Kieler Anker

New Rector at CAU Kiel
First Meeting of Chinese CAU Alumni
DAAD Winner 2004
German Teacher from the Ivory Coast
Dear Alumni, dear Reader,

Welcome to the second edition of the English "Kieler Anker".

A few years ago, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel (CAU) started activities to establish and develop a network of our former international students and scholars. The idea is to stay in contact after our international guests leave Kiel, to get news from them after they have returned to their home countries, to inform them about new activities and projects at Christian-Albrechts-Universität, and to create a platform for the exchange of experiences, information and ideas that may even lead to new joint activities with and among our alumni.

The magazine "Kieler Anker" which appears twice a year shall support and facilitate that exchange. Since most of our former students are fluent in German, it is published in German. On the occasion of the establishment of the first official chapter of international CAU alumni, which took place in Schleswig-Holstein’s Chinese partner province Zhejiang in 2004, we decided to issue a special English edition of our "Kieler Anker". We received a lot of positive reactions, and disposed to release one English edition every year.

We hope that the articles find your interest and we look forward to receiving your comments and suggestions.

With best wishes from Kiel.
Sincerely yours,

Dr. Martina Schmode
Director of the International Center
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In March of 2004, a CAU delegation lead by the Staatssekretär (undersecretary) visited the Chinese partner universities in Hangzhou and Shanghai. One of the primary goals of the visit was the official foundation of a Chinese alumni network.

The first meeting of Christian-Albrechts-University Chinese alumni took place on the 30th and 31st of March 2004 at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou. Approximately 130 former students from China accepted the invitation from our previous rector Professor Demuth in order to found the first official CAU foreign alumni network.

Professor Demuth was pleased by the vast response: "Wonderful! This proves once again how close the personal connections between Kiel and our former students are." The Staatssekretär (undersecretary of science), Dr. Hellmut Körner, was confirmed that, "For many years, Germany and the university have fostered and cultivated close contacts with China and especially with the partner province Zhejiang."

Indeed the majority of the alumni came from Zhejiang University, with which we have had a partnership for the past 18 years. Over 230 scholars from Hangzhou have been in Kiel so far for multiple-month long research and continuing education programs. The field of medicine has played a strong role since the beginning of the partnership. More than 120 doctors have come to CAU within the framework of this cooperation. Kiel conferred a doctorate on at least 25 of these doctors. Other former students from different fields were also well represented—e.g. for example the cooperation in the field of agronomy has also been continually cultivated and fostered since 1986 - as well as the universities of Fudan and Tongji (Shanghai), the university, or rather, academy in Nanjing as well as the university in Ningbo. The participation of various Chinese universities is also apparent in the new Chinese CAU alumni network's leading committee's composition, which was established during the meeting. Representatives from all the above mentioned universities belong to the committee. Professor PANG Xuequan, vice rector of Zhejiang University, is the chairman, and Prof. Dr. FU Yan, deputy director of the International Programs Office, acts as the contact person, e.g. inquires from new alumni who are interested (email: fuyan@sun.zju.edu.cn).

Just as the director of the DAAD office in Peking, Dr. Thomas Schmidt-Doerr, confirmed, the first foreign alumni meeting was a great success. The DAAD financially supported the event. Thanks to Dr. Schmidt-Doerr, above all, for his personal commitment during the CAU delegation's visit to China and especially for his lecture on support possibilities for Chinese-German exchange and research projects.
The concrete and useful information was exceptionally interesting for all those involved and was immediately included in the conversations concerning further intensification of cooperations and new projects (compare DAAD Peking’s internet site www.daad.org.cn).

Apart from the foundation of the Chinese CAU alumni network, the delegation from Kiel also wanted to discuss the cultivation of current cooperations and possible new joint activities. Parallel to the former-student meeting, a workshop with the theme “E-learning in the field of medicine” took place.

The project "WEB-LESS", coordinated on behalf of Kiel by the former dean of the faculty of medicine Professor Michael Illert, aims at the development and use of a common Tele-teaching platform and the coordinated development of modules for the education of students, for furthering education of doctors as well as for educating medical personnel.

The delegation from Kiel also included representatives from the fields of agriculture and nutritional sciences and from the technical faculty. The field of agronomy has also played a strong role in the academic exchange since the beginning of the partnership with the University of Zhejiang. Strong contacts also especially exist with the University and Research Institute in Nanjing. Together with Chinese colleagues, scholars from Kiel have created a comprehensive cooperation project in the field of soil science and environment, which is supported by the Chinese-German Center for Academic Research Support (internet: www.sinogermanscience.org.cn).

