of 2017/2018

It has been a typical autumn day in Potsdam. It was cold but not freezing, the air was fresh but not chilly; it was just perfectly cozy enough to get dressed in festive outfits.

Before the ceremony started, we have met our graduates in front of house 1 with jazzy vibes to take some pictures with friends and family. To the 19th graduation of the MPM Program our 24 graduates came with around 100 guests. Among them the new MPM cohort, Prof. Fuhr, Co-Director of the Program, Dr. Gebhardt, Academic Manager of the PCPM, and Ms. Bellmann, MPM Coordinator. Stefanie Uhde, who is currently on maternity leave also joined the celebration.



Keynote Speaker Mr. Joachim Fritz

Below: Part of the MPM cohort of 2017/2018 posing together with Laura Hecht, Assistant to the Program and Bianca Nätke, Student Assistant



The MPM's graduation special guest was Joachim Fritz, Head of GIZ's Department "Governance and Conflict". In his keynote speech, Mr. Fritz addressed the graduates with some words of wisdom, shared his experience in working in the development sector, and made reference to the students' master-theses and their research topics. "As never before, public management is relevant and crucial to societies, which require graduates who can critically reflect on complex issues," Mr. Fritz pointed out.

Congratulations to our graduates on the completion of the Master of Public Management!



Best of Class: Tina Hipolito, Parysa Khunwuthikorn and Jennifer Swenson

NEWS #MPM20

We have started to count the days until #MPM20! To make sure you do not miss the anniversary, we have prepared 10 MPM facts and figures on Facebook, which will appear weekly until 2019. If you are receiving this newsletter, you have been part of the MPM (hi-)story – so share your experience by using the #MPM20 or just get in touch with the MPM Office. We are looking forward to interacting with you. By the way, do you know our YouTube channel?



Our first video on YouTube in a while is definitely worth watching! Just click on the picture above to see our professors congratulating the class of 2018. Do some faces look familiar to you?



ALUMNUS OF THE MONTH



MPM alumnus Obed Kambasu from Uganda has graduated from the Program in 2016. We lost sight of him, but just recently found out that he was granted a DAAD scholarship to pursue a PhD at WIPCAD, University of Potsdam. "Completing a PhD is particularly important for me as it will expose me to cutting-edge research methodology, and equip me with the valuable skills needed to run a research-based think-tank. A PhD from Germany will also be a big boost for my profile as I apply for consultancy contracts from governments and reputable international organizations," says Obed.

In Uganda, Obed is currently working as a program manager at Restless Development. He also started the process of registering a private think-tank, that aims at conducting research and providing data-driven advisory services on effective utilization of Africa's huge human resource potential. In his PhD research, Obed will focus on the question of employer attractiveness and employer branding: What motivates people to work for the government?

SITE VISIT WITH THE NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER

Our first Site Visit took place at the famous Hotel Adlon in Berlin on the invitation of the Körber Foundation. MPM students of the cohort of 2018/2019 were invited to join the Körber Global Leaders Dialogue. The foundation follows the approach that foreign policy means dialogue. "Whether it is on the parliamentary and diplomatic working level or between heads of states and political leaders: without dialogue, international cooperation is not possible." (See: www.koerber-stiftung.de) With the format of a Global Leaders Dialogue, the Körber Foundation aims to contribute to this process on a regular basis.

This time the foundation invited Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway to deliver a speech on key security policy challenges Norway and Europe are facing today, including relations with Russia and the role of NATO. Solberg is serving as Prime Minister since October 2013 and is leading Norway's Conservative Party. With this first Site Visit MPM students were able to get a first glance of the concept of extracurricular activities offered by the MPM Office. Next on the agenda: Bundesrat, World Bank, GIZ, GPPi, and many more!



MPM students in front of the Brandenburg Gate. In the current cohort we have 21 students from 18 countries. 12 of them are in the PPA stream, 4 in GPP, and 5 in GG. We always try to keep the gender balance; hence we do have 11 female and 10 male students.

If you are interested in seeing how the Orientation Week went for them, check out our Facebook page.

KEEP IN TOUCH



OBITUARY

Prof. Günther Oldenbruch was an expert in development cooperation and a beloved professor. After starting his career with the German Development Institute (DIE), he worked many years for the German Foundation for International Development (DSE) as Head of the Area Orientation Centre. In this capacity he travelled to many countries all over the world. In 1999, he was elected Chairman of the Bonn Chapter of the Society for International Development (SID). His teaching assignments at the University of Potsdam covered the topics of Technical Cooperation and Civil Society Development Cooperation. His course "Social Security" was an integral part of the MPM curriculum and very popular among the MPM students and many others.

Our condolences go to Prof. Oldenbruch's family, who was so kind to welcome the MPM students to their home in the framework of the MPM Study Tour since 2013. Prof. Oldenbruch was part of the MPM family and he will be dearly missed.



Prof. Oldenbruch with his wife at their home. Meeting at Prof. Oldenbruch's house was a pleasant kick-off at the Study Tour

Below: Prof. Oldenbruch with the MPM students at the BMZ

