

Transatlantic Program-Young Technology Leaders 2010 (TAP-YTL 2010): Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning Sept. 19-27, 2010

Professional development for young leaders - meet thought leaders, top architects, technology providers and see first-hand how Germany is crafting new communities and energy efficient spaces for living and working

Program Description and Application Package

A. Program Summary

After seven successful years, the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACCoM) has expanded its Transatlantic Program (TAP) to offer young leaders from technical fields the opportunity to participate in a program that is strategically tailored to specific industry segments through intensive, theme-focused delegation visits to Germany. The 2010 Transatlantic Program - Young Technology Leaders (TAP-YTL): Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning aims to bring together 12 young leaders with technical backgrounds for an intensive 8-day visit to Germany. The first program will take place September 19-27, 2010.

The theme for this first delegation will be "Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning." This unique program will provide participating young leaders with an opportunity to meet top innovative thinkers, architects, and technology providers that will enhance their professional development and enable them to witness first-hand Germany's leading role in crafting new communities and energy efficient spaces for living and working. Destinations include cutting-edge sustainable architecture and urban planning hotspots Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne and Freiburg. The agenda will consist of theme-focused site-visits and presentations, personal interaction with innovative companies and industry leaders, networking functions with peers, cross-cultural training and language building activities.



The overall goal of the program is to bring future decision makers from the US and Germany together at the beginning of their professional careers or late in their studies, to build networks and promote know-how transfer through intensive, content-driven encounters and experiences. Applicants must be from the field relevant to the focus of each trip, interested in modern Germany and have a basic knowledge of the language. One of the key aspects of the program remains to promote professional development within a transatlantic perspective through alumni activities. We encourage all participants to make use of our Alumni Network with its exclusive benefits. While the dates for future programs have yet to be announced, the focus will include themes like "Logistics & Transportation" and "Water Management." TAP-YTL takes place under the patronage of Dr. Klaus Scharioth, German Ambassador to the United States.

TAP-YTL encourages colleges and universities whose students are selected to participate in the program to offer **course credits** for the intensive 8-day program. Between 30-35 contact hours with the German language and within the field of “Sustainable Architecture & Urban Planning” will be provided throughout the trip. We will be happy to provide the details once every aspect of the trip agenda has been confirmed. In addition, TAP-YTL also encourages employers to consider **sponsoring their young professionals** for participation in the program. A specialized professional development program that enhances an employee’s skill set, cultural understanding and market knowledge will prove to be mutually beneficial for the company and employee.



The Transatlantic Program-Young Technology Leaders is organized by the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACCoM) with the financial support of the German Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWt), which generously provides funding from its European Recovery Program (ERP). GACCoM has considerable experience in organizing similar exchange programs, having conducted the Transatlantic Program (TAP) for the past seven years for both U.S. professionals and students.

B. 2010 Schedule and Program Details

Application Deadline:	June 16
Announcement of Participants:	July 16
TAP-YTL in Germany:	September 19 – 27
Alumni Reunion:	January 2011 (exact date TBD)



C. Eligibility Requirements

- Currently-enrolled college and university students (primarily targeted towards graduate and PhD students, but qualified undergraduates are welcome to apply), recent graduates and young professionals that are interested in expanding the skill set and experience of their staff.
- Areas of concentration should include Architecture, Engineering, Urban Planning, or German. Candidates with different backgrounds may apply if they feel that their background can offer a unique contribution. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis. We encourage and accept applications from any candidate who might be well-suited for this opportunity.
- Basic German skills
- Interest in modern Germany

- Work or practical experience in one's respective field is preferable
- Letter of recommendation either by professor or employer

D. Application and Selection Process

During the selection process, the participant's current/former major field of study and professional interests/current position will be taken into account in order to create the best possible fit between the program theme and the U.S. applicant. Besides the eligibility requirements mentioned above, we are looking for excellent TAP-YTL participants from across the United States who possess the following characteristics:

- Open-minded personality, flexible, curious
- Highly motivated to learn through first-hand experience about Germany and its respective technical field
- Interest in current German economic and political topics
- Interest in becoming an 'ambassador' for the US in Germany and vice versa
- Motivation to join the Alumni Network and to stay in touch with the German American Business community long term.

