

Newsletter

July - December 2024 | Australia

Hello!

In this issue, we share highlights from a series of recent activities that have brought the University of Bayreuth into exciting new collaborations with institutions across Australia. From enriching research exchanges and innovative academic visits to the development of new partnerships, we take a look at how these efforts are contributing to meaningful connections and opening doors for future opportunities. Read on to discover the latest developments in our international projects and the continued growth of Bayreuth's global network.

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JULY

ECR Chats in Bayreuth

In early July, Irina Herrschner spent two exciting weeks in Bayreuth, connecting with Graduate Students and Early Career Researchers (ECRs) in a series of enriching meetings, culminating in a special evening at Lamperie.

This event provided a unique opportunity for participants to come together, exchange experiences, and discuss their personal and professional ties to Australia—some reflecting on past visits, while others shared their plans to travel there in the future.

With contributions from Susanne Tittlbach and Nina Nestler, the gathering sparked dynamic conversations and created a lively atmosphere for networking. It was a night filled with potential collaborations and exciting new connections, shedding light on future opportunities to deepen ties with Australia.



Iwalewahaus visit to African Studies at UoM, IOTA, and NGV

From August 23-28, 2024, researchers from the Iwalewahaus S. Böllinger and K. Greven journeyed to Melbourne, Australia, for the second Indian Ocean Craft Triennial (IOTA), where they advanced collaboration between the University of Bayreuth's African Studies department and Melbourne's growing focus on Indigenous knowledge.

This visit also aligned with Melbourne's emerging Africa Engagement Plan, presenting an exciting opportunity for cross-continental partnerships. During their stay, they met with key figures such as Prof. Barry Judd and Prof. Aaron Corn, while also forging new research and exhibition collaborations with institutions including the University of Papua New Guinea and the Arts Society of Papua New Guinea.

At IOTA, Böllinger and Greven presented their research, highlighting connections between modernist movements in Pacific and Indian Ocean art, and engaged with artists and scholars to foster cultural exchange. This collaboration opens new horizons for African Studies in Bayreuth, facilitating intercontinental dialogues that merge European and Australian perspectives. The expanded research networks now incorporate critical Pacific viewpoints, promising innovative exhibition projects that bridge cultures and amplify Bayreuth's international visibility in Africa.

The trip also laid the foundation for future partnerships, with clear follow-up actions and the creation of an action plan for upcoming projects. Virtual meetings will be organized to continue the dialogue and deepen collaborative efforts. This journey, funded by the Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies, the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence, and various university initiatives, marked a significant step toward transformative research and the decolonization of academic practices. The partnership between Bayreuth and Melbourne promises to open doors for groundbreaking research in African studies, enriching both academic fields.



Collaborative Visit from ZET, Bayreuth

We were excited to host Dr. Matthias Welz and Tim Herrmansdoerfer from ZET (Zentrum für Energietechnik) in Bayreuth for an enriching visit to VH2, the Victorian Hydrogen Hub. VH2 is at the forefront of advancing hydrogen research and innovation, driving collaboration across academia, industry, and government to accelerate the shift to a low-carbon future.

This visit was made possible through the UA-DAAD program, which fosters academic partnerships between Australia and Germany. In addition, the group was awarded €50,000 from BMBF to support their ongoing collaborative efforts, highlighting the crucial role of international cooperation in addressing global challenges.

During their time at VH2, Dr. Welz and Mr. Herrmansdoerfer engaged in stimulating discussions with our team and academics from Swinburne University. They also met with our two joint PhD candidates, exploring their research developments and discussing exciting possibilities for future projects. This interaction not only enhanced the candidates' research journeys but also deepened the relationship between our institutions.

The collaboration reached new heights with a seminar hosted at the University of Melbourne, skillfully facilitated by the Melbourne Engagement Initiative (MEI). This event sparked lively conversations on the latest trends and innovations in hydrogen technologies, forging valuable connections between our teams and the broader academic community. Attendees left inspired by the insights shared and eager to explore the collaborative research opportunities ahead. As we continue this exciting journey, we look forward to building on the momentum of this visit and pursuing new projects that draw on our collective expertise.



Bavaria-Queensland Research Grant Announcement

We are excited to announce the recipients of the Bavaria-Queensland Research Grant, an initiative designed to foster innovative collaborations between researchers in Bavaria and Queensland.

This grant supports groundbreaking projects that address pressing global challenges through joint research efforts.

Congratulations to the seed grant recipients from Bayreuth University:

1. ****University of Bayreuth and University of Queensland**** – ***Comparison of Legal Frameworks for Climate Change***: This project aims to analyze and compare the legal frameworks addressing climate change in Bavaria and Queensland, identifying best practices and opportunities for enhancing legal responses to climate challenges.

