

## Announcement and Call for Applications of the DIES-INTERNATIONAL DEANS' COURSE LATIN AMERICA 2019/20

The [German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\)](#), the [German Rectors' Conference \(HRK\)](#), the Universities of [Saarland](#) (Germany) and [Alicante](#) (Spain), in cooperation with the [Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation \(AvH\)](#), are jointly organising the DIES-International Deans' Course for Latin America.

This intensive training course is part of the DIES programme (Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies) which has been jointly coordinated by the DAAD and HRK since 2001 ([www.daad.de/dies](http://www.daad.de/dies)).

Saarland University and the University of Alicante are the academic coordinators of the course. Both institutions have been cooperating for a long period of time, including projects for the evaluation, development and improvement of university management in Latin American higher education institutions.

### Course Content, Methodology and Schedule

The key objective of the course is to bring together a group of about 25 newly elected Deans and Vice-Deans from Universities in Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, and Peru in order to enable the participants to tackle the challenges of holding a deans' position.

Issues such as Strategic Faculty Planning, Financial Management, Quality Management and Human Resources Management will be key parts of this course, which will also include a soft skills workshop. The course will be conducted in English and Spanish.

Methodology will be strictly practice oriented and mainly based on case studies. Personal experience as a university manager will greatly contribute to this course and active participation will be necessary. Participants are expected to develop a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) for their own faculty, which will comprise the characteristics and strategies for the faculty, the role of the dean and the underlying administration and procedures in the thematic areas of the course. In this framework, participants will develop and work on concrete measures to implement the strategy in their own faculty. The basic elements of the SAP will be introduced in the first part and the continued work on the SAP will be supported by distance coaching and via online webinars (Part II). Part III will offer participants the opportunity to reflect on the implementation of their faculty strategy and other reform projects discussed by the participants during parts I and II.

The following list shows the dates of the presence and online modules:

**Module 1:** Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Saarbrücken, Germany (plus necessary travelling time).

**Module 2:** Sept. 23<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Alicante, Spain (plus necessary travelling time).

**Webinars:** Online seminars between October 2019 and February 2020.

**Module 3:** March 23<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 in Latin America.

As the three parts of the International Deans' Course are interconnected, participants need to confirm prior to the acceptance to the course that they are able to take part in all three parts.

### Participants' Profile

- Participants hold preferentially the position of a Dean or Vice-Dean and are ideally working not longer than 2-3 years in this position. Applicants who hold other positions, such as Vice-President of Head of Department, should describe their area of responsibility. Applicants from administrative units are not eligible;
- Participants are aged preferably between 30 and 50 years;
- Active and excellent English and Spanish language skills (speaking and writing) are indispensable;
- Being a DAAD alumnus will be considered an asset, but is not compulsory;
- International experience is considered a plus;
- Participants from universities of the following countries are eligible to apply: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Peru.

### Funding

During the presence phases in Europe and in Latin America, participants will be guests of Saarland University and the University of Alicante. The following expenses will be covered by funds of the DAAD provided through the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development:

- Travel costs (according to DAAD regulations): For Module 1 and 2: Flight to Germany, transfer to Spain and return flight from Spain, ground travel in Spain and Germany; for Module 3: flights within Latin America.
- Accommodation and joint meals during the presence phases in Europe and Latin America.
- Emergency health insurance during the presence phase in Europe.

**Expected co-funding:** Participants' home institutions are expected to pay a one-time tuition fee of **500 €**. In addition, participants have to cover local transportation in their home countries, visa costs and possible additional per diems for the duration of the workshops.

## Application and Selection Procedure

Applicants should apply at <http://www.idc-latinamerica.com/application-form-course-2019-20>.  
**Please apply no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019.**

The following supporting documents, as pdf files, are required:

- **Letter of motivation** (1-2 pages maximum);
- **Organizational chart** of the university (showing the section where the candidates are working in);
- **Letter of recommendation** from university top management including confirmation of tuition fee coverage;
- **Proof of excellent English proficiency** (e.g. TOEFL; Cambridge Certificate) is not necessary but will be a voluntary asset. Phone interviews will be organised with shortlisted candidates to guarantee the requested proficiency. Spanish proficiency will be also required for Belize.

## Applications must be submitted in English.

The selection committee is composed of high-profile higher education management experts. All applicants will be informed about the result of the selection process in June 2019.

## Contact Details

Web: [www.idc-latinamerica.com](http://www.idc-latinamerica.com)

E-Mail: [info@idc-latinamerica.com](mailto:info@idc-latinamerica.com)

### Roberto Escarré

University of Alicante  
International Project Management Office  
Torre de Control, Planta Baja  
03690 - San Vicente del Raspeig  
Alicante, Spain  
Tel. +34 965 909718

### Teresa Amido

Saarland University  
International Office  
Campus  
66123 Saarbrücken  
Germany  
Tel. +49681302-71121