

Report on staff exchange activities in November 2014

Staff members: Dr. Sandra Schuetz and Gertraud Kreamsner from University of Vienna have come to Addis Ababa University for a staff exchange

Duration of stay: 6th to 14th of November 2014

The following table gives an overview of the activities:

7th Nov. 2014	1. Meeting with the staff members of the department of special needs education at Addis Ababa University
10th Nov. 2014	2. Exchange about the current activities in the Disability Center at the Addis Ababa University
10th Nov. 2014	3. Discussion with the vize head teacher of the inclusive German Church School in Addis Ababa (and also lecturer at the University)
11th Nov. 2014	4. Meeting in the Addis Ababa Education Bureau (City Government), with staff member Mr. Aschalew
11th Nov. 2014	5. Visit of inclusive and special schools in Addis Ababa (Kokobe Tsibah School, Menelik School), discussions with head teachers, teachers and pupils
12th Nov. 2014	6. Dr. Sandra Schuetz and Gertraud Kreamsner gave a lecture at the University and present special research topics to the first year PhD students of special needs education
13th Nov. 2014	7. Dr. Sandra Schuetz and Gertraud Kreamsner discuss about research questions and methodology with the PhD-Students
13th Nov. 2014	8. Meeting with deaf students at the University and discussion
14th Nov. 2014	9. Dr. Sandra Schuetz and Gertraud Kreamsner give a lecture and a workshop at the University for Master Students of special needs Education and PhD students
7th-14th Nov. 2014	10. Individual meetings with staff members from Addis Ababa University

Details about lectures and workshops at the University of Addis Ababa

The following text gives insights in the lectures and workshops held by Dr. Sandra Schuetz and Gertraud Kreamsner.



Picture: Addis Ababa University, College of Education (picture: Sandra Schuetz)

12th Nov. 2014, 9-12am, Conference room, Old building, attendees: PhD-Students, first year

Gertraud Kreamsner provided a presentation for the PhD-students with the title: „Nothing about us without us!“ - Doing Inclusive Research together with People with (so-called) Intellectual Disabilities. In her lecture she showed the background of inclusive research and discussed the inclusion of people with so-called intellectual disabilities critically. Then she gave insights in her current research project in Austria and demonstrated one case specifically. The students showed great interest in the research methodology and how the study can be conducted with persons having difficulties to express themselves verbally.



The picture shows Getraud Kreamsner (right) who is giving a lecture at Addis Ababa University and Prof. Dr. Tiressew Teferra Kidanemariam (left)

In the second part of the lecture Dr. Sandra Schuetz spoke about the phenomena of acquired disabilities. As one of her research topics is handling language disorders she spoke about "Aphasia – An acquired neurogenic language disorder. Background, Impact and Possibilities". She highlighted that not only old people may suffer from acquired difficulties in understanding and producing speech and in reading and writing after a stroke or a traumatic brain injury but also student aged people may be affected. Based on current studies and clinical experience she gave insights in the the background, the consequences and the necessary actions in the field of inclusive and special needs education.



The picture shows Dr. Sandra Schuetz (right) who is giving a lecture at Addis Ababa University and Prof. Dr. Tiressew Teferra Kidanemariam (left)

14th Nov. 2014, 9-12 am, Workshop for Master Students of special needs education and PhD students

Besides the lectures Gertraud Kreamsner and Dr. Sandra Schuetz also provided a workshop at the University of Addis Ababa. The participants were Master Students and PhD students, one blind and one deaf student with a sign language interpreter. Also staff members attended the workshop.

Gertraud Kreamsner gave some information as an input presentation concerning the topic: „Co-researching with People with (so-called) Intellectual Disabilities - Practicing theories “ where she showed the philosophical framework. Then she invited the students to a role play after which a lively discussion about „power “ and also in connection with people with so-called intellectual disabilities took place. The students were very motivated and interested in this field.

After that Dr. Sandra Schuetz introduced the strong meaning of language and communication abilities in the context of inclusion and participation with her presentation: "Suddenly my language has left! Surviving a stroke and living with aphasia: case examples, exchange of experiences, challenges and chances". The students reflected the situation in Ethiopia for people with speech and language problems and with acquired disabilities in general. In the discussion a interesting exchange of experiences, studies and political and societal background could be recognized.



Left Picture: Sign language interpreter (the first person on the left) in the workshop, right picture: Students discussion in pairs in the workshop