

Konstanz

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Stony Brook

MEMORANDUM

To Frank Myers

From Eckard Wimmer *Eckard Wimmer*

Subject Request That Konstanz Program be Made Official International Exchange Program

Date July 5, 1989

Pursuant to our recent conversation, I am writing to request that a graduate exchange program that has existed since 1984 between the University of Konstanz, Germany, and the Department of Microbiology at SUNY/Stony Brook be approved officially as a Stony Brook International Exchange Program. Such approval will permit the students who come here each year from the University of Konstanz to be eligible for campus housing and for tuition-free status.

The Konstanz students (usually three each year--see attachment) who are selected to participate in this program spend one year in our Molecular Microbiology Graduate Program. The students are selected by the biology faculty at the University of Konstanz and are supported in part by the German Academic Exchange Organization (D.A.A.D.) and in part with personal funds. From 1984 through 1988, 16 students have participated in this program, 9 men and 7 women. Three more students (Bernd Matiba, Yvonne Mulhaupt and Esther Schmidt) have been selected to participate in the program beginning in Fall 1989. Although after their year's study here at Stony Brook most students return to complete their graduate studies at the University of Konstanz, since the Program's inception, three of the participants have applied for and have been accepted into graduate programs housed in the Department of Microbiology. They are Maria Graeble, a fifth year student in the Molecular Microbiology Program, Ella Wetzel, a fourth year student in the Genetics Program and Mark Christensen, who has been accepted into the Molecular Microbiology Program for Fall 1989.

Because of the diversity it helps bring to our department, the Konstanz Program has been excellent for our own students, and obviously the Biology Department at the University of Konstanz believes it has been a good experience for their participating students. We believe it is important to continue such programs at Stony Brook, yet because campus housing is unavailable to these students (because they are not part of an "official" exchange program) and because now our department must take on the responsibility of their tuition, which up to this year had been waived by the University, we may not be able to continue in future years this very synergistic program. Official status through the International Programs Office would alleviate both these problems and allow us to continue this already successful International Program. Thus we ask your support in gaining approval for the Konstanz Program as an official international program at State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if you need any additional information.