Along side the discussion about the current projects, Professor Rainer Horn, representative of the faculty of agricultural and nutritional sciences in Kiel, was able to exchange ideas about a joint doctoral program, i.e. an international research group of graduate and
Ph.D.s, with his colleagues from various Chinese partner universities.

Apart from regular, although, individual stays from Chinese scholars from Fudan University for reasons of research and continuing education, the engineering sciences have not been represented very well in the partnership’s framework till now. Therefore the goal of the visit to China was to deepen the possibilities of intensive cooperation with help from professional colleagues. In addition to discussing the cooperation and exchange of scholars, the admission of Chinese students into the English-language master’s programs in the fields of materials sciences and digital communications was discussed.

The master’s programs have been successfully put together by the technical faculty in the past few years. These discussions not only took place at the meeting in Hangzhou, but also during following visits to the partner universities Fudan and Tongji in Shanghai. The latter cooperates with CAU, above all, in the field of marine geosciences. Here there was also a joint project (expired in 2002) in the framework of the Chinese-German Center for Academic Research.

Currently, among others, a Chinese-German master’s program is being planned. The delegation from Kiel found the visit to the Chinese-German College (CDHK) at the Tongji University a perfect example of Chinese-German cooperation (internet: http://cdhk.tongji.edu.cn/de/).

For those who took part, the visit from the delegation from Kiel to the Chinese partner universities was exceptionally interesting, professionally enriching, important for the discussion of new joint activities and projects and above all a great opportunity to see former students again and to renew old friendships as well as make new friends. One wonderful opportunity for achieving this was during the marvellous, diverse and delicious meals.

(Dr. Martina Schmode)
In spring 2004, a new rector was elected at CAU Kiel. Among other things, he plans to internationalize course studies.

Professor Eckert, which university career has prepared you for the position as rector?

I held the chair of legal history and civil law in Potsdam from 1991 to 1997 and I was also dean in Potsdam. Then, in 1997, I came to Kiel and took on the chair of German and European legal history, civil law and commercial law. I was dean for two years, as is proper, and I essentially researched while holding the chair as dean. Since the first of June 2004, I have been the rector of CAU.

You said you would like to emphasize the EU's eastward expansion in the internationalization of course studies. What do you mean exactly?

For years we have been looking at our international relations and have been trying to intensify them. There are two goals - we send students and researchers to foreign countries and welcome students, colleagues and professors to Kiel.

Unfortunately we have discovered that our students prefer going west or south (Italy, France, England or the USA). Due to location, we also have some problems getting enough scholars and students to come to Kiel. In the east, it is the other way around. Our scholars and students do not prefer to go there, yet their students and scholars like to come here. That probably has a lot to do with the language. English is more common in German schools.

Above all, it has to do with those countries that have been added to the EU with its eastward expansion, but it is also more than that. Russia and China, for example, also play an important role.

In my opinion, one has to work in both directions in this situation.
One has to foster the western contacts so the students continue to have good conditions there, but one also has to work very closely in active partnerships with the universities in eastern Europe.

*What precisely does that mean?*

I was just in Posen where I was thinking about joint course studies where German students would be required to go to Poland or Russia for a year, and vice versa. And I can imagine proceeding further in this manner.

The cooperation with the Chinese Zhejiang University in Hangzhou is also fantastic. We are going to expand the cooperation.

*Are the foreign exchanges going to be part of the new bachelor's and master's programs?*

Yes. We are especially considering putting such elements in the bachelor's programs. By increasing the number of teachers and course offers, we can make certain course studies more attractive. I am thinking of Slavic studies for example.

*Why should one study in Kiel?*

Kiel is a great city, also because of its location. In the summer one can go sailing. The basic conditions aren't that bad.

I also think that we are great in the fields of research and teaching. We have offers that are also attractive for foreign students.

I am under the impression that the students and scholars, whom I meet, feel comfortable and are also professionally well cared for in Kiel.
Tianbin Wo received the Christian - Albrechts - University's DAAD 2004 award during the welcoming ceremony for first semester students in the AudiMax.

The Chinese student, Tianbin Wo, was the DAAD 2004 award-winner at CAU Kiel. From the beginning, he proved excellent academic achievement and belonged to the best in his department. In his recently completed master's thesis, he achieved fundamental results with international significance. Professor Höhner, of the technical faculty, not only praised his remarkable academic achievements, he also considered him the most suitable award-winner on the basis of his social competence.

