

German European School Manila takes advantage of online set-up in first-ever virtual University Fair



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While others bemoan the current situation of having to attend and conduct schooling via the internet, some choose to focus on the opportunities it offers.

Such is the attitude of the German European School Manila (GESM) as it launches its first-ever virtual University Fair this Friday, Nov 27. Promising to offer "a serving of everything students need" in their quest for the right higher education choice, the day-long Fair will feature speakers and experts from dozens of universities around the world. The event is free and open to all.



"We were one of the very first schools to be able to immediately transition to online schooling right after schools were forced to close in March. So we've been doing distance learning for a while now, and we have come to see not only the challenges this situation presents, but also the many opportunities it offers." said Christoph Boris Frank, GESM Head of School. "For the University Fair, we were able to come up with an impressive line-up of university presenters and of course this wouldn't be possible if we were to not hold it online."

A total of 26 universities from 12 different countries will be at GESM's Fair to make their pitch to the attendees. Notable universities include the prestigious Radboud University in the Netherlands, the Stockholm School of Economics and Switzerland's Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne — reputed as one of the best hospitality schools in the world.



Also presenting at the fair is the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), a network of German higher education institutions funded by the German government. The DAAD will talk about study opportunities in Germany and their benefits. Germany is a prime destination for studies abroad. With universities – most of which

impose practically no tuition fees – that are famous for a policy of academic freedom, the country attracted close to 400,000 international students in 2019.

"The pandemic and shift to online schooling do not change the fact that students need to make informed decisions when it comes to higher education choice. We think this is an important step in each student's development and that's why we are opening this event to all, not just GESM students." said Mr. Santanu Bhowmik, head of GESM's International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP).



Santanu Bhowmik, Head of GESM's International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, addresses the crowd in last year's University Fair