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Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Australia-Germany Joint Research Cooperation Scheme

2015 Application Pack
Funding commencing in 2016

The Project acknowledges the financial
and other support by the Australian
Government Department of Education

About the Australia-Germany Research Cooperation Scheme

This scheme is a joint initiative of Universities Australia¹ and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)². It is jointly funded by Universities Australia member universities and the DAAD and also acknowledges the financial and other support by the Australian Government Department of Education.

It aims to foster research collaboration of the highest quality between Australian researchers from participating Australian universities³ and German researchers from German universities, research institutes and Fachhochschulen⁴. The support of early career researchers⁵ is a significant focus for this scheme.

The scheme will support travel and living expenses for Australian researchers to spend time at partner institutions working on joint projects in Germany and for collaborating German researchers to spend time at participating Australian universities.

The full terms and conditions of the scheme are included on pages 7–9 of this application pack.

How to apply

Australian applicants must use the correct Australian application form included in this application pack.

Each application must:

- specify a person responsible for making the application, for receiving the grant and for receiving all future correspondence in relation to the application and the scheme. Typically, this person will be the 'project leader' of the research group in question;

- be signed by the head of the school or other person with authority to sign grant applications;
- attach the curriculum vitae (CV) of all proposed Australian exchange participants (maximum five pages each). Each proposed participant's CV must include the date that his/her qualification was awarded;
- ensure the CV of the German project leader is attached (in English). NOTE: The inclusion of CVs for all German team members (if available in English) is highly recommended.

Australian applicants must submit an electronic copy of the application by email to the designated contact officer at his/her university. The contact details for each contact officer are available on pages 10–11 of this application pack and are updated regularly on the Universities Australia website.

The German collaborating partner must submit a corresponding application, **with the same project title**, to the DAAD in Germany by the closing date.

Important dates

- Applications for projects commencing in 2016 open 9 April 2015 and close 30 June 2015.
- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
- Applicants will be informed of the outcomes in writing in November 2015.
- Successful applicants are required to submit a project completion or interim report form to the designated contact officer by 28 February 2017. The report form is available from the Universities Australia website: www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au

Contacts

Requests for further information about the Scheme from potential applicants in Australian universities should, in the first instance, be directed to the relevant contact officer in each institution's research office (see pages 10–11). Further information may be obtained from: Kerrie Thornton at Universities Australia
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Requests from German applicants should be directed to: Martin Müller, Section P33, DAAD
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¹ Universities Australia is the national peak representative body for universities in Australia.

² www.daad.de The German Academic Exchange Service's mission is to advance Germany's international engagement in the fields of education, science, culture and research.

³ A list of participating Australian universities is available below.

⁴ Fachhochschulen are German higher education institutions that offer applied and practical courses of study.

⁵ For the purpose of this scheme 'early career researcher' means: a PhD student enrolled at a participating Australian university, a researcher who has had a Research Masters or PhD awarded within five years from the date of the application, or a researcher who received his or her award more than five years before the date of the application but who, due to career interruptions, for example non-research employment, misadventure or carer responsibilities, has had less than the equivalent of five cumulative years of research experience.

Application form

Project

Title of joint research project		
Name and code of field(s) of research by ABS Fields of Research code www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/0/6BB427AB9696C225CA2574180004463E	Name of field	FoR code
Source(s) of funding supporting project (ARC, NHMRC, institution, EU, industry etc.)		
DAAD research category that best describes your project	<input type="checkbox"/> Language and Cultural Studies (inc. Humanities and Media Studies) <input type="checkbox"/> Law, Economics, Social Sciences (inc. Business) <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics, Natural Sciences (inc. Computer, Physical and Biological Sciences) <input type="checkbox"/> Human Medicine (inc. Health, Dentistry, Psychiatry) <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural, Forestry, Nutritional Sciences (inc. Veterinary Sciences) <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering (inc. Built Environment, Architecture, Urban Design) <input type="checkbox"/> Art, Music, Sport (inc. Film and Museum Studies)	

