

## Call for proposals for JARA Seed Fund projects in JARA-FIT

### 1. Background

The RWTH Aachen University and the Forschungszentrum Jülich share an effective and broadly visible scientific cooperation in different research fields. To support the formation of a strategic alliance in the most promising of the existing and emerging joint research fields and to achieve a new quality of integration and collaboration between the institutions the **Jülich-Aachen Research Alliance (JARA)** was established. During the first phase of the Excellence Initiative JARA has provided Seed Funds with the incentive to have new ideas developed to the point where they can attract subsequent third-party funding. This initiative was highly successful. As a measure to further strengthen the scientific collaborations between Aachen and Jülich, JARA will grant **Seed Funds** also in the second phase of the Excellence Initiative within its research field **Future Information Technology (JARA-FIT)**.

### 2. Scope of Projects

The proposed projects should address research targets of the section JARA-FIT. The topics should be new, creative and can be of high risk. The topics should not already be addressed by national or international publicly funding programs.

### 3. Selection and Evaluation Criteria:

The selection criteria for proposals submitted will be

- involvement or support by at least one Institute from RWTH Aachen University as well as one institute from the Forschungszentrum Jülich,
- support of the scientific or structural aims of the section JARA-FIT,
- originality,
- interdisciplinarity,,
- subsidiarity (funding through other sources is not yet possible),
- potential impact on the research strategy and structure of RWTH Aachen University and Forschungszentrum Jülich
- adequateness of research approach.

The projects will be selected and evaluated by the JARA section.

Major evaluation criteria after project completion will be the quality of the research results obtained and the future perspectives of the research topic based on a final report which has to be provided 18 month after project closure and details

- a promising proposed third-party funded follow-up project (DFG, BMBF, EU, ...),
- publications in peer-reviewed journals, and
- granted patents or promising patent applications.

#### 4. Funding

Seed Funds will be provided for the funding line JARA-Start where projects will be funded with up to 50,000 € for up to one year. The funding of early career scientists is appreciated. Scientists in a non-permanent position can apply for the funding of their own position.

The budget for a Seed Fund project is provided by the Excellence Initiative of the German federal and state governments and makes allowances to the allocation model aiming for 30 % share of females funded by the Institutional Strategy.

Eligible costs are: Staff and student expenses, travel and subsistence costs, support for workshops and conferences, and consumables and equipment.

#### 5. General Conditions

Grant proposals can be submitted by all scientists of the JARA section FIT who hold a doctoral degree. Please also note the regulations of the “Richtlinien zur Vergabe von JARA-Seed Funds in ZUK II” (only in German) and “Verwendungsrichtlinien für Exzellenzeinrichtungen sowie DFG-Forschungszentren” (ExIn10 – 10/12, only in German).

#### 6. Proposal Structure and Content

The proposal can be written in German or English. It should be no more than 10 pages in length, type size Arial 11, line spacing 1,5, and address the following issues:

- Cover Sheet: Name and address of applicant, Summary, duration and financial plan (*available in electronic form from Generalsekretariat JARA: [info@jara.org](mailto:info@jara.org)*).
- Project Outline: Goals and approach (methodology); Current status of research; Expected long term impact and relevance of the project for the JARA section; Existing and intended collaboration between scientists from Aachen and from Jülich within the scope of the proposal; Use of existing infrastructure in Aachen and/or Jülich, Current obstacles for external funding; Working and financial plan.
- Applicant(s): Short CV of the scientist(s) participating in this project emphasizing the scientific work and selected 5 publications of relevance to the proposal.

#### 7. Open Calls

**1<sup>st</sup> call JARA-FIT:** Deadline for submission: Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013

The grant proposal should be submitted by Email to Generalsekretariat JARA: [info@jara.org](mailto:info@jara.org)

Evaluation with presentation of the project: Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 (starting 2 p.m.)

Project Start: after May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013

There will be a **2<sup>nd</sup> call** for Seed Fund projects in JARA-FIT which will be published beginning of 2014.

For further questions concerning the open call for seed fund projects in JARA-FIT please contact:

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