

November 2019

University Alliance for Sustainability

Call for applications for research and study stays 2020 in the field of sustainability at

Peking University, China (PKU)

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (HUJI)

University of British Columbia, Canada (UBC)

St. Petersburg State University, Russia (SPbU)

One of the key components of Freie Universität's internationalization strategy is to establish Strategic Partnerships with a number of leading international research universities. Within the framework of the University Alliance for Sustainability, Freie Universität Berlin, together with its four strategic partners, will focus on sustainability as a comprehensive topic for collaborating in research, teaching, and campus management.

For 2020, the University Alliance for Sustainability (UAS) offers exchange schemes for study and research stays at four of FU Berlin's strategic partner universities. Applicants should address the **17 Sustainable Development Goals** in their letters of motivation. Please note that the exchanges under the current call have to be completed in 2020.

The four partners will also release a call for applications for senior research stays at Freie Universität Berlin. If you would like to invite someone from the partner universities for activity 2, please direct them to the call at their respective university for possible funding.

Funding lines:

1) Explorative Research Visits (Preparation of research projects)¹

Eligibility:	FUB researchers on the postdoc level and up
Duration:	max. 1 week at the partner university
Funding:	travel costs according to BRKG ² . Accommodations costs are expected to be covered by the host university.
Objectives:	discussion about and development of possible new research projects in the field of sustainability
Quantity:	2 researchers per partner university

¹ See eligibility for UAS travel policy.

² Federal Travelling Expenses Act.

2) Senior Research Stays

Eligibility:	FUB researchers on the postdoc level and up
Duration:	max. 3 weeks at the partner university
Funding:	travel and accommodation costs according to BRKG
Objectives:	development of new research projects or research in already existing projects on the topic of sustainability
Quantity:	1 researcher per partner university

3) Junior Research Stays

Eligibility:	FUB doctoral students
Duration:	max. 2 months at the partner university
Funding:	travel costs and monthly scholarship according to DAAD list*
Objectives:	research on own PhD subject on the topic of sustainability
Quantity:	1 doctoral student for each partner university

4) Student Research and Study Stays

Eligibility:	FUB students from all academic disciplines
Duration:	max. 3 months at the partner university
Funding:	travel costs and monthly scholarship according to DAAD list*
Objectives:	study, research, or internship stays in the field of sustainability at the partner university
Quantity:	1 student for each partner university

Application Details

The application deadline is **January 27, 2020**.

Applications need to be thematically focused on questions relating to sustainability. Projects will be selected on a competitive basis with particular attention to the following criteria:

- Clearly formulated goals and feasibility of the project (incl. timeline)
- Project's relevance to the field of sustainability
- Special consideration of aspects such as inter- and transdisciplinary relevance, use of participative and innovative techniques and methods, or use of the university itself as a topic for research
- For administrative staff: relevance and possible results of the exchange as well as transfer options to Freie Universität Berlin

Eligibility

Students, researchers, and employees of Freie Universität Berlin are eligible to apply. The relevant status groups are outlined in the specifications above.

Applicants for **Explorative Research Visits** planning a research program shorter than 1 week need to – in addition to their letter of motivation – outline, why this in-person exchange cannot be substituted by modes of virtual exchange. Should you be interested in learning more about virtual exchange formats you are welcome to contact the UAS Team.

Application documents

To allow for a smooth selection process, applications shall be in English, no longer than four pages, and handed in electronically.

Please send in the following documents to the address below:

- Cover Sheet (available on our website)
- Description of the planned project and its relevance to the issue at hand (max. 4 pages, in English) including timeline and estimated costs
- Letter of motivation drawing on the following questions:
 - o How does the UAS exchange relate to your studies/research or work?
 - o How do you imagine your role as ambassador for the UAS at the partner university and your home institution?
- Invitation by the partner university where available, or proof of contact to the partner institution
- For researchers: written endorsement statement of respective faculty/department
- For students: transcript of records, confirmation of enrollment

* DAAD-Rates for Students and Doctoral Students

	Travel costs	Monthly scholarship (Bachelor's/ Master's students)	Monthly scholarship (Doctoral students)
Peking University	€ 850	€ 1075	€ 1675
Hebrew University of Jerusalem	€ 400	€ 1125	€ 1750
University of British Columbia	€ 1300	€ 1025	€ 1625
St. Petersburg State University	€ 275	€ 950	€ 1525

Please note that doctoral students who are employed by Freie Universität Berlin have to take a leave of absence for their research stay abroad. Please contact us prior to your application, if you have any questions on this.

Contact Person

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