

Dean's Greeting



On behalf of our faculty's teaching and administrative staff I would like to warmly greet everyone who visits our website, especially the members of our board of professors, colleagues, alumni and friends of the alumni network, and at last but not least each current and future student of our University of Applied Sciences.

It is a pleasure for me to give you a short overview of our University of Applied Sciences, which is divided into three establishments of Hildesheim / Holzminden / and Göttingen. All the three of them are located in the southern part of Lower Saxony.

Lower Saxony itself belongs to the northwestern part of Germany. Our university is a University of Applied Sciences (UAS). Universities of Applied Science are highly regarded in Germany and around the world, especially for their practical orientation.



Our three educational establishments are in distance of less than 100 km driving route. All together 6,300 students are enrolled, allocated to 41 degree programs, and 6 faculties. The headquarter of our university is located at Hildesheim. The following link contains a comprehensive brochure of our HAWK study programmes in English [📄](#).

However, in my greeting I will focus on the Faculty of Resource Management. It is one of two faculties which are located at Göttingen, thus more or less in the central part of Germany. Our Faculty of Resource Management has a little more than 900 students, and about 25 professors.

Academics and teaching

To outline our concept of academics and teaching in brief I have to emphasize or orientation towards practice as well as our innovative and multidisciplinary approach. Our graduates are equipped with excellent integrated management skills to put future-oriented approaches like bioeconomy, biologization of technology, resource-efficient decarbonization pathways into practice. We are already well positioned for the big future challenges, however we are open to adapt our portfolio for transforming our world towards the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

The Faculty of Resource Management offers four bachelor courses, three of them last six semesters, Forestry dual lasts 7 semesters:

- BSc Forestry (3Y Pr) is our faculty beginnings and our flagship product. Here we offer an updated traditional going forward with forest adaptation to climate change, including disturbance ecology and managing hazards and risks.
- BSc Forestry dual (3.5Y Pr) is a new cooperation model of “Applied academics”. It is the bridge and the merger between the two tracks "academic" and "vocational". The students are salaried employees of an approved company during the whole period of the degree course
- BSc Arboriculture (3Y Pr) focuses on urban grove and habitat evaluation, maintenance, planning and development of urban green space, as well as tree risk assessment.
- BEng Business Administration and Engineering (3.5Y Pr) generates high innovation potential at the interface of business administration and engineering. It is going forward with new corporate strategies.

We also offer four master courses for graduates from university and technical colleges with different study profiles. Our portfolio was conceived of having different degree programs under one roof of Sustainable Development. Our four master programs comprise

- MA Regional Management (2Y Pr) and Business Development (2Y Pr),
- MEng Renewable Resources and Regenerative Energies (2Y Pr),
- MEng Business Administration and Engineering (1.5Y Pr), and
- MSc Urban Tree and Forest Management (2Y Pr).

Consequently, our bachelor and the master degree programs cover a wide range of requirements to implement the challenges of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and to provide solutions for culture and economic transformation of our world.

Location at the North Campus of Göttingen

In light of our portfolio of bachelor and master programs we are perfectly located at the interface of urban sprawl and countryside. We can face all challenges right on the doorstep. Moreover, we are blessed for being surrounded by facilities of our most important cooperation partner, the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. So we are deeply grateful for our environments and try to use them carefully to the benefits of our students.

Outdoor and indoor facilities

Very important outdoor facilities are the two botanical gardens and three hunter training areas for our forestry students. We have also available well equipped indoor facilities, particularly four state-of-the-art laboratories. We use our resources carefully to purchase new technical equipment for studies and research (e.g. funds for the improvement of study conditions, investment resources, funds for research infrastructure).

Our forestry students can acquire their hunting licence during their studies, accordingly they have venison processing facilities at their disposal.

Research

Doctoral study course

Although our UAS is currently not authorized to award doctoral degrees, German university regulations encourage cooperative doctorate schemes. HAWK cooperates on doctoral programmes with 12 different universities in Germany. Cooperation is not limited to existing partnerships and can be set up on an individual basis to achieve the optimal specialist location for the doctoral work. Thus, we offer our students the option of continuous academic progression from a bachelor's degree, through a master's, right up to a doctoral degree by cooperative doctorates. With the HAWK doctoral research program [↗](#), the HAWK promotes and qualifies its doctoral candidates, who cooperate with national and foreign universities to prepare their dissertations or to do their cumulative doctoral studies.

Research network

We have an excellent research network. Figure 1 illustrates certainly not the whole network of the faculty, but just the network of the Department of Sustainable Energy and Environmental Technologies NEUTec. There are e.g. cooperations with Fraunhofer Institutes and research units, 3N competence centre etc.

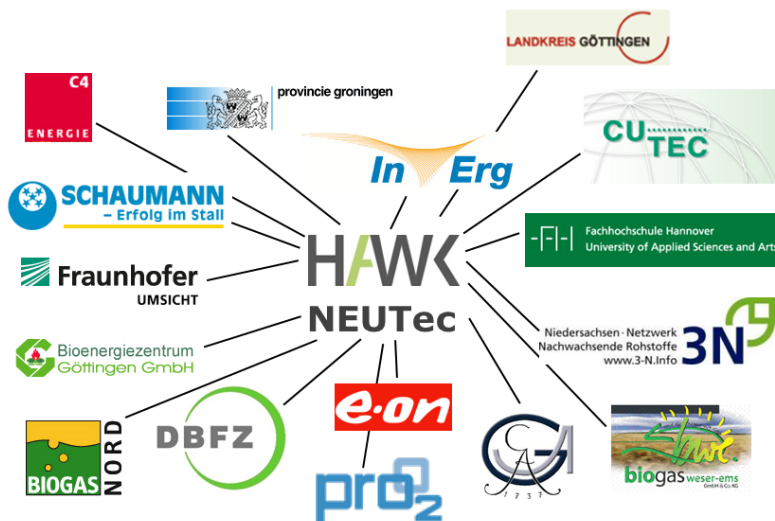


Fig. 1: NEUTec research network. (by A. Loewen)

Faculty research




Our faculty is the third strongest UAS research faculty in Lower Saxony. Achievements are:

- broadly positioned and outstandingly well networked
- several research-active professors
- several doctoral candidates

- successful in acquiring third party funded projects
- successful research output (peer reviewed open access publications)
- successful research transfer

Faculty Research Priorities focus on two areas

1. social and economic processes of integrated urban and regional development (in the face of demographic change)
2. sustainable production and use of biogenic raw materials

For international cooperations, like the NEMKLIM project in Romania  and the summer school in Patagonia  the DAAD is helping our students and researchers to carry out visits abroad. It is also supporting universities in their efforts to establish cooperation projects with international partners. The UAS International programme  enables universities of applied sciences to cultivate contact with foreign institutions and anchor international partnerships within their own institutional infrastructure. The DAAD also provides consultation, continuing education and dialogue programmes to accompany these measures.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Helge Walentowski

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