

Memorandum of Understanding

Australia-Germany Research Cooperation Scheme

Universities Australia (UA)

1 Geils Court, Deakin, ACT 2600 AUSTRALIA, represented by Ms Belinda Robinson, Chief Executive,

and

The German Academic Exchange Service

(Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e.V., DAAD)

Kennedyallee 50, 53175 Bonn, GERMANY, represented by Dr Dorothea Rüländ, General Secretary,

Herein referred to as “the parties” agree to the establishment of a joint scheme to fund research cooperation between Australia and the Federal Republic of Germany through facilitating the exchange of researchers. The scheme has the following terms:

Article 1

Aim of the Scheme

The scheme will fund the exchange of academics including early career researchers and junior scholars from both countries who are working on joint research projects.

The scheme constitutes a continuation of the cooperation schemes currently existing between the DAAD and the Group of Eight since 2006 and the Australian Technology Network since 2010, respectively, and where appropriate shall be carried out using the procedures and regulations practiced in those.

Article 2

Application and Funding Eligibility, Awards and Duration

- i) In Germany the scheme is aimed at academics from universities, institutes of technology and Fachhochschulen, as well as researchers and research groups from non-university research institutions.
- ii) In Australia the scheme is available to Universities Australia member universities.
- iii) Support available through the scheme covers travel and living costs for the participating staff during their stay aboard. The basic research costs (staff and equipment) on both sides of the research project are not funded. These funds must be secured from other sources.
- iv) The maximum duration of funding for a joint venture is two years subject to satisfactory reporting of the project outcomes of the first year. Initial project funding may be limited to one year.
- v) Each grant recipient will be bound by and protected by the policies of his/her own institution in relation to intellectual property, codes of conduct etc. this applies to both Australian and German researchers.

Article 3

Application and Selection Procedures

- i) The funding of exchanges in the scheme requires the cooperating partners on both sides to submit corresponding applications to their institution (the research office of the UA member university and the DAAD).
- ii) The selection of the eligible applicants will take into account the quality of the project, the qualification of the persons to take part in the project, the outcomes expected from the cooperation, the existing research support and the degree of participation of early career researchers and junior scholars.
- iii) UA will advise the DAAD of the outcomes of the quality assurance reviews and ranking of the preferred applications by the UA member universities to which the applications have been submitted. The DAAD will advise the German selection panel of the outcomes of the UA reviews of applications to assist in their evaluation and selection of the applications to be funded. A representative of UA shall attend the meeting of selection panels in Germany.
- iv) Further procedural or project related issues will be resolved through communication between UA and the DAAD.

Article 4

Scheme Budget and Attribution of Costs

- i) Each side has responsibility for the travel and living costs of its academics and decides on the amount of funding it will provide.
- ii) The costs of the program will be made available to the Australian side by UA member universities and on the German side by the DAAD from the resources of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research.

Article 5

Duration and Review

- i) The agreement will commence when the Memorandum of Understanding is executed by both parties and will cover the period from 1 January 2015 until 31 December 2017. It will automatically be extended by one year further at a time, unless one of the parties provides the nine months written notice of its intention to dissolve it.
- ii) The scheme will be reviewed by the parties in early 2017 and a decision will be made on whether to extend the scheme.

Date: 10 December 2014

For the German Academic Exchange
Service (DAAD)Dr Dorothea Rüländ
General Secretary

For Universities Australia (UA)

Ms Belinda Robinson
Chief Executive