

# Essay Competition

## Think Transatlantic? – Write Transatlantic!

Are you interested in various global issues as they relate to the United States and Germany or the European Union?

Have you travelled to Europe and have something to tell?

Do you know how to improve the world and want to come up with a master plan?

If so, be creative and write an essay about one of the topics from the list below. Other than the required length of your paper, there are no restrictions of how you want to go about the topic. You may choose a more formal or a more personal approach. You may include research literature or express your own vision.

Essays will be evaluated based on their originality, creativity, imagination, and the ways in which they put forward compelling arguments.

Three campus-wide winners will be chosen by a jury of professors and be awarded attractive monetary prizes: \$150 for 1<sup>st</sup> prize, \$100 for 2<sup>nd</sup> prize, and \$50 for 3<sup>rd</sup> prize. More importantly, all of your essays will be presented to the Austin College community during a Think Transatlantic campus conference in November 2012.

The Austin College Campus winner (1<sup>st</sup> prize) will attend a national conference in Washington, D.C. in early 2013 (travel and accommodation covered by the German Embassy), and might see his or her essay published in a renowned national magazine. Also, the winner of the national conference in Washington, D.C. will be awarded a trip to Berlin.

**Length of Paper:** 2500 words maximum

**Submission Deadline:** October 11, 2012

**Submit electronically to:** [wlueckel@austincollege.edu](mailto:wlueckel@austincollege.edu); [dgriffith@austincollege.edu](mailto:dgriffith@austincollege.edu);  
[pbarker@austincollege.edu](mailto:pbarker@austincollege.edu)

**Committee Members:** Wolfgang Lueckel, David Griffith, Phil Barker

**For questions please contact** [wlueckel@austincollege.edu](mailto:wlueckel@austincollege.edu)

**For more information about the Think Transatlantic Campus Weeks:**

[www.austincollege.edu/thinktransatlantic](http://www.austincollege.edu/thinktransatlantic)

[www.germany.info/thinktransatlantic](http://www.germany.info/thinktransatlantic)

*Think Transatlantic* on Facebook

Organized by the Austin College German Program





## ESSAY TOPICS – THINK TRANSATLANTIC



### **The Transatlantic Relationship and the World**

- Global Players? – Will the U.S. - German partnership suffer or be reinforced by other rising global players such as India and China? What is the future of the transatlantic relationship between the United States and Germany in this new world order?
- From Global War to World Peace? – Is NATO mostly obsolete or more important than ever? What should its political and military role be in a new global security architecture?
- Defending human rights and human freedom under threat: What can and should be a transatlantic response to promoting, consolidating, and sustaining democratic principles around the world? Can the U.S. and Europe/Germany find common strategies?

### **Domestic Issues in the Transatlantic Context**

- Immigration and Integration: What are the differences in the immigration policies of the United States and Germany? What can we learn from each other?
- Between Rags and Riches: American social individualism versus European collectivism/socialism – Could Germany serve as a bridge between American and European ideas on social issues such as health care, unemployment and welfare?
- A Green Future? – Transatlantic efforts (and failures) in the United States and Germany concerning issues such as greenhouse gas emissions, sustainability, competition for resources, fossil fuels, energy production and nuclear power

### **Transatlantic Symbols and Trademarks**

- Being German-American in 2012 – An empty term or a panoply of a rich cultural tradition?
- The United States of Europe? – What is Germany's role in forming a stronger Europe? What can the Germans learn from the United States?
- Goodbye Euro? – The European debt crisis and its consequences for the United States and Germany