Timeframe

Project start date		Project completion date	
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Australian institution

Institution			
Department			
Project leader			
Current position			
Address			
Telephone		Fax	
Email			

German institution (Institution of higher education or non-university research institution)

Institution			
Department			
Project leader			
Current position			
Qualifications of German team leader Briefly outline the experience and qualifications of the German team leader (maximum 150 words) and attach his/her CV to the application.			
Address			
Telephone		Fax	
Email			
Level of funding sought from the DAAD by German collaborator			

Funding requested (Budget summary)

Year 1	
Airfares Economy class	AUD
Per diem expenses AUD250 per day per person; maximum AUD3500 per month	AUD
Year 2	
Airfares Economy class	AUD
Per diem expenses AUD250 per day per person; maximum AUD3500 per month	AUD
Total Please note: maximum funding per project per year will be approximately AUD12,500	AUD

Visit schedule of Australian exchange participant(s)

Date	Names of project participants	Position	Purpose of visit	Duration of stay in Germany
Example				
May 201X	Smith, Alan	Research Fellow	Laboratory experiments	20 days

Visit schedule of corresponding German exchange participant(s)

Date	Names of project participants	Position	Purpose of visit	Duration of stay in Australia
Example				
July 201X	Gautier, Kerstin	Research Fellow	Laboratory experiments	30 days

Declaration of Australian project leader

I declare that all information provided in this application is true and accurate. If awarded a grant, I acknowledge that I will be responsible for spending it in accordance with the stated aims of the project, will comply with all conditions of funding set out in the Terms and Conditions of the scheme guidelines and will ensure that the Australian and German project participants receive appropriate research support services for the duration of the project. I confirm that the German collaborating institution has agreed to provide the infrastructure, equipment and all other services necessary to support the proposed exchange.

Name			
Signature		Date	

Declaration of head of department/school/institute

I certify that I have reviewed this proposal and will provide the necessary resources and facilities to support the research outlined in the application.

Name			
Signature		Date	

Selection criteria

Project title

Short description of project and its objectives (Maximum 200 words)

Innovative nature of research (Maximum 150 words)

Relevant preliminary work (Maximum 150 words)

Complementarity of the project partners (Maximum 150 words)

Participation of early career researchers (Maximum 150 words)

Benefits of the cooperation for Australia and Germany (Maximum 150 words)

Lasting impact, potential for future research outcomes, engagement with policy makers/industry (150 words)

Type of cooperation

- Beginning a new cooperation
- Developing an existing cooperation

Previous funding under Go8/ATN program with the same partner

- No
- Yes, in the year

Financial backup of the project

- Own institutional funds
- Third party funding, name of donor/institution

Terms and conditions

1. General

- 1.1 The Australia-Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme aims to foster research collaboration of the highest quality between Australian researchers from participating Universities Australia member universities¹ and German researchers from German universities, research institutes and Fachhochschulen².
- 1.2 The scheme will support exchanges (travel and living expenses) for Australian researchers to spend time at partner institutions in Germany and for collaborating German researchers to spend time at Australian universities.
- 1.3 The scheme aims to produce research outcomes and the exchange of skills and knowledge of mutual benefit to Australia and Germany.
- 1.4 The support of early career researchers³ is a significant focus of this scheme.

2. Assessment criteria

- 2.1 The main criteria to be used in assessing Australian applications are:
 - the quality and feasibility of the research project;
 - the experience and track record of the participating researchers;
 - the level of involvement of early career researchers.
- 2.2 Other criteria include:
 - knowledge transfer between the Australian and German researchers;
 - lasting impact or wider effect of the co-operation (can include engagement with policy makers/industry).

¹ A list of Australian universities participating in 2015 is available below.

² Fachhochschulen are German higher education institutions that offer applied and practical courses of study.