He developed, for example, an orientation program for new master's students in order to ease their entry into their studies. In addition, a lot of his work was on the Feedback-Campaign, which helped to further improve the new master's program Digital Communications and make it more 'studiesable'.

The award is endowed with 800 Euros and acknowledges outstanding academic achievements that are paired with non-curricular commitments. Rector Jörn Eckert presented Mr. Wo with the award on the 18th of October 2004 during the welcoming ceremony for first semester students.

Please tell us a little bit about your life in China.

Compared to the population in Germany, my home town is a big city. It's rather a residential town near Shanghai. I finished school there and went to Peking to study at the university where I received my bachelor's. After that, I worked in Peking for two years before coming to Kiel to work toward my master's in the English-language Digital Communications program. In my leisure time, I enjoy swimming and singing. I was known as a great singer at my old university (laughs).

What gave you the idea of coming to Germany to study? And why exactly Kiel?

I study electrical engineering and Germany is the world leader in the field of technology. One only needs to think of Mercedes Benz. It is a great place to study electrical engineering. I didn't know anything about Germany and found out that my subject is only offered in English here at five universities and technical schools. I applied to all of them, two rejections, three acceptances. At first I wanted to go to Esslingen because a former fellow student studies there. I found out, however, that a technical school here isn't quite the same as a university. I didn't know the difference at first.

And how do you like Kiel and your studies?

I love Kiel! Everything is considerably larger in China. We have too many people. One can't find a single place where there are no people. Because of
the population, the cities and nature are badly destroyed. It is noticeable, among other things, in the water pollution. The fjord here in Kiel is what I love the most. Everything is reachable by bike here in Kiel. That’s great. Before I came to Kiel, I lived in Peking for six years. Shopping there was a big hassle. Here in Kiel one can find everything they need in the Andreas-Gayk-Strasse. I find Kiel to be a great place to live.

**What do you work within your studies?**
As the title already says, digital communications. My main focuses are coding, wireless LAN and ADSL. I already worked in these areas in China.

**You received the DAAD award. Apart from your excellent academic achievements you were given the award for non-curricular commitments. What exactly did you develop?**
I looked around to see what I could do for the technical faculty. Digital Communications is still a young program. Therefore we sat down together to make suggestions to improve the course of study for the master’s program.

When I first came to Kiel, it took me three to four months to take care of the important things like organizing an apartment because I didn’t speak German. When I arrived to the Kiel airport, I asked a taxi driver to take me to a hotel in downtown Kiel. He took me to the Hotel "Astor", one of the most expensive here, just as I thought. I stayed two nights and called home a couple of times. When I checked out my bill came to more than 500 Euros. At my inquiry, I found at that the stay was 75 Euros. The telephone calls, however, cost over 400 Euros. Before I called home, I asked reception how much a call to China would cost me. He replied in German, and the only thing I understood was with "cent".
In the end, I found out that the units were calculated in cents, however, 150 cents, thus 1.50 Euro.

I have been here for two years, but to this day I have not understood my German rental contract. These things didn’t just happen to me, but to my fellow students as well. The program, its webpage, everything is in English and so one gets the impression that it won’t be a problem to study here without knowing German. We found out, that it is better to learn the basics. We’re in Germany, and we should learn a little German.

Therefore I began to deal with this topic along with my fellow students. We developed an orientation committee. When new students arrive, we meet with them, explain the program and give them our addresses so they can reach us at any time. So far, everyone has been satisfied with it.

What’s your opinion about the development of the bachelor’s and master’s programs in Germany? I think the master’s program in Germany is something new here, while diplomas are completely new to us. Unfortunately it is still hard to have course work recognized. A bachelor is a complete degree, which is usually only considered a pre-diploma here. After that, one year to learn German and at least three to four more years of studying follow. That’s simply too long.
new environmental management program

CAU Kiel began offering a master's program for environmental management during the winter semester 2004/05

The new program, Environmental Management, began winter semester 2004/05 at Kiel University's ecology center. The two year master's program, held in the English language, qualifies graduates to develop complex management concepts that are able to solve environmental problems. This program will fulfill the economy's (e.g. consulting area) as well as public institutions' needs for employees, who have international experience and are qualified to manage interdisciplinary teams.

The program began with 25 student positions in the winter semester 2004/05. Those interested in the program must have a diploma or a bachelor's degree in one of the following subjects: natural sciences, economics, agronomy, forestry, geography or an engineering degree. Since all the lectures will take place in English, it is necessary to prove English language skills: 600 points on the TOEFL test or an equivalent thereof.

