University of Passau Faculty Exchange Program

Description: The faculty exchange between the University of Puget Sound and the University of Passau is celebrating its thirtieth anniversary in 2017. Founded by Klaus Hansen, Professor Emeritus of American Studies in Passau, and David Tinsley, Professor Emeritus of German Studies at Puget Sound, the faculty exchange is designed to foster scholarly and cultural interaction between our universities.

Thanks to generous support from our respective deans, each exchange fellow spends a month in residence at the host university. Housing and some travel assistance are provided, and candidates have the opportunity to make the acquaintance of colleagues who share their teaching and research interests. The research facilities of the host university are available to the fellow, and s/he is expected to deliver a formal lecture on a topic of his/her choice during the month.

Settled by the Celts in the 2nd Century BCE, occupied by the Romans, and featured in the German national epic, the Nibelungenlied, Passau is a scenic town of 50,000 located at the confluence of the Danube, the Inn and the Ilz Rivers. The University of Passau, founded in 1978, is known throughout Germany for its innovative interdisciplinary programs, Language Center and School of Law.

Exchange fellows from Puget Sound have not only conducted research resulting in publication, they also have subsequently returned to Passau for extended periods as guest professors. Some colleagues have exhibited works of art resulting in commissions, others have been invited back to participate in a Passau colloquium, and all have made valuable contacts with German colleagues working in their respective research areas. Colleagues from Passau have used the exchange as an occasion for collaboration in computer science with colleagues at the University of Washington, have pursued research projects in American literature, and have studied our educational system. Faculty and their families from both sides of the Atlantic have taken the opportunity to experience the beauty and cultural bounty of the Danube Valley and the Pacific Northwest.

Eligibility: Tenure-line faculty members and ongoing instructors are eligible to apply for the Passau exchange.

Application: Application for the exchange should be made to the associate dean by February 1. Please send a current C.V. and a letter describing your plans for professionally-related activities for the month to Sunil Kukreja, Office of the Associate Deans, CMB 1020. Email applications are preferred.

Reporting: A faculty member participating in the exchange should submit a written report of the activities undertaken by August 31 of the year the award is granted. The report should be submitted to Associate Dean Sunil Kukreja, who will then forward the report to the dean of the university.