The full application package must include:

1. Resume in English
2. Letter of motivation (1-2 pages) specifying reasons for student's interest in the program
3. Completed Questionnaire
4. Official transcripts documenting all studies
5. Signed letter of recommendation on official letterhead from a professor or from the applicant's supervisor at the company where he/she is currently working. An additional LoR (e.g. by a German Professor) is more than welcome.

Deadline to submit the full application is June 16, 2010. Incomplete applications cannot be considered. An email application (including No. 1; 2; 3) is sufficient to meet the deadline; a paper version with signed documents (No. 5) and official transcript (No. 4) needs to be received at the latest within one week of the deadline (June 23, 2010). Please mail your application to:

German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest Inc.
Attn. Daniela Daus, Consulting Events Coordinator
401 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 3330
Chicago, IL 60611
Email: daus@gaccom.org

GACCoM will evaluate the applications and conduct phone interviews in English and German with finalists before deciding on the final group of participants. Selection criteria will be the applicant's qualifications, his/her motivation for the program, basic German language skills and preferably work experience in the program field. Participation is limited to 12 individuals.

GACCoM will inform all applicants regarding the outcome of their application by July 16, 2010. Individuals accepted into the TAP-YTL 2010 will be asked to provide and fill out further documentation and forms on short notice. The first installment of the participation fee is due in July after the participants have been announced (see payment schedule in Section F).

E. Program Costs and Participant Responsibilities

This program is heavily sponsored by the German government. The remaining cost of a \$550 participation fee plus travel costs to and from Germany must be covered by each participant. The participation fee can be paid in two installments (see Section F for more information).

- The program covers the following costs:
 - Overnight stays, meals and transportation while in Germany
 - Fees for programming and cultural events that is part of the official trip agenda
 - Organization of the program by GACCoM and its partners
- Health insurance is mandatory for the duration of the program. Participants should either keep their US insurance if it extends coverage to them during their stay in Germany or purchase extra travel insurance coverage.
- Participants are welcome to seek out additional stipends, scholarships or grants offered by universities, corporate sponsors or other organizations.

F. Program Fee

The program fee of \$550 is **due on August, 16, 2010**. Payment can be made by personal checks or Visa or MasterCard. Checks have to be made out to “GACCoM” or “German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest.”

Please note that failure to submit payments on time may result in the forfeiture of a participant’s slot in the program without refund of prior payments. In this instance, the forfeited slot will be awarded to an alternate candidate. If a participant retracts his/her participation at any time after having accepted his/her spot in the program, he/she will not receive a reimbursement for payments rendered.



G. General Information

Overall, this program provides a fantastic opportunity for motivated, well-qualified young leaders in the U.S. and we look forward to working with you! Should you have any questions, please contact the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest in Chicago:

Program Manager: Daniela Daus, Consulting Events Coordinator
German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest
(GACCoM)
401 N. Michigan Ave., Ste. 3330
Chicago, IL 60611
Email: daus@gaccomm.org
Phone: (312) 494-2177

Please also feel free to speak with participants of former TAP programs about their experiences in Germany and with our Chamber. We would be happy to connect you to our alumni. You may also find information on participants, former programs and the upcoming TAP-YTL on our website at www.transatlanticprogram.org.



German American
Chambers of Commerce
Deutsch-Amerikanische
Handelskammern

TAP-YTL Program 2010 Applicant Questionnaire
– To be returned to GACCoM with application!

PERSONAL INFORMATION (Please type or print legibly in **Black Ink**)

 (Full legal name) Last First Middle Initial

 Home Address Street City State Zip Country

() () _____
 Home Telephone (with area code) Mobile Phone Email Address

Male Female Date of Birth: _____ Place of birth _____
 Month/Day/Year City State/Province Country

Country of citizenship: _____ if other than US, do you have a US residence permit? Yes No

Passport Number: _____ Issuing Country: _____ Date of expiration: _____

Note: If you do not already have a valid passport, please apply for one as soon as possible. Passport processing times can take up to several months.

University: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Current Employer: _____

Have you already established personal contact(s) with Germany, especially in the relevant field of the trip?

Specific encounters, visits and projects you would be interested in for the 2010 TAP-YTL:

Other things you would like us to consider:

Dietary Restrictions (if any): _____

How did you hear about the Transatlantic Program-Young Technology Leaders?

Friend Professor Employer Search engine

Other Please specify: _____

 Applicant's Signature

Please keep a copy of your entire application for your records