Learn more about Schiller International University Heidelberg in the July edition of our newsletter.

Schiller International University is accredited by the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) located in Washington D.C. and is authorized by the Florida State commission of Independent Education to award Associate, Bachelor, and Master degrees.

Schiller is accredited in Germany by Evalag since 2016 (evalag: Evaluationsagentur Baden-Württemberg, authorized as Accreditation Agency by the German Accreditation Council and registered in the European Quality Assurance Register). For more information on Schiller International University, please visit www.schiller.edu

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Spotlight this month:
Schiller Alumni Reunion in Madrid

The memories of our good old Schiller days are of lounging around with friends, studying hard during the day and having fun at night, but most importantly, making connections with people from all over the world while getting a first-rate education in our campuses abroad. Some of us haven’t seen each other since our last reunion, and some even longer than that. So July 2017 was everyone’s chance to get together in one place, for the Schiller Alumni Reunion 2017 in sunny Madrid. For those of you who could not make it to this awesome event, we are sharing some of the best moments here.

We started on the evening of June 30th with some flamenco and tapas in one of the most vibrant cities of the world. On Saturday morning, July 1st, our alumni started strolling down Cervantes street to kick off the “Madrid Not for Tourists” tour and explore the hidden spots of this beautiful city together with a local guide.
At 7.30 pm, more than 40 alumni met at SIU’s Madrid Campus for the official Schiller Reunion dinner. A lot of them stayed for the after party and a fun night of dancing (just like in old days).
Some of our alumni visited their campus in Madrid for the first time after more than ten years. Oyvind Henrikson is one of them. He graduated from Schiller International University Madrid in 2004 and got the chance to mingle with his former classmates and his Spanish teacher Paloma Garcia. Oyvind said after the event that “It was a pleasure meeting all alumni and sharing stories about life back in the days. These meet-ups are quite useful because we can network with new and old alumni with similar careers and help each other.”

Relaunch of schilleralumni.com

In order to keep all our alumni connected, Schiller International University has launched a platform where you can learn about future and past get-togethers, activities on campus, and each others careers. Check out https://schilleralumni.com
Ask the university director

Tanja Ward, Schiller International University Heidelberg’s new campus director invites dialogue. She encourages the university’s staff and students to ask her any questions they like her to answer. This can involve the work of the administrative divisions or her approach to different challenges facing Schiller International University. Please send your questions to corinna.pape@sponsor.de. By July 25th and read Tanja Ward’s answers in the August edition of this newsletter. This time it’s us, the editorial department, doing the Q&A.

Mrs. Ward, do German international business schools perform well compared to their international competitors?

Yes, increasingly so. German business schools are currently on the rise. Due to recent political events in the UK and the US, Germany has become more attractive to international students. Both the Brexit and the presidential election of Trump originated in stricter immigration controls. Our business school, where only 5-8% of the current MBA class is German born, is currently recording a growing number of international applicants.

What advantages do German business schools have?

Germany insists on students owning residence cards at an extra cost, but it offers visa-free entry not only to students arriving from the EU but also to applicants from the US, Canada, Australia, Morocco, South Korea and Japan. This is clearly an advantage German business schools have compared to the UK and the US. Apart from the low entry barriers, tuition costs are another advantage to business education in Germany. The €21,000 fee for Schiller International University Heidelberg’s one-year MBA programme is low compared with business schools in the UK which charge around €60-80,000. Besides, Schiller International University offers students the unique opportunity to transfer between four international campuses and earn a double degree in Europe and the US.

Why was Germany known to underperform in business education until now?

Charging students for degrees has been questioned by Germany’s publicly funded universities for a long time. And Germany has less highly ranked MBA institutions compared to the UK and France, Spain, Singapore and Australia, Schiller International University being among them. The German higher education, historically focusing on the diploma, is part of the reason for this. The diploma took longer to complete than degrees in other countries but was seen as equivalent to a postgraduate qualification, like the MBA, in Germany. An expensive business education offered few advantages for those seeking promotion. But with the German education system radically changing, Germany is beginning to find its way and MBA recruiters are taking notice. And the fact that Germany has recently been attracting more international students looking to enter high-paying business sectors means that it will begin to compete with UK and US business schools.
Meet our students

You probably know that Schiller International University has a Student Council. But did you know why it is important? The Student Council at the Heidelberg campus helps students in more ways than you know: to develop leadership skills, meet new people, organize activities and be part of a group.

