Symposium

Austria2Australia

Research Collaborations between Austria and Australia – Opportunities, Benefits and Risks

http://australia-austria.at/austria2australia/.

TU Graz, 27 March 2020

In spring 2020, the Austrian-Australian Society will hold a symposium which will focus on collaboration in research and development in the fields of information technology, engineering and natural science. This event will build on the highly successful ÖAG symposium held in Vienna on 11 October 2018, entitled "Austria and Australia - A Global Relationship in the 21st Century", at which political and economic relations between the two countries were discussed and analysed.

Themes

Austria and Australia are geographically far apart, but ongoing free trade negotiations between the EU and Australia are bringing them closer together. Both countries recognise that technological innovations are the key to their future prosperity in an increasingly competitive international economic environment. Both countries see their universities and research institutions as having a crucial role to play in the research and development of innovative technologies.

Austrian and Australian universities and research institutions are already working together in various technological fields. However, there continues to be unrealised potential for further collaboration in areas of current and emerging research strengths and technological capabilities. Exciting opportunities now exist for Austrian and Australian universities to develop new research and development programs and to exchange researchers.

The Symposium will address the following questions:

1. What collaborations in technology-oriented research fields are already taking place and in what forms?
2. What are the incentives for research collaborations, and how do the partners benefit?
3. What are the benefits and risks of collaboration?
4. How can collaborations in research and development between the two countries be expanded and what other possibilities are available?
Organisation

Austrian-Australian Society / Österreichisch-Australische Gesellschaft (ÖAG) and Graz University of Technology (TUG) in cooperation with the Australian Embassy in Vienna and the Styrian Provincial Government.

Location: TU Graz, Festsaal, Rechbauerstraße 12, 8010 Graz
Time: Friday, 27 March 2020, 14:00-18.30

Participation is free of charge.
Registration: austria2australia(at)australia-austria.at
Call-for-Posters: http://australia-austria.at/austria2australia/call.html

Programme
(changes reserved)

14:00-15:00 Welcome addresses
− Univ.-Prof. Harald Kainz (Rector of the TU Graz)
− Australian Ambassador HE Mr. Richard Sadleir
− Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sandra Holasek (Styrian Provincial Government)
− Dr. Gabriele Weichart (ÖAG Secretary General, Univ. Vienna)

Keynote: Australian Innovation Policy (tba)

15:00-15:30 Theme 1: Natural Science and Engineering
Presenters: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Kevin Francesconi (Univ. Graz)
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Alfredo Soldati (TU Vienna)
Moderation: Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Keith Andrews (TU Graz)

15:30-16:00 Theme 2: Information Technology
Presenters: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Christian Gütl (TU Graz)
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Gerald Quirchmayr (Univ. Vienna)
Moderation: DDI Reinhard Fleck (ÖAG)

16:00-17:00 Break and poster presentations

17:00-17:30 Theme 3: Innovation Policies
Presenters: Dr. Roland Brandenburg (FFG – Beyond Europe)
Dr. Erich Prem (Eutema)
Moderation: Dr. Gerhard Berka (ÖAG)

17:30-18:30 Panel discussion: Strategy for intensifying research collaboration
Moderation: Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Hermann Mückler (PaN President, Univ. Vienna)

18:30-20:30 Reception
australia-austria.at
About the Austrian-Australian Society
Österreichisch-Australische Gesellschaft (ÖAG)

The Austrian-Australian Society (ÖAG) was founded in 1968 as a bilateral, non-profit, volunteer organization. It is part of a network of more than one hundred bilateral friendship associations under the umbrella of "PaN - Partner of all Nations".

The goals of the ÖAG are:

- To promote and maintain contacts and relations between Austria and Australia
- To gather and share information and knowledge about Australia
- To organize social, cultural, and scientific events

Contact:

Dr. Gabriele Weichart c/o
Universität Wien Institut für
Kultur- und
Sozialanthropologie
Universitätsstraße 7, NIG A-
1010 Wien
Mobil: +43-(0)681 10755661
Email: gabriele.weichart@univie.ac.at