

## **German ambassador receives US award for global education**

Washington (dpa)- The German Ambassador to the United States, Peter Wittig, has received special recognition from a US organization for his work in promoting global education and communications.

The Distinguished Diplomatic Service Award was made by the Washington-based World Affairs Council at its 35th annual global education gala on Tuesday.

Wittig, who received the award on behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany and the German diplomatic corps in the US, noted a new vocational education partnership sealed just last week between the German Marshall Fund of the United States and the US Department of Commerce.

The ambassador said at the event that both the US and Germany can learn from each other how to create better skills through technical training and apprenticeship programmes, a World Affairs Council official told dpa Wednesday in an email.

The new cooperation centres on "an issue that so far has not been in the focus of the international education community, but which is of major importance to economic growth and investment," Wittig was quoted as saying.

"And above all: It will benefit young people!" he said.

Three other awards were given by the council - to Reeta Roy, president of The MasterCard Foundation, Javier Miyares, president of the University of Maryland University College, and B.J. Levin, executive producer of VICE media on HBO cable television.

Magic Johnson, the retired US basketball star, put in a surprise appearance as part of the council's fundraising efforts.