



TGGGS clarification release on 6 June 2024

The Sirindhorn International Thai-German Graduate School of Engineering (TGGGS) would like to deliver the following clarification for recent instances of misinformation dissemination, impacting organizational trust according to the complaint case posted on the social media and distributed via E-Mails by one TGGGS's student accusing the Dean of TGGGS and TGGGS's executives on corruptions in managing the DAAD scholarship for TGGGS's international students.

Since 2008 till present, RWTH-Aachen University has been annually granted a scholarship program from DAAD for supporting the student mobility between South-East Asia to Thailand and Thailand to Germany. TGGGS has been chosen to be the partner of this scholarship program. In the frame work of this program, DAAD grants a number of one-year scholarships to the new students at TGGGS from South-East Asia or neighboring regions for studying the first year in the master programs. The scholarship in the second year for doing internship and master thesis at RWTH-Aachen University, Germany will be granted only for the students with excellent academic performance. This program has been very successful over 15 years in boosting the student mobility, academic exchange and creating career opportunities to hundreds graduates from various countries, Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam, India, Pakistan, Bhutan etc.

For the selection process of the new students and the evaluation process of the first-year students, an independent committee is appointed and consists of the representatives from DAAD, RWTH-Aachen University and TGGGS's academic affairs supported by the representatives from all five academic programs at TGGGS as information provider. This committee makes all decisions free of any bias or influences from TGGGS's Dean. The results of the selection or the qualification process will be approved by RWTH-Aachen University in the final step. All processes are conducted transparently with documentation records complying with the DAAD guidelines.

The student who raises this complaint case, Student A, is a TGGGS's student who has received the aforementioned DAAD scholarship in the academic year 2023. In April 2024, the evaluation process of the first-year students was conducted by the committee with a decision that Student A is not qualified for the scholarship in the second year based on the underperformance reported from the lecturers of all courses attended by Student A and the occurred ethical misconduct in one class activity. Note that this evaluation process was conducted before the official approval of the GPA in the second semester at the end of May due to the limited time schedule for applying VISA to Germany. The Electrical and Computer Engineering curriculum committee has been aware of Student A's underperformance in the second semester and kept monitoring closely. The existing collected marks and the class activities records were reported from the lecturers to the curriculum committee. Although Student A's GPA in the first semester was 3.8, the GPA in the



second semester was 2.6. The GPA at the end of the first year after the final announcement is 3.2 which is clearly lower than 3.5, whereas all scholarship students, who are qualified for continuing the scholarship in the second year, should have a GPA higher than 3.5.

As Student A was not qualified for the second-year scholarship, one scholarship seat has become vacant and the committee decided to call for a replacement from the current TGGGS's students. One of TGGGS's student, Student B, applied. The committee consisting of the representatives from DAAD, RWTH-Aachen University and TGGGS's academic affairs including the representatives from all five academic programs at TGGGS has evaluated Student B's performance with a GPA higher than 3.5 and selected this student to fill the vacant scholarship. Again, this process was transparently conducted with records and free of bias or any influence from the Dean of TGGGS. Bribery or corruption for intervening the decision of the committee is impossible for the Dean of TGGGS.

It is imperative to clarify that the circulated information is baseless and lacks any factual foundation. However, TGGGS has to protect its prestige and dignity from any unjust defamation. TGGGS has gathered evidence and conducted thorough investigations into the origins of this misinformation.

We urge all parties for utmost discretion in sharing information to mitigate potential repercussions and damage. Legal action will be pursued against individuals responsible for spreading such misinformation, including those engaged in negative commentary, defamation, or sharing of false information.

In case that there is any concrete evidence of bribery or corruption in TGGGS, such complaint can be sent to KMUTNB's law office via the below channels.

1. <https://www.facebook.com/Legalkmutnb/>
2. <https://ita.kmutnb.ac.th/ita-contact/comments.php>
3. <https://www.kmutnb.ac.th/about/clue-reporting.aspx>

TGGGS, 6 June 2024