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## Funding to support Australian–German Research announced - ATN

The **Australian Technology Network of Universities (ATN)** and the German Government's **German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)** have announced \$400,000 support for 13 new projects under a research exchange scheme between ATN and German researchers.

The DAAD scheme is the world's largest scholarship program supporting the exchange of academics, including early career researchers and junior scholars from both countries who are working on joint research projects.

Amongst the projects jointly funded by the ATN and DAAD will be research in cancer diagnosis, renewable energy generation, art & architecture, tissue engineering, social media and nanotechnology.

The University of South Australia and The Research Centre Jülich will work on a project to develop the diagnostic detection of circulating cancer cells using nanotechnology. This work holds the promise of next-generation technologies to provide early detection and analysis of the molecular structure of rare cancers through non-invasive techniques.

Researchers from RMIT University and Ulm University will pursue renewable energy solutions through the optimisation of biogas production from industrial wastes in the sugar and meat industries, while Queensland University of Technology will team with Jacobs University Bremen to investigate the influence of German Modernism and the Bauhaus in Australia.

*The ATN-DAAD Joint Research Cooperation Scheme* provides two years of funding for exchange visits between ATN and German researchers to work on high-quality research projects. The program has an emphasis on fast-tracking the careers of proven young researchers through exposure to international collaborations and international best practice in research.

ATN Chair, Professor Jeanette Hackett, said she was "deeply impressed" with the quality of applications to the ATN-DAAD scheme and their potential to contribute to the Australian community.

"It is exciting to see the wide range of cutting-edge research capacity that resides within the ATN, especially when we are now able to share this on an international stage through the ATN-DAAD scheme with Germany."

"Germany is the innovation powerhouse of Europe and the exemplar of how working smarter means working better in practice. The ATN looks forward to realising the opportunities provided under the ATN-DAAD scheme for our established and also future research stars to undertake research in this environment. I am also confident that this scheme will allow the ATN to establish enduring partnerships between Australian and German researchers and universities. "

The ATN-DAAD scheme will have a 2012 round, for funding in 2013-2014, with a call for applications expected in April 2012.

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