In the next few paragraphs, we introduce Katarina Lujic, who is currently working at our Student Council. Katarina will elaborate on her thoughts on why she came to SIU and what’s happening at the Student Council.

»Katarina, tell us more about yourself.«
Hello, my name is Katarina and I’m a graduate student in the International Relations program at SIU Heidelberg. Originally from Belgrade, Serbia, my family and I moved to South Africa at a young age, and I eventually ended up in the USA at the age of 8. I completed my undergraduate degrees in Management and Marketing at the Arizona State University in 2013, and began working in computer software sales for a Unicorn Company out of Silicon Valley. After just a couple of years in that industry, I knew that it wasn’t for me and that it may be time to go back to school to expand my options.

»Why did you come to Schiller?«
Schiller International University was the perfect solution for me to continue my studies for a few reasons. First, my family relocated to Heidelberg in 2012, and being closer to them was a huge factor of my decision to move to Germany. I had also been impressed by the careers some SIU Alumni had attained in the field, and appreciated the background that the IR Department Heads possessed. Most important of all, the small class sizes and amazing diversity of the student body really stood out to me, and it’s still the best part of attending classes at Schiller.

»What have you learned so far?«
From getting to know the unique backgrounds and skills of some of my peers, I know that there’s potential at Schiller for greatness and I hope that our events help cultivate friendships and connections to propel students to their next steps in life.

»What projects are you currently working on?«
Currently, I’m serving on the 2017 Student Council and it has been a privilege to represent the student body and manage projects from start to finish. I’m pushing our focus on Academics and Athletics, evident in our new Yoga Series, upcoming hike days, and schedule academic debates.
Achieve your goals every month

Thanks to Schiller’s unique monthly-intake system, you can start your education at any time of the year. You don't have to wait for traditional semester starting dates. Every month there's a new start at Schiller.

The next dates are:

- August 7th
- September 4th
- October 2nd

Books to read now

For entrepreneurs who want to go beyond business school

Richard Branson’s autobiography “Like a Virgin” is a journey about Richard Branson’s own leadership experience, the ups and the downs. It’s an especially great read for leaders who are in the space of entrepreneurship. It talks about his little beginnings and how he started, his weaknesses and how he leveraged them by focusing on his strengths. It’s a very frank and candid testament of his journey of becoming one of the greatest business leaders of all time. The book includes what Branson calls ‘secrets they won't teach you at business school’; these are things he learned while doing.

Highlights from last month

Namaste! We kicked off our Yoga event series!

Need some positive vibrations and good feelings during classes? Schiller International University Heidelberg has launched its Yoga events series last month. All students in attendance really enjoyed the event, especially the teacher’s style and level of instruction. Next Yoga sessions are to be held Tuesday the 11th and Tuesday the 25th of July. Come and join us.
Upcoming events

Educational trip to European Commission in Brussels
As an effort to bring International Relations students real-world exposure to political institutions, SIU has organized a two-day trip to the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium, this month. The trip will be on the 26th and 27th of June. Travel will be in the morning of the 26th and evening of the 27th. Up to 30 students can register with Dr. Macho, and are required to provide a 50 Euro deposit. The deposit will be refunded upon pickup for travel. International Relations students have first priority, however International Business students will be considered in the event of open spots.

Yoga Class
July 11th and July 25th at 3:30p in Classroom 3

Soccer Club
Training every week, contact Jaber for more information at jaber-gayal@hotmail.com

Business Club
Every Monday at 4 pm in Classroom 4, next meeting is July 10th

Model United Nations (MUN)
Every other Tuesday at 8 pm in Classroom 3, please get in touch with Baran Pourtahmaseb-Sasi for more details