³ For the purpose of this scheme 'early career researcher' means: a PhD student enrolled at a participating Australian university, a researcher who has had a Research Masters or PhD awarded within five years from the date of the application, or a researcher who received his or her award more than five years before the date of the application but who, due to career interruptions, for example non-research employment, misadventure or carer responsibilities, has had less than the equivalent of five cumulative years of research experience.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1 Australian applicants must be:
 - Australian citizens or hold permanent residence status in Australia and be employed as an academic staff member in a teaching and research or research only role at a participating Australian university; or
 - PhD students enrolled at a participating Australian university who are part of a research project application submitted by an eligible staff member.
- 3.2 The scheme is open to Australian researchers/research groups at participating Australian universities in all academic fields involved in a collaborative project with German research partners.
- 3.3 Preference will be given to proposals which provide opportunities for exchanges between early career researchers.
- 3.4 Researchers from the Humanities and Social Sciences are encouraged to apply.
- 3.5 The eligibility of honorary/adjunct staff and international PhD students will be at the discretion of the university's research office and will be handled internally and on a case by case basis.
- 3.6 German applicants must be based in Germany and should consult the DAAD website for detailed eligibility information.
- 3.7 Australian applicants hoping to host research colleagues who are citizens of the countries listed on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website at www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/security/sanctions/pages/about-sanctions.aspx may find that they are affected by Autonomous Sanctions requirements. If this is the case, applicants are strongly advised to contact their Research Office to ascertain whether any impact is likely before finalising and submitting an application. If an application to host citizens of any of the listed countries on the DFAT site is successful, additional information will be required by the Australian host university in order to satisfy DFAT requirements. Applicants should note that applications that do not satisfy DFAT requirements may ultimately be deemed unsuccessful. At 23 March 2015, the countries subject to Australian Autonomous Sanctions included: Burma, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Yugoslavia (former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia), Iran, Libya, Syria, Ukraine, Zimbabwe.

4. Funding available

- 4.1 For the 2015 application round Australian universities have agreed to provide around AUD 1.4 million per annum with each Australian university contributing up to AUD 12,500 per project per annum to support its researchers travelling to Germany.
- 4.2 Each university will nominate its own level of financial contribution and will only fund projects which involve its own researchers.
- 4.3 Australian funding will cover the costs of:
 - return economy airfares from Australia to Germany;
 - a per diem of either AUD250 per day or a maximum of AUD3500 per month per person for each day spent at the host German institution, or at other locations in Germany necessary for the research in question.
- 4.4 For the 2015 application round the DAAD has agreed to provide up to EUR 1.07 million per annum to support the scheme. The maximum amount of funding available per German application is EUR 8,000 per project per year. Grants will cover the costs of economy airfares and living expenses.
- 4.5 Projects may run for a maximum of two years.
- 4.6 The maximum period of funding for a project under this scheme is two years. A simple extension of funding beyond two years is not permitted. Projects that are initially awarded one year of funding cannot request an extension. Successful researchers in this scheme can only re-apply to support a NEW project or a NEW phase within a project based on an already established collaboration.

5. Activities not covered under this scheme:

- basic research costs (staff and equipment). These must be met by the cooperating host institutions in Australia and Germany;
- activities already funded, or those which could reasonably be expected to be supported by other funding sources;
- activities providing purely study or training opportunities for participants;
- attendance at seminar/conference events;
- insurance in connection with the funded projects including travel insurance; and
- any private activities undertaken by participants in conjunction with the exchange.