2. ****University of Bayreuth and Queensland University of Technology**** – ***Managing the Use of Generative AI***: This research focuses on developing a regulatory approach for the use of generative artificial intelligence in industry, seeking to balance innovation and ethical considerations in both regions.

These projects exemplify the collaborative spirit and innovation that the Bavaria-Queensland Research Grant promotes. By tackling critical issues such as climate change and the regulation of emerging technologies, these teams are poised to make significant contributions to their fields. Congratulations to all recipients, and we look forward to seeing the impactful outcomes of their research!



ARMS Presentation in Darwin

The Australian Research Management Symposium (ARMS) 2024 in Darwin offered an exciting and diverse program designed to elevate research management practices across Australia. With a focus on research governance, funding strategies, and stakeholder engagement, the symposium provided a vibrant space for collaboration and knowledge-sharing among participants.

A highlight of the event was a joint presentation by Dr. Irina Herrschner from the Gateway Office in Melbourne and Dr. Mark Gregory from CRE at the University of Melbourne. Their presentation, titled "Germany - Australia Research Collaborations: Lessons from Building and Maintaining International Partnerships in a Challenging Global Landscape," spotlighted the strengths of the institutional partnership between their organizations, showcasing how they've navigated the complexities of international collaborations in today's dynamic global environment.

ARMS 2024 proved to be a valuable platform for researchers and practitioners to connect, exchange ideas, and inspire one another. It underscored the importance of collaboration in addressing the complex challenges of our time, leaving participants with renewed enthusiasm for future partnerships and research opportunities.



D3Mat Grant

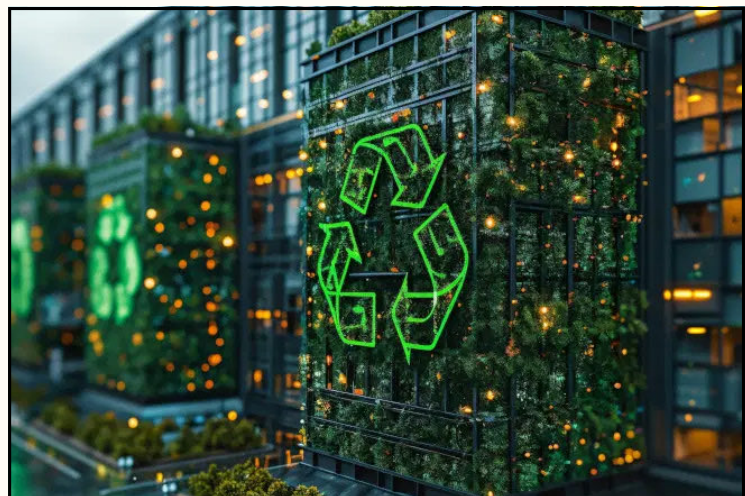
The D3Mat (Data-Driven Materials Science) initiative at the University of Bayreuth is at the forefront of revolutionizing materials science by seamlessly integrating data science and artificial intelligence.

At the heart of this groundbreaking initiative are the joint PhD researchers, who bring a unique interdisciplinary approach by combining their expertise in both materials science and computational methods. These talented students are driving innovation as they work at the dynamic intersection of data analysis, predictive modeling, and material design, paving the way for the development of novel materials with optimized properties.

Through fostering international collaboration and offering joint PhD opportunities, D3Mat is not only enhancing research outcomes but also shaping the next generation of scientists equipped to tackle the pressing challenges in fields such as energy, electronics, and sustainable materials development. The presence of joint PhD researchers amplifies the initiative's global reach, promoting the exchange of knowledge and expertise across borders.

The program will officially launch in February, bringing together all partners from universities and industry for a collaborative event that will set the stage for future advancements in materials science.

More: <https://www.uni-bayreuth.de/en/d3mat>



Two LLM candidates at MLS

Johannes Kühhorn and Antonia Friedle, two exceptional law students from the University of Bayreuth, are currently in Melbourne, Australia, pursuing their Master of Laws (LL.M.) degrees at the renowned Melbourne Law School (MLS).

This incredible opportunity is made possible by our prestigious scholarship program, which allows talented students to expand their legal expertise at one of the world's top-ranked law schools.

During their time in Melbourne, Johannes and Antonia are immersing themselves in MLS's challenging academic environment, collaborating with international legal experts, and gaining valuable insights into Australian legal practices. Beyond refining their legal skills, their experience in Melbourne offers a unique cultural immersion, enriching both their personal and professional growth.

Applications are now open for the next round of this exceptional program, offering another group of students the chance to advance their careers and experience the global landscape of law. For more information, including how to apply, visit [here](#).



