Programme details

The Theodore von Kármán Fellowship—visiting scholars programme for incoming international scientists

The background
The Exploratory Research Space (ERS) annually invites applications for its Theodore von Kármán Fellowship to support research stays of internationally recognized scientists. The purpose of this funding programme is to foster international exchange and interdisciplinary dialogue at the university.

The Fellowship
Calls are published annually in autumn with funding provided for visits in the following year. Research stays can last from roughly one week to several months. During their stay fellows can be involved in existing projects or generate and presume new research ideas in co-operation with RWTH professors. Research projects have to cross the boundaries of RWTH faculties.

ERS funding can cover travel expenses, accommodation costs (e.g. at the RWTH guest house), workshops and other events. As a general rule, the visiting fellow’s research stay must be completed and all expenses be paid by 31 December of the year for which the funding has been granted.

Eligibility
Open to RWTH professors. Only RWTH researchers are eligible to apply for the fellowship. Proposals that are not submitted by RWTH applicants will not be considered.

Application criteria
- **Interdisciplinarity**: at least two RWTH professors from different faculties jointly invite and mentor the guest during his or her stay.
- **Scientific reputation** of the visiting scholar.
- **Subsidiarity**: no other sources of external or internal funding exist.

During his or her visit the fellow is supposed to:
1. Give a talk, to which the whole RWTH community will be invited. In this talk, fellows should also present their home university.
2. Hold a lecture and be available for interested students.
How to apply

Application requirements
The proposals (in pdf format) can be written in English or German and should contain:

1. Names of the inviting and responsible RWTH professors and their respective institutes
2. A short letter outlining the motivation of the guest’s invitation
3. A CV of the visiting scientist including the five most important publications
4. Research themes and activities planned for the stay in Aachen (including talk and lecture of visiting scholar)
5. A budget plan (please note that VAT is due for all payments made to accounts outside Germany)

Submission and evaluation

Applications must be submitted through our online submission platform at http://portal.ers.rwth-aachen.de. All applications are assessed by the enlarged ERS International Board.

ERS International Board

Univ.-Prof. Dr. rer. soc. Ute Habel
Univ.-Prof. Dr.med. Tim Brümmendorf
Univ.-Prof. Dr. phil. Stella Neumann
Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Heinz Pitsch
Univ.-Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Matthias Wuttig
Dr. rer. nat. Elke Müller
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