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Zentrum Psychosoziale Medizin
Abteilung Für Ethik und Geschichte der Medizin
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Bitte an Interessierte weiterleiten!
Please forward to interested young scholars and
colleagues!

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Deutsch-Israelische Nachwuchswissenschaftler-Klausurwoche "Culture & Ethics of Biomedicine"

Call for Participants: German-Israeli Workshop for Young Scholars "Culture and Ethics of Biomedicine"

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***The culture and ethics of biomedicine in Germany and Israel Workshop for Young Scholars
from various disciplines***

30th of November – 6th of December 2009, Goettingen, Germany

We are happy to invite you to participate in the German-Israeli Workshop "The culture and ethics of biomedicine" in Göttingen, Germany from the 30th of November until the 6th of December 2009.

The German-Israeli Workshop "The culture and Ethics of biomedicine" brings together about 20 young members of the German and Israeli research community in order to debate contemporary issues in bioethics, public health, science and medical studies, and medical anthropology and sociology. The main emphasis of this workshop is on providing structural and interdisciplinary support for young German and Israeli scholars, through a variety of working forms, including feedback seminars, team work, and lectures. The workshop aims to provide a supportive setting where doctoral students and young post-docs get skilled in the interdisciplinary research on various aspects of biomedicine, receive feedback for their research interests from international experts and meet young scholars and academics from

Germany and Israel, establishing valuable contacts for the future. The workshop also generates a clear picture of the international research landscape of the cultural and ethical aspects of biomedicine, its diversity of academic cultures, allowing young scholars to work on their own chosen topics in an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural and supportive environment.

Topics and Aims:

The cross-cultural bioethical analysis which will take place in the workshop touches upon various fields of biomedicine and public health issues: Reproductive medicine & prenatal genetics; end of life decisions and advance directives; organ transplantation; predictive genetic tests and prevention, ageing and health care systems. These issues are interconnected by the social dynamics of decision-making with respect to the patients, the family, and social expectations as well as by ethical dilemmas of duty versus autonomy, cost-benefit concerns, and religious/liberal considerations. All issues are of important relevance for individual and clinical decision making in Germany and Israel. Each of the topics should be discussed in its ethical *and* cultural dimension. Keynote lectures by invited senior scholars from Israel and Germany will provide special input to the different areas of practice. Young scholars will deepen and elaborate on their own topics linked to the different biomedical areas in small interdisciplinary teams. The work should result in co-authored working papers which will be finally published in a webforum.

Venue:

The workshop will take place during the winter time in the premises of University of Goettingen, at the Department of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine.

Costs and coverings:

Workshop materials (paper copies), accommodation, breakfast, coffee and lunches are included.

Furthermore, a travel grant can be provided: 100 € for participants from Germany, 500€ for participants from Israel.

However, the applicants must be willing to pay a fee for the workshop of 150 €. The fee has to be paid in advance after successful application.

How to apply for the workshop:

Applicants must be PhD-students or young postdocs affiliated with a German or Israeli university or academic research institution (e.g. Max-Planck-Institutes).

Applications will be submitted only via email (see below):

Please submit the following materials (if possible as pdf files):

- CV (including positions, trainings and publications)

- a summary of research interests within the field of cultural and ethical aspects of biomedicine (2 pages) which briefly address the following questions:
 - o What is your overall research interest?
 - o What is your chosen theoretical framework?
 - o What is your methodology?
 - o What is your specific interest in a cross-cultural comparison of social, ethical, or legal aspects of biomedicine?
- a letter of intent briefly describing your intention for taking part and expectations about the workshop.

Uncompleted applications will not be considered eligible.

The deadline for the application is the **31st of March 2009**:

The working language of the workshop will be English; therefore sufficient understanding and ability to express oneself in this language is expected.

The summaries from all successful applicants will also be published in the workshop website book.

Participants are therefore requested to pay close attention to the correctness of all details. Scholars will have possibility to update their information during the application procedure, thus early submission is encouraged.

Notification of those accepted will be after 10th of May. Accepted applicants should start making their travel arrangements as soon as possible to ensure best price.

Details of this workshop programme will be updated regularly based on the draft programme available on the web.

Scholars whose applications are accepted will then (in a second phase) be expected to provide the following documents and information:

1. A 10-page (3000 words) paper on their recent research project as a whole. The 10 page paper should be a report of the student's ongoing doctoral research and not a conventional conference paper or a report of findings. Rather, it is expected that the student will briefly present the focus of the research and then take up aspects of the research process: methodological, theoretical and practical issues on which he/she would like to develop further in the interdisciplinary and cross-cultural setting. (Deadline 1st of October)
2. A set of questions (maximum 1 page) with questions or problems that young scholars would like to be discussed during the workshops. This one page needs to be part of the same Word/PDF file that also contains the 10-page paper. (Deadline 1st of October)

3. Based on the abstracts and titles of other student papers, everyone is expected to choose up to 3 papers they would be interested in responding to. This preference will be taken into consideration while setting up small working groups (2-3 participants) which will work as team during the workshop.

(Deadline 1st of November)

By the time of the workshop, each participant is also expected to actively participate in the discussions of their own and other people's work. As mentioned above, they will act as team and will have to work on a paper which will be developed, presented and discussed during the workshop. All finalized working papers will be published in the internet in form of a wiki.

The total number of participants will be limited to 18 by considering a balanced mixture of different disciplinary and national backgrounds.

All questions concerning the application procedure and other information can be directed to the coordinator of the workshop, Prof. Dr. Silke Schicktanz from the University of Goettingen by e-mail (silke.schicktanz@medizin.uni-goettingen.de)

The Programme Committee members are:

Prof. Dr. Silke Schicktanz (University Medical Center Goettingen) and Prof. Dr. Aviad Raz (Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel)

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