

## **Students of Equine Science at the University of Findlay, Ohio, as guests at the HfWU in Nürtingen**

**International exchange - learning from each other - networking**, that was the motto of the first so-called "Equine Summer School 2019" from 23.6.-2.7.2019, in which students of the University of Findlay, Ohio, took part. The "Summer School" was organized by the Horse Economics Department (Prof Dr Winter) and the International Office (Michele Renye) of the HfWU.

The American students spent 9 days together with the director, Mrs. Nicole Thuengen, at the HfWU in Nürtingen. For them it was their first visit to Germany. The aim was to get an insight into the German and international horse industry. The Summer School focused on lectures on "German Horse Economics", "Horse Economics in the Netherlands", "The Asian Horse Market", but lectures and practical demonstrations were also held on horse breeding and keeping. The American students were particularly interested in the excursions to the teaching and experimental facilities of the HfWU and to state stud of the county of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Marbach. Under the expert guidance of the director, Dr. Astrid von Velsen-Zerweck and Dr. Carolin Eiberger, the various horse breeds from warm-blood horses to Arabs and Black Forest Horses, as representatives of cold-blood horses, were presented. The different keeping systems in the 7 farms of the state stud showed the variety of horse keeping in Germany in an exemplary and impressive way. The visit to the animal feed plant of the company Marstall in Oberstaufen, Allgäu, showed the American guests the variety of horse feeds and their production. The managing director of Marstall, Friedhelm Donde, did not miss the opportunity to present the company together with Dr. Markus Bestfleisch, export manager of Marstall, and to discuss intensively with the guests the scientific background as well as similarities and differences in horse feeding in Germany and the USA. The visit of the open house, "LandErleben mit der HfWU", at the teaching and experimental farm "Hofgut Tachenhausen" on June 30th was a special treat. This was an opportunity to get to know various manufacturers from the agricultural and horse industry and their products up close. On the demonstration area there were practical demonstrations to different main topics, which caused a lot of sensation and amazement. But the Equine Summer School's programme was not limited to technical topics; the intensive exchange with students from the HfWU in the lectures or in the evening in the "Small Cellar" was also used intensively for networking. The cultural programme also included a visit to the historic city of Esslingen and the Hohenneuffen Castle.

The unanimous opinion of the students from Findlay: "A great and instructive time at the HfWU, which should definitely be repeated".



(Quelle: Winter)