Scientific, social, economic and technical skills will be acquired during the first three semesters. In the fourth semester, the student will write a master's thesis.

The interdisciplinary program offers a solid basic academic education, an extensive knowledge of methods (especially in the areas, systems analysis, modeling, geographic information systems and data management) as well as the ability to develop integrative and adaptable management strategies (Adaptive Management). Furthermore, great emphasis is placed on fostering communication and team work skills as well as the students' presentation competence. Along side scholars from the University of Kiel, practitioners and international guest professors also take part in the program.

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researcher in the mud flat of the north sea
German teacher from the Ivory Coast in Kiel

Learning German in Germany

Zibo Gogbe is thirty-eight years old and came from the Ivory Coast. He studied German at the Christian-Albrechts-University in Kiel. He studied German in Abidjan and worked as a German teacher for fourteen years in a high school.

What brought you to Germany?
After working for fourteen years as a German teacher in Abidjan, I decided to further my education. It is possible that I may be appointed a German advisor at high schools after having continued my education. The high school in Abidjan is paying me a stipend to further my studies.

How did you become interested in the German language?
There are four foreign languages that are spoken quite often on the Ivory Coast: French, English, Spanish, and German. I am personally interested in the German culture and language. Ever since I have been a German teacher, I have not had the opportunity to come to Germany and experience it firsthand. Everything that I knew about Germany before coming here, I learned from books. That’s quite common for people on the Ivory Coast. Knowledge acquired from books always leads to certain clichés about the Germans. One of them, for example, is the cliché xenophobia. Quite often my high school students have asked me during class whether I have experienced Germany firsthand.

How long have you been in Kiel?
For nine months. I will remain here for another six months.

Why did you choose German as a foreign language and not Spanish or English?
There was always a hope of traveling to Germany connected to my German studies. Before coming to Kiel, I only knew the German culture from textbooks. The books we use in German class in Abidjan tell a lot about Kiel. Kiel receives a lot of attention in these books and is therefore made into a symbol of the German culture. Therefore, I am very proud to be here. After I return, I can tell my students that I lived here and tell them about all the experience I have gained. The elderly people in Kiel are especially nice to me. I have noticed the elderly people have a deep interest in the African culture, but I have also noticed the existence of many clichés. Many people know Africa as the continent of civil war, poverty, and AIDS. I have tried in my own personal way to explain to them how we live. The Ivory Coast is a rich land compared to other African countries. We export oil, cocoa, and coffee.

How do you like the department "Deutsch als Fremdsprache" (German as a foreign language)?
I like it a lot. However, I am not only in that department, I am also in the German studies department. There I study contrastive linguistics with Ms. Vandermeeren and German as a foreign language.
with Ms. Probst. I especially like the grammar courses. I do not have any problems in that area. What helps me the most are the vocabulary courses because I am also here to improve my German language skills. Next semester I would like to attend the advanced course in the department. It is noticeable that the educational theory and teaching methods differ from those which I am accustomed to on the Ivory Coast. In Germany, the students are strongly included in the course structure. On the Ivory Coast, the courses focus primarily on the teacher. Here the students influence the course structure. I would like to convey this openness found in the courses to high school teachers on the Ivory Coast. In my opinion, the students would profit from such openness in the classroom.

Are you going to receive a degree here in Kiel? No. However, I do have to write a report at the end of my stay explaining what I have accomplished here. Above all, I must include a description of the courses I attended here. In the linguistics field I attended phonetics, phonology, semantics and syntax in addition to courses in German as a foreign language and literary studies. When it comes to literary studies, the twentieth century interests me the most. I am mainly concentrating on Thomas and Heinrich Mann here. In addition, I will research Kafka and Grass. I am dependent on the help from professors for this report.

Do you have a favorite book? Yes. "Der Prozeß" by Kafka. I like the theory of the absurdity. I also like "Tristan" by Thomas Mann.

What do you do in your free time? I enjoy reading. I go to the university or public library to borrow books and magazines. I am highly interested in the freedom of the press in Germany. On the Ivory Coast, I received my diploma in Journalism. I worked as a French newspaper correspondent on the Ivory Coast for a while. In addition, I like to listen to the radio, news and sports. My favorite national league team is Borussia Dortmund. I already liked them when I was living on the Ivory Coast. If I have time, I go to the Max, the Piola-Bar or to K7 in Eckernförde on the weekends.

