



Australia-Germany Joint Research Co-operation Scheme

Kerrie Thornton

Program Manager: k.thornton@universitiesaustralia.edu.au

About the scheme



- This scheme is a joint initiative of Universities Australia and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The German Academic Exchange Service's mission is to advance Germany's international engagement in the fields of education, science, culture and research. www.daad.de
- 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 Universities Australia member universities and German researchers from German universities, research institutes and universities of applied sciences; and
 - produce research outcomes and the exchange of skills and knowledge of mutual benefit to Australia and Germany.
- The scheme supports 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. Researchers must be working on a joint research project with their German counterparts, rather than simply furthering their own individual research in Germany.

Selection Criteria



The criteria to be used in assessing all applications are:

- 1/3 - the quality and feasibility of the research project;
- 1/3 - the experience and track record of the participating researchers;
- 1/3 - the level of involvement of early career researchers.

A small number of bonus can be awarded for:

- knowledge transfer between Australian and German collaborators;
- lasting impact or wider effect of the co-operation (can include engagement with policy makers or industry).

Proposals must provide opportunities for exchanges between early career researchers. However it is not compulsory to be an ECR to apply.

Early Career Researcher Definition



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;*
- *a researcher who received his or her award more than five years before the date of the application but who, due to career interruptions such as carer responsibilities, has had less than the equivalent of five cumulative years of research experience.*

This definition is a guide only and participating universities will have flexibility to apply their own criteria for assessing the eligibility of applicants.

Eligibility



Australian applicants must be:

- employed as an academic staff member in a teaching and research or research only role at the Australian university administering the application and with a contract at that university that is valid for the duration of the relevant funding period; or
- enrolled for the duration of the relevant funding period as a PhD or Research Masters student at the Australian university administering the application and part of a research project application submitted by an eligible staff member at that same university.

The eligibility of honorary/adjunct staff and international PhD students will be a matter for each university to decide internally and will be handled on a case by case basis. Please refer to your university's research office.

Eligibility (2)



The scheme is open to Australian researchers at participating Australian universities in all academic fields involved in a collaborative project with German research partners.

German researchers must be based at a publicly funded university or research institute in Germany and should consult the DAAD for further information.

Proposals must provide opportunities for exchanges between early career researchers. However it is not compulsory to be an ECR to apply.

Researchers from the Humanities and Social Sciences are encouraged to apply.

Funding Available



Australian funding is provided directly by the applicant's university and will cover the costs of:

- return economy airfares from Australia to Germany;
- a per diem of AUD3500 (maximum) per month per person.

The **maximum** amount of funding available per Australian application is AUD 12,500 per year.

Universities may elect to fund projects at a lower level.

The funding must be connected to relevant days of research work, not simply time spent in Germany. The requested amount must be itemised and justified on the application form.

Activities not covered



- 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;
- Any private activities undertaken by participants in conjunction with the exchange.

How to Apply



Australian applicants must use the Australian application form available on the Universities Australia website in March 2016. Please read the Terms and Conditions of the scheme before applying.

Each participating university has assigned a designated contact officer whose contact details are available on the Universities Australia website and in the official Terms and Conditions document.

The application must be submitted to the designated contact officer by email by the closing date, 17 June 2016.

The German collaborating partner must submit a corresponding application, **with the same project title**, to the DAAD in Bonn by the closing date. If no corresponding application is submitted the project will not be considered for funding. [Visit the DAAD website for more information.](#)

Important Dates for 2016 round



- Applications open on 4 April 2016
- Applications close on 17 June 2016
- Australian universities pre-select and rank applications
- Australian universities provide rankings to the UA office by 15 July 2016
- The selection panel meets in Bonn, Germany, in October 2016
- A UA representative participates on the panel as an advisor about the Australian rankings
- Applicants are advised in writing of the outcomes by the end of November 2016

Short history of the scheme

- The Group of Eight (Go8) universities have partnered with the DAAD since 2006. From 2007 to 2014 the Go8 universities provided \$5million to its joint research co-operation scheme. The DAAD provided a similar amount.
<https://go8.edu.au/programs-and-fellowships/go8-germany-joint-research-co-operation-scheme>
- The ATN universities have participated in a joint research co-operation scheme with the DAAD since 2010 and provided \$1.3 million for joint research projects in that time.
- In 2014 Universities Australia agreed to partner with the DAAD to make this opportunity available at a national level. During the first sector-wide selection round in 2015 UA member universities provided \$1.8 million to fund 100 projects. The list of projects funded in 2015 is available at:
<http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/australia-germany-joint-research>

Macquarie University Projects 2016-2017



Partner Institution	Project Title	Macquarie University Project Leader
Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences	On Expedition: Max Weidenbach's Diary and Drawings (1842-45)	Dr Susanne Binder
Kiel University	From Space to the Deep Earth	Dr Juan Carlo Afonso
Jena University	Spacial mode selective photonic devices for advanced fibre optic systems	Dr Alex Fuerbach

For more information



Andrew Burton-Bradley
Manager, Pre-award, Research Office
Macquarie University
Ph: 02 9850 4462
Email: research.preaward@mq.edu.au

Kerrie Thornton
Program Manager
Universities Australia
Ph: 02 4221 4675
Email: k.thornton@universitiesaustralia.edu.au

Martin Müller
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
Ph: +49 (0) 228 882 833
Email: m.mueller@daad.de