

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE PROGRAM



By Roberto Vivancos from Pexels

PEP 2022 STUDENTS IN NEW YORK

Campus OWL Germany



New York Office

Network of 5 Higher Education Institutions

WELCOME PEP COHORT 2022 TO NEW YORK CITY!

Campus OWL is excited to welcome the first group of PEP participants to New York City! We created the Professional Experience Program to offer students from the OWL universities an opportunity to gain valuable international work experience and enhance their future employability in today's increasingly globalized world.

The program includes an internship in a company or organization in the New York metropolitan area, a one-week preparatory skills seminar in New York City and a virtual workshop to unpack the experience after returning to Germany. The 2022 cohort was chosen in a competitive selection process and the participating students represent a wide range of academic backgrounds, such as Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Integrated Façade Design, Sound Engineering, Philosophy, History, Economics & Philosophy of Science, American Literature & Cultural Studies. We are very grateful to all the internship providers who are hosting these excellent students.

PEP is designed to empower OWL students to develop their professional skills in an international context and to obtain hands-on experience in the United States. During the preparatory skills seminar we will discuss how to use your professional network and how to develop your professional brand. Our program also offers intercultural orientation and insights into transatlantic relations, the startup scene in New York, as well as diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Participants will also learn about design thinking as an approach to drive change in business and society. Subsequently, each student will start their internship in a company or organization in New York and New Jersey.

We are happy to launch #PEP22 and wish you an enriching experience!



Katja Simons

Dr. Katja Simons
Executive Director
Campus OWL New York

THE OWL REGION

Campus OWL is a network of five higher education institutions in OstWestfalenLippe (OWL), Germany – Bielefeld University, Paderborn University, Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences, OWL University of Applied Sciences and Arts, and Detmold University of Music.

The network is vibrant and dynamic due to its diverse nature: the members represent different university types – two universities, two universities of applied sciences and one university of music – and collaborate closely with each other and the many companies in the region. Major areas of collaboration are research, transfer, internationalization, and digitalization.

With around 120,000 companies, OstWestfalenLippe in northwestern Germany is a region with an industrial focus, where business and science are closely connected. The collaboration of universities and a wide variety of high-performance companies makes OWL an important research location with over 65,000 students and more than 500 study programs.

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The New York Office makes use of these networks, creates opportunities for students and researchers and supports collaborations with North American partner institutions.

The office serves as a hub to connect students, researchers, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders from both sides of the Atlantic to enable cooperation and knowledge exchange.

We believe that international collaboration is important to encourage engagement, understanding, and exchange in our increasingly interconnected world.



SKILLS SEMINAR PROGRAM 2022

Monday - April 4th

09:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Intercultural Orientation
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break
11:00 a.m. - 01:00 p.m. Resume Optimization & LinkedIn
03:00 p.m. - 04:00 p.m. Introduction to Design Thinking
06:00 p.m. Welcome Dinner

Cindy Klarwasser, Sr. Manager, Careers & Education, GACCNy

Cindy Klarwasser
Dr. Joann Halpern, Hasso Plattner Institute, NY at Hudson Yards
Pershing Square Restaurant at Grand Central

Tuesday - April 5th

09:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Introduction to GACC & NYC
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. NYC Startup Scene & Entrepreneurship

12:00 p.m. - 01:00 p.m. Personal Branding - Exercise
04:00 p.m. - 05:30 p.m. German-American relations in NY and other jurisdictions, Science Diplomacy

Susanne Gellert, Vice President, GACCNy

Brian Frumberg, CEO & Founder at VentureOut

Cindy Klarwasser
Yasemin Pamuk, Consul, Head of Cultural Affairs and Science, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in New York at German House

Wednesday - April 6th

09:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Diversity & Inclusion & Bias
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break
11:00 a.m. - 01:00 p.m. Transatlantic Business Relations
afternoon Visit 9/11 Memorial

Ellen Wagner, CEO & Founder at Cross Cultural Bridges

Dr. Christoph Schemionek, Delegate, AHK Washington



SKILLS SEMINAR PROGRAM 2022

Thursday - April 7th

09:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. The Social Soul - Mastering Your Personal and Professional Brand with Intentionality and Authenticity

Robert Napoli, Founder, Rise Up Media

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. - 01:00 p.m. Debriefing and exercises to develop your professional brand

Cindy Klarwasser

afternoon Visit The Metropolitan Muesum of Art

06:00 p.m. Dinner

Patsy's Pizzeria in Turtle Bay

Friday - April 8th

09:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Q&A

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace

Anna-Lena Baumann, Lead Program Manager, Design Careers at Airbnb

12:00 p.m. - 01:00 p.m. Feedback Session

03:45 p.m. - 04:45 p.m. Hard Times 1880 Tour

Tenement Museum



PEP PARTICIPANTS



Michael Epp

Michael Epp is pursuing his master's degree in electrical engineering at OWL University of Applied Sciences and Arts, where he completed his bachelor's degree in 2020 as well. Alongside his studies, he is working as a research assistant at the Institute for Energy Research in Lemgo, where he participates in developing a self-stabilizing monorail vehicle. His tasks include research, documentation, development, and implementation of optimal control concepts. During this time, he published a paper in a renowned journal. Before that he gathered experience in software development by working on various web- and hardware related projects. Michael enjoys different sports like badminton, soccer, and chess. Michael will intern at Siemens in Princeton.