Do you ever get homesick? Yes, sometimes. My wife and son are still on the Ivory Coast and want me to be with them. When we talk on the phone he asks; Daddy, when are you coming back home? Furthermore, my wife is pregnant and will give birth at the end of September, which is the same time my stay in Kiel will end.

What are the biggest differences between Germany and the Ivory Coast? Germany is a highly developed industrial land. The infrastructure is well built. The transportation and communication systems are well developed. There are also telephones and mobile phones on the Ivory Coast, but not in the same amount as there are here. Internet connections are only found in big cities and not in the small villages in the country side.

Thank you for the Interview!
The international center's new forum for foreign students and alumni

On-line worldwide

The international center developed its own on-line forum in order to ensure communication between students worldwide.

Students from all over the world study or have studied at CAU in Kiel
Melanie from Den Haag, Savio from Bombay, Björn from Norway, Soon-Lee from Peking - all studied at one point in time at Christian-Albrechts-University in Kiel, yet they never met each other. Either they were in Kiel at different times, studied different subjects or they were too busy with their studies and could not make so many new social contacts.

Find international friends - but how?
Melanie would really like to know how to cook original tandoori chicken, and Soon-Lee would like to take a tour of India but she needs some tips for the best hotels and cinemas. Perhaps Björn is simply looking for a friendly pen pal from somewhere and unfortunately Savio has forgotten the name of Kiel's beach.

The International Center is expanding its on-line options and going interactive. We would like to offer all students the possibility to come into contact with other like-minded students with a forum. It does not matter whether they have studied at Christian-Albrechts-University, are currently studying there, or plan to study there in the future and are looking for more information, the forum is open to all people interested, even German students.

Leisure time activity together in Kiel
Wouldn't it be great to meet someone else in Kiel who is also sitting alone in a dormitory, but just like you has the desire to go see a movie? If you could find out where a good party is for the night? Or if people could plan a trip to the beach to grill out? Tips about other worldwide cities are just as welcome as tips for studying and living in Kiel. This way we may soon discover where to find the best Vodka in Moscow, how to take a taxi in Hong Kong and how much a hamburger costs in Utah. There are discussions in English and German on the on-line forum allowing all students to participate in the discussions.

Registration is easy
To register for the forum simply go http://www.uni-kiel.de/international/betreuung/nachko.shtml
There you will find the link to the forum, which opens a new window.
After you register your first and last name, or a made-up nickname as your user name, you will find the discussion panel filled with various topics as well as a private message program in case you want to
send a private invitation.
In addition, it is also possible to enter your direct contact addresses (AIM, ICQ, Yahoo, MSN) in order to contact other forum users much quicker.

Create a profile
The profile is there to tell a little bit about you (city, university, hobbies) so forum users can get an idea who the other users are.

Contact with the International Center
Of course the International Center employees are going to attend the forum now and again so they can solve problems or answer questions.
The forum, however, is intended solely for private contact.
Administration problems and questions should still be discussed with the respective contact partners at the International Center or other service institutions at CAU.
Questions about the forum should be sent to: anker@uv.uni-kiel.de

An overview of the new on-line forum
The international research team, coordinated by the Kiel Professor Burkhard Sattelmacher, is analysing the reasons for desertification in inner Mongolia. The Kieler Anker spoke with him about the project.

You were granted 2.3 Million Euros from the DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) for the research project entitled "Matter Flux in Grasslands of Inner Mongolia, as influenced by stocking rate". What’s behind the title?

Inner Mongolia is a question of a giant steppe with relatively low sediments leading into the Gobi desert. The people who live there were traditionally nomads. They are no longer nomads; the central government made them settle. They do, however, still essentially live from sheep farming. In order to raise prosperity, the government engaged the farmers with breeding cashmere goats. The problem in Inner Mongolia exists in the growing livestock density at the expense of sustainability. That is how a progressive desertification arises. This problem currently manifests itself due to increasing sandstorms, which on the one hand naturally come from the Gobi desert, but on the other hand are coming more frequently from the pasturing areas of Inner Mongolia. One can not, however, simply dictate that the farmers have fewer animals. That would be the same as telling the Germans they should use their cars a lot less often. Therefore, it is about giving the Inner Mongolian farmers alternatives. Here is where our project comes in. We do not claim to want to solve the problem. The only thing we can do is establish an expert’s report and model the steppe ecosystem. The models that we develop are to help the decision-makers come to decisions. We will not offer solutions rather supply those responsible with tools to help them make decisions. The entire project is divided into nine project parts dealing with organic substances in the ground, the underground organic substances (roots), the above ground organic substances (shoot), with microbial conversion in the ground (Carbon/Nitrogen), the...
release of trace gases (e.g. laughing gas), with the CO2 exchange between the atmosphere and vegetation, with erosion, water movements and pasturing intensity. A team from Kiel will work with the latter project.

