

BeBuddy-Newsletter June 2024

1) Calling all Buddies for Winter Term 2024/25!

The upcoming winter term 2024/2025 is about to start - An exciting phase, especially for all our international freshmen! Many of them will sign up for the BeBuddy program as mentees, eagerly awaiting to be matched with a Buddy. Last year, we matched about 500 mentees! So, if you are interested in supporting a new international student (or more than one) and you mainly reside in Aachen, please update your Buddy profile in the database so we can match you with a mentee. You can also email us at bebuddy@rwth-aachen.de with your availability and the number of mentees you would like to support. Of course, being trained as a Buddy is a prerequisite for that.

We already have a substantial database full of highly motivated Buddies, but we still need more! So, if you have friends who would also like to become active as a Buddy, please spread the word. We're always on the lookout for new Buddies (especially from Faculties 3 and 6).

The only things they need to do are register in the <u>database</u> and complete the virtual BeBuddy training. Prerequisites, as you know, are being at least in the 2nd semester and being able to speak German at a minimum of a B1 level. At the end of the program, you'll receive a certificate for your Buddy activity, which also serves as a component for the <u>Certificate International</u>.

We are looking forward to hearing from you! For any questions, please feel free to contact: <u>le-onie.hafen@zhv.rwth-aachen.de</u>

2) BeBuddy Stammtisch: We need you!

Some very experienced Buddies or Mentees may recall the times when there used to be a Be-Buddy Stammtisch. Let's bring that back! But what exactly is a Stammtisch? It's one of the most typically German things, you might say. It involves gathering in a bar on a regular basis, enjoying a cold beverage, chatting about recent happenings and events, or maybe just complaining about the rainy weather. For the BeBuddy Program, it can be a way to stay in touch and get to know new people.



We're seeking someone to organize this: reserve a table for one gathering each month, for four consecutive months, on a weekday between Monday and Thursday. After each meeting, you'll just need to provide a brief report to the BeBuddy Program coordinator.

The best part: organizing the BeBuddy Stammtisch counts as a component of the Certificate International. If you enjoy being in an international environment and have a knack for organization, please email <u>leonie.hafen@zhv.rwth-aachen.de</u>

3) Support GUtech Students: Become an Online Buddy in Summer 2024

Apart from the regular BeBuddy program, you can also get to participate as a summer mentor for international GUtech students from Oman. The International Office is supporting the WZL (Werkzeug-maschinenlabor) in setting up the framework for an online internship program for students of GUtech, Oman.

What is the online internship program about?

Under the supervision of a scientific supervisor from RWTH, GUtech students will work on selected projects in July and August 2024. Beyond this academic supervision, we would like to enable an intercultural experience for the participants from GUtech.

This is where you might come in: We are looking for volunteers who are willing to regularly meet the GUtech-students online and interact with them about life at a German university, your experience as a student in Aachen and potential plans for the future. This can be an enriching experience for both sides and it might even spark your interest or the interest of your counterpart to visit Oman or Germany as part of an exchange program and to meet in person.

Prerequisites: Having participated in the BeBuddy training as a buddy and being listed in the Be-Buddy database.

In case you are interested and would like to discuss further details about this opportunity, please contact directly <u>marat.shardimgaliev@zhv.rwth-aachen.de</u>. All questions related to the program should be directed towards him.

Being a mentor in this program won't be considered as a normal BeBuddy activity. Therefore, you won't be handed out a BeBuddy certificate, but you will receive a separate certificate. Plus: Your engagement would count as a component for the <u>Certificate International</u> (group 2): "Support for Summer School Participants in Aachen". Questions regarding the Certificate International are answered by <u>leonie.hafen@zhv.rwth-aachen.de</u>.



4) Energybirds is happy to welcome new (international) members

The student initiative "Energybirds: Discover Sustainability" is pleased to welcome new members to its team. The diverse group, representing various faculties, is focused on the topics of renewable energies and sustainability. The initiative aims to create an interdisciplinary platform to assist and motivate students and others in understanding the complex connections and interplay in climate policy and energy economics.

They meet every first Wednesday of the month at 18:30 in the Café and Bar Zuhause in Aachen. If you'd like to see their work, be sure to check out their <u>Instagram</u> page or their <u>website</u>.

5) Lothringair Festival– A Street Embraces Culture

On june 22, 2024, Lothringair will take place for the 9th time! For an entire day, the Lothringer Street will transform into a festival featuring music, dance, theater, art, literature and design. The festival timetable will be available on the <u>website</u> or on Lothringair's Instagram account. This event is an amazing opportunity to meet local artists and enjoy some nice food. The Lothringair Festival provides a unique opportunity to experience and support the vibrant cultural scene of the region.

Date: June 22, 2024, 14:00-22:00 o'clock Place: Lothringerstraße, Aachen For free!!

This is all for June. Have a nice month in Aachen and maybe a good dance on the <u>Kimiko</u>-Festival this weekend! What a nice festival season!

Leonie Hafen, Betül Yildiz and Baran Peltek from the BeBuddy Team

Please only use <u>bebuddy@rwth-aachen.de</u> to contact us or, in case you want to <u>unsubscribe</u>, write a short email to <u>bebuddy-leave@lists.rwth-aachen.de</u>