6. Conditions of funding

- 6.1 Applicants will clearly outline details of the funding sought on the scheme application form.
- 6.2 Approved grants will be paid separately to the collaborators in Australia and Germany through their respective institutions.
- 6.3 Grant recipients must comply with all financial reporting requirements of their own institutions.
- 6.4 It is the responsibility of the grant recipients to ascertain whether it is necessary to obtain ethics committee approval for the proposed research activity in both Australia and Germany and to obtain such approval if it is required.
- 6.5 Grant recipients will be bound and protected by the policies of their institutions in relation to intellectual property, codes of conduct etc. However, whilst working at a partner institution, each exchange participant must respect and abide by its policies.
- 6.6 It is the responsibility of the grant recipients to ensure that any existing and resulting intellectual property is appropriately protected. This includes ensuring that the intellectual property interests of their institutions are adequately protected.
- 6.7 The scheme does not provide insurance in connection with funded projects. Australian grant recipients must ensure that their travel and research activities are covered by their own institution's insurance policies.
- 6.8 Recipients of grants in 2015 will travel in 2016 (or will outline their reasons for travelling later).
- 6.9 Recipients of grants in 2015 will submit a project report on the required form to the contact officer in his/her institution's research office by 28 February 2017. The report will include details of expenditure incurred, the activities undertaken and benefits derived. For projects funded for more than one year; a progress report must be submitted by 28 February 2017, with a final report to be provided within two months of the completion of the project.
- 6.10 Each grant recipient will agree to complete any surveys or request for information deemed necessary by Universities Australia or sponsoring institutions for the purposes of evaluating the scheme.

7. Application process

- 7.1 All Australian applications must be made on the required form and comply with the guidelines for Australian applicants.
- 7.2 The completed form must be emailed to the relevant contact officer by 30 June 2015.
- 7.3 Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- 7.4 To be considered, Australian applicants must ensure that their German collaborators submit a corresponding application with the same title to the DAAD in Germany.
- 7.5 Projects will be selected for funding based on the competitive process set out below.

8. Selection process

- 8.1 Each university research office will subject the applications it receives to its own quality assurance process and rank applications within each research discipline according to the assessment criteria listed in 2.1 and 2.2 above.
- 8.2 The research disciplines to be used for ranking purposes by the DAAD are:
 - Language and Cultural Studies (include Humanities and Media Studies)
 - Law, Economics, Social Sciences (include Business)
 - Mathematics, Natural Sciences (include Computer Science, Physical Sciences, Biological Sciences)
 - Human Medicine (include Health, Dentistry, Psychiatry)
 - Agricultural, Forestry, Nutritional Sciences (include Veterinary Sciences)
 - Engineering (include Built Environment, Architecture, Urban Design)
 - Art, Music, Sport (include Film and Museum Studies)

Australian universities will rank applications within similar research categories as the DAAD to align the results as far as possible.

- 8.3 These rankings will then be provided to the Universities Australia office in Canberra which will report these to the DAAD.
- 8.4 Universities Australia and the DAAD use a similar weighting scale for assessing each application:
 - 1/3 for the quality and feasibility of the project;

- 1/3 for qualifications of both research groups and their complementarities;
- 1/3 for inclusion of early career researchers.

- 8.5 A small number of bonus points can be awarded for:
 - knowledge transfer between the Australian and German researchers;
 - lasting impact or wider effect of the co-operation (engagement with policy makers/industry).
- 8.6 Universities Australia will advise the German selection panel of the outcomes of the reviews and ranking of applications conducted by each Australian university. These rankings will inform the German selection panel's consideration of the corresponding applications submitted by German collaborators.
- 8.7 A representative from Universities Australia will attend and advise the selection panel held in Germany in October 2015.
- 8.8 The DAAD will liaise and negotiate with the Universities Australia representative to ensure the DAAD's decisions resemble the Australian university rankings as far as possible.
- 8.9 Successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified of the outcomes of the selection process in writing.

9. Dispute resolution

For Australian applications, in the event that disputes arise about any aspect of the scheme's administration or the selection process, the decision of the Universities Australia office will be final. If necessary, the Universities Australia office will refer disputes for consideration to the Universities Australia Deputy Vice-Chancellors (Research) Committee.

10. Resolution of further procedural and project related issues

Universities Australia and the DAAD recognise that issues not addressed by these Terms and Conditions may arise. In this event, the issues will be resolved through written communication between Universities Australia and the DAAD.

Participating universities and contact officers

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