How did the project come about?
The project was introduced during a workshop that took place in Peking two years ago. There a group from Garmisch-Partenkirchen suggested it. Independent of the exotic flair that this project has, there is very little scientific data for this area. Furthermore, at the moment, this area is being developed with the construction of an interstate. There is a large project in China called "Go West", with the goal of developing the poorer regions in the western provinces.

Who else is working on this project?
Four groups from Kiel are working on the nine projects. They are Professor Taube (grassland management), Professor Susenbeth (animal husbandry), Professor Horn (soil science), and I mainly work with the underground organic substances. A group from Garmisch-Partenkirchen works with the carbon and nitrogen conversion, a group from Munich with the conversion of organic substances in the ground, a group from Berlin with erosion, a group from Dresden with meteorological research and a group from Gießen with the water balance from big water catchment areas. This combination and the cooperation with Chinese scholars make the project something special. The nine projects have, at any one time, a German and a Chinese doctorate student. The project is divided into two three year terms. The first three years have now been granted. Thereafter the project will be evaluated once again. If it is successful, it will be supported for the next three years.

Example

Project: The goal of Professor Horn’s (Kiel) project part is the investigation of the effects of differing intensive pasturing on the mechanical stability and its consequences for the water balance of grazing lands in the autonomous region Inner Mongolia, China as well as the resulting risks of the occurrence of erosive surface drainages. Under the prevailing climatic conditions in this area, the water available for plants constitutes one of the important control factors for vegetation growth. The result of intensive pasturing by sheep is a mechanical disturbance of the pore system which is accompanied by a worsening of the ground’s infiltration properties. Therefore, by an increase in surface drainage, ground erosion occurs. Due to this, changes in the water balance arise as well as in the settlement of nutrients which eventually leads to the loss of soil fertility.
The B.A. program voice processing, which began in the winter semester of 2003/04, is being carried out at CAU in cooperation with various fields - linguistics, information technology, informatics, mathematics, phonetics and psychology. It works with communication sounds in spoken language in all aspects.

Students analyse how man creates sounds, how movements of the vocal organs are changed into an acoustic signal and how the listener uses the acoustic speech signal in order to understand the sounds produced by the speaker.

Above all, the acquired knowledge during the course of study gives one the basis for constructing computer systems that synthetically produce and recognize sounds.

Up to 10 students per year are able to be admitted to the B.A. program. The target groups are students who:
- are interested in the technological aspects of spoken language
- intend to continue with a master's program
- would like to be employed in the growing field of language technology

Approximately half of the program consists of modules in the fields of phonetics and digital voice processing and linguistics. They are supplemented by modules from informatics, information technology, mathematics and psychology.

The B.A. is completed after having attended a six week internship in the fifth semester and having written a research paper in the sixth semester. In contrast to a conventional master's, the grades acquired during the program are added together to make a final cumulative grade.
The course of study conveys the skills for the growing field of language technology (Man-Machine-Communication). In Germany, Europe and the United States companies working with Man-Machine-Communication, such as Apple, Microsoft and Nuance, regularly search for graduates with experience in the field of language technology. The B.A. program is also relevant for forensic voice analysis, which criminal defense offices put into practice more often nowadays.

The B.A. also forms the basis for entry into many already established masters' programs abroad within the fields of language technology and voice processing (e.g. MSc in Speech & Language Processing, University of Edinburg; MSc in Computer Speech, Text and Internet Technology, University of Cambridge; MSc in Speech and Language Processing, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia).

A three semester long master's program in voice processing, combining phonetics and information technology, began in the winter semester 2004/05. During the nine semester B.A.-M.A. combination, students will gain skills in all aspects of language synthesis and automatic speech and speaker recognition.

A B.A.-M.A. combination in voice processing offers several advantages in comparison to the conventional master's. Most importantly, two programs will be completed. There are many options to choose from after completing the program and it is also possible to complete the B.A. acquired at Kiel with a master's program abroad. Students who have already begun with a master's can, under certain circumstances, change to a B.A. program.

(Prof. Dr. Jonathan Harrington)