Pascal Hansen

Pascal Hansen is studying Computer Engineering at Paderborn University. He has just finished his bachelor's degree and is going to start the master's program in the upcoming winter semester. Pascal also works as a research assistant for the Signal and System Theory Group at Paderborn University, where they do research on the response of the autonomic nervous system of people with epilepsy regarding exercise using Machine Learning models. In his free time, he loves to do sport. He is playing soccer in his hometown, where he also used to train a youth team, and he even played American Football. Pascal will intern at Siemens in Princeton.



Sibel Kaya

Sibel Kaya is a master student in History, Economics and Philosophy of Science at Bielefeld University, and completed her bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Relations at Istanbul University. She is particularly interested in science management and science communication during her studies and practical experiences. Sibel has worked as a research assistant in the Working Group Bibliometrics at the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies of Science at Bielefeld University, and she also had an internship experience as a research assistant at the German Aerospace Center Project Management Agency. Sibel will intern in the Campus OWL New York Office in the German House in Manhattan.



Niels Neier

Niels Neier is completing his master's degree in Philosophy at Bielefeld University. Within his subject he specializes in political, social, and legal philosophy, as well as ethics. Niels complemented his studies with the practical experience he gained during his internship at another political and social NGO in France. In addition to his studies, he is involved in university life through his occupation as a student advisor and in various mentoring programs. His personal interests include music, especially rock and blues, with a particular affinity for progressive rock, as well as science-fiction and fantasy in various media. Also, all things about cats. Niels will intern at the American Council on Germany in Manhattan.

PEP PARTICIPANTS



Christopher Opelt

Christopher Opelt started to practice music at the age of six at the Conservatoire Ville de Luxembourg. He participated in countless concerts and projects all over Central Europe and took lessons with well-known teachers incl. Peter Prommel, Mario Würzebesser and Taiko Saito. After detours through classical music, jazz, pop and musicals as percussionist and pianist he started his bachelor studies of sound engineering (Tonmeister) at the Erich-Thienhaus-Institute in Detmold, Germany, which he concluded in 2012 and is currently enrolled in the master program. He is also the co-founder of a mixing and mastering studio. His work is regularly nominated for national awards and can be heard on recordings by various renowned artists. Christopher will intern at The Bunker Studio in Brooklyn.



Jana Schwede

Jana Schwede is enrolled in the Dual-Subject MA Program "Culture and Society" at Paderborn University, and she is studying the subjects English/American Literary and Cultural Studies and Education. Since 2018, Jana has been working as a peer tutor at the Academic Writing Center at Paderborn University, and throughout the last year, she has also been gaining experience as a research assistant in Vocational Education. She is a scholarship holder of the "Studienfonds OWL". After her graduation, she plans to do a Ph.D. and become a researcher. In her free time, she likes meeting her friends and reading YA novels, watching movies, and spending time with her cats. Jana will intern at the Goethe-Institut in Manhattan.



Godo Zabur Singh

Godo Zabur Singh is currently pursuing a master's degree in Integrated design (Façade Design) at TH OWL, Detmold. He completed his bachelor's degree in Architecture from Guru Nanak Dev University, India in 2019 and has gained architectural experience at a renowned design studio in India. His work has been awarded and shortlisted among the top 30 designs internationally. Godo is working as a research assistant in the Construction Lab at TH OWL. He also supports 1st year students to help them with orientation and initial steps to improve their design projects. His specific competencies are creating conceptual designs and technical drawings, handling 3d modeling and visualization for commercial, institutional and housing projects. Godo will intern at Transsolar KlimaEngineering in Manhattan.



Lukas Weidich

Lukas Weidich is currently studying towards a master's degree in Computer Science at the Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences. He completed his bachelor's degree as part of a dual study program in Karlsruhe and moved back to Minden afterwards to start a software company with a friend. Lukas is also in a working student position in Hannover. In addition to technical topics, Lukas is also interested in personal finance and self-management and plays Badminton regularly. He is particularly looking forward to many new impressions and experiences in the coming months, both professionally and personally. Lukas will intern at Siemens in Princeton.

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In cooperation with



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