Digital Health and Digital Universities

Professor Eymann recently traveled to Melbourne and Brisbane, where he led a series of impactful seminars and engaged in stimulating discussions on innovative approaches to legal education and research.

While in Melbourne, at the Australian Catholic University (ACU), he delivered a highly anticipated seminar titled "Industry PhD Program: A Case Study from Germany." This session offered valuable insights into Germany's unique model of integrating academic research with industry collaboration, sparking dynamic conversations about the potential for similar initiatives in Australia—particularly in strengthening ties between universities and industry partners.

During his visit, Professor Eymann also met with Daniel Kapurro and Reeva Ledermann to discuss future visits of doctoral candidates and explore exciting opportunities for collaboration in Digital Health with the University of Melbourne and James Boyd at La Trobe University.

In Brisbane, Professor Eymann held a seminar at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) and visited longstanding research partners, furthering collaborative projects and deepening ties for future endeavors.



Filming Australia – MOOC, interviews and UBTGreentalks

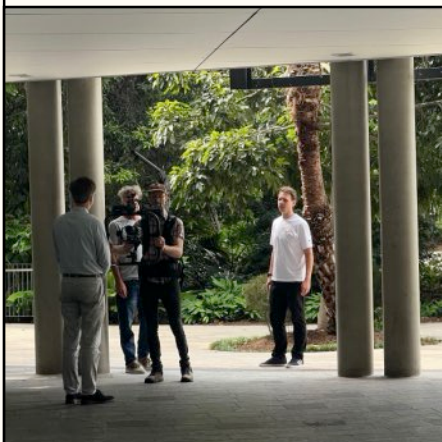
A recent delegation from the University of Bayreuth traveled to Australia to embark on a range of exciting new initiatives in education and research. One of the standout moments of the visit was the filming of a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Biomaterials, led by Professor Thomas Scheibel.

This course will offer learners worldwide an in-depth exploration of the science and applications of biomaterials, a rapidly advancing field that is driving innovation in medicine, sustainable technologies, and materials science.

The team also filmed a new series of UBT Green Talks, hosted by Mirna Al'Masri, which focuses on groundbreaking research in sustainability and green technologies. These thought-provoking talks aim to ignite global conversations on sustainability practices and the future of green innovation, featuring contributions from experts at both Bayreuth and in Australia.

In addition, Dr. Arnim Heinemann and Dr. Irina Herrschner conducted a series of insightful interviews with research collaborators in Australia, exploring new opportunities for joint research projects and future partnerships. These discussions underscored the strength of ongoing collaborations and laid the groundwork for exciting ventures in fields such as biomaterials, environmental sciences, and interdisciplinary research.

These initiatives highlight the University of Bayreuth's unwavering commitment to advancing education, sustainability, and international collaboration. Stay tuned for the upcoming Biomaterials MOOC and UBT Green Talks series, which will soon be available to a global audience!



COMING UP

Graduate School and GOs Seminar: Finding your feet in an international research landscape

GATEWAY OFFICES AND UNIVERSITY OF BAYREUTH GRADUATE SCHOOL  UNIVERSITÄT BAYREUTH



FINDING YOUR FEET IN A GLOBALLY DIVERSE ACADEMIC LANDSCAPE

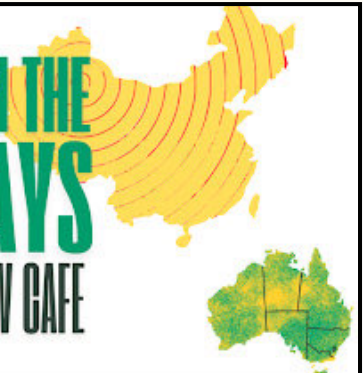
FUNDING MECHANISMS
CAREER PROGRESSION BEYOND ACADEMIA IN AUSTRALIA, CHINA, AND GERMANY

FRIDAY 10 JANUARY
TIME 9:00AM - 1PM
LOCATION CAMPUS UBT B11

REGISTRATION VIA BAYDOC / WIN-UBT PORTAL

Coffee with the Gateways

COFFEE WITH THE GATEWAYS
9TH JAN 2025 RW CAFE



9am	What are the Gateway Offices and what can we do for you?
10am	Introduction to living, and studying in China and in Australia. Ask us anything!
11am	Drop-in Session for all staff and students interested in studying in or working with the Asia-Pacific
12pm	Informal Lunch - there might even be Vegemite...
1pm	Joint PhD? Where to start and what to expect
2pm	International collaboration and funding opportunities
3pm	Drop-in session for anyone interested in the Gateway Offices and in studying and/or researching in Oceania and Asia

 UNIVERSITÄT BAYREUTH