OUR THREEFOLD COMMITMENT TO QUALITY

Throughout the development of the M.Sc. in Laboratory Animal Science (MLAS) the quality of the program has been our major priority. This is reflected in the curriculum and by the team of lecturers we have been able to attract. Quality is not only vital for the academic development of the students but also aids in maintaining their enthusiasm for the subject matter and their overall contentment. Furthermore, our quality pledge is our commitment to employers that graduates are highly skilled in areas that are relevant for practitioners of laboratory animal science. For these reasons we take a threefold approach to quality.

Firstly, the quality management systems of RWTH Aachen University are at the heart of our program. With its 260 institutes in nine faculties, RWTH Aachen is among the leading European scientific and research institutions and is recognized by the German federal government's Excellence Initiative. Quality management in both teaching and learning are firmly anchored in the university's mission statement. Teaching at RWTH Aachen is first and foremost application-oriented. National and international rankings attest to RWTH graduates' marked ability to handle complex tasks, to solve problems constructively in teams and to take on leadership roles, making them highly sought-after.

In addition to the RWTH's own quality management systems, quality assurance will also be provided by ASIIN e.v. and the accreditation process is well underway. ASIIN is a third-party accreditation agency which reviews the quality of university education and issues an internationally recognized quality seal to successful programs. According to ASIIN, the overall quality of a degree is derived from its function as a program for academic qualification, the interaction of its various elements and also the attainment of the intended learning outcomes. In addition to assessing the content, the demands of eternal stakeholders, such as legal and political bodies, are also considered and the professional success of graduates is reflected upon.

Finally, we firmly believe that the course should be relevant for industry and the regulatory authorities, meeting their needs for highly skilled personnel while providing graduates with every opportunity to succeed in their chosen profession. For this reason we endeavor to seek approval from relevant industrial bodies for all our courses. In this instance we are liaising with FELASA to ensure that the course meets both industry standards and expectations.

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE UNTIL 30TH APRIL

The application process is underway. An early booking discount of €1,000 is available until 30th April. Details of how to apply and funding possibilities are available on our web page: www.MSc-Lab-Animal.com

COURSE LECTURERS

In addition to lecturers from the RWTH Aachen University, we have also received tremendous support from a range of external experts who have committed to lecturing in the MLAS program. These external lecturers complement the program, bringing alternative perspectives and adding to the scope of topics offered. In this edition of our newsletter we would like to introduce Prof. Dr. Franz-Josef Kaup:

Prof. Dr. Franz-Josef Kaup studied veterinary medicine at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, completing his doctorate and post-doctoral studies in 1992. Subsequently, he was appointed Director of Infection Pathology and Director of Primate Husbandry at the German Primate Center (DPZ) in Gottingen. Since 2000 he has also been Chair of Laboratory Animal Pathology, a bridging professorship with the University of Veterinarian Medicine Hannover.

Prof. Kaup's main research areas include diseases in non-human primates, in particular infectious diseases. Using various animal models (SIV/HIV, Orthopocks, Helicobacter pylori, Echinococcus multilocularis) pathogenetic investigations into pathogen spread within the organism, affected cell types and associated morphological changes are performed in Old and New-World monkeys. Additionally, he is an expert in health monitoring and welfare conditions of non-human primates used as laboratory animals.

In the M.Sc. program Prof. Kaup is responsible for the Pathology and Health unit of the course, as well for teaching elements of the Anatomy & Physiology unit. In addition to these teaching responsibilities we are delighted that Prof. Kaup will host course participants during an excursion to the German Primate Center in Gottingen.