

**Mitteilungen der
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen****17.01.2014****5.42.00 Nr. 9**
Kooperationsabkommen**Cooperation agreement
between
Justus Liebig University Giessen (JLU), Germany
and
Universidad Austral de Chile (UACH), Chile**

The University of Giessen, represented by the University President, Prof. Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee, according to the "Hochschulgesetz" (§ 44 Section 1, clause 1, HHG), with seat in Ludwigstrasse 23, 35390 Giessen, Germany and the Universidad Austral de Chile, represented by its Rector Dr. Victor Cubillos Godoy, a permanent residents of the city of Valdivia, sign this Cooperation Agreement to facilitate collaborative research and teaching activities based on the agreement set out below.

Justus Liebig University Giessen is a corporation under public law with legal capacity and at the same time a state institution which was founded in 1607 and is dedicated to research and education.

Universidad Austral de Chile, hereinafter referred to as 'UACH', is a Corporation under Private Law and a nonprofit institution of Higher Education. Its mission is to contribute to the cultural and material progress of society through the generation and diffusion of scientific and humanistic knowledge, technological advances, and artistic creations, in accordance with the University's historical traditions and the region and country's requirements for sustainable development.

In accordance with the request for the establishment of cooperation between the two universities, Justus Liebig University Giessen (Germany) and UACH agree to the following exchange agreement.

Contract conditions**Paragraph 1 – Purpose**

The aim of the agreement is to promote international exchange and closer cooperation in research and teaching as well as the development of joint projects between Justus Liebig University Giessen and UACH. The agreement forms the basis of an enhanced cooperation comprising all areas of interest and a wide range of activities in different fields.

Paragraph 2 – Goals

The contracting parties intend to cooperate academically in the following areas:

1. Exchange of teaching staff and researchers for the planning or implementation of research and teaching projects.
2. Exchange of undergraduate and graduate students.
3. Mutual support in the supervision and international networking of doctoral candidates (for example, by simplifying access to research institutions and by facilitating contacts to scholars as well as making it possible to present projects at the institutions concerned).

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4. Promotion and common supervising of graduate student projects in the context of a binational degree (Cotutelle).
5. Exchange of information about courses of study and study projects, as well as corresponding research activities and/or intentions to expand the teaching or research fields of the respective organization.
6. Exchange of scientific publications.
7. Use of the available infrastructures for research in the areas of the international cooperation.
8. Development of common research and teaching projects.
9. Intensification of scholarly relationships through symposiums/ summer schools/ conferences/ workshops carried out together.

Paragraph 3 – Coordinator

To ensure and facilitate the implementation of the measures of this agreement, each institution shall appoint an Exchange Coordinator. The Exchange Coordinator belongs, for both institutions, to the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences (UACH) and to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (JLU Giessen) respectively, as the agreement was initiated by academics of these faculties. The Exchange Coordinator shall prepare an annual work plan, evaluate the latter upon its completion and, in accordance with University regulations, report to the faculty deans on the progress of cooperation.

Paragraph 4 – Implementation

Both Universities declare themselves ready and willing to admit qualified undergraduate and postgraduate students of the partner institution to courses of study.

1. The number of exchange students from each institution shall be determined in an annual plan of action. The fulfilment of this plan of action shall depend on the respective financial situation of each party and on other conditions. The activities agreed shall in the first instance be financed via third-party funding. The parties to this Agreement shall endeavour to obtain third-party financing for the goals and activities within the domains of research, teaching, and exchange as set out in §2 above. Ease of access to existing facilities and services within each institution shall be guaranteed within the framework of this Agreement.
2. Concerning the admission of graduate students to the respective graduate centers, the directors, managing directors and coordinators of both graduate centers will make decisions according to their respective admission procedures.

Paragraph 5 – Exchange Conditions

1. Students who take part in the exchange shall pay any tuition or other academic and related fees to their home university, and are exempted from such payments to the host university. Administrative fees (e. g. at JLU semester contributions of approximately 200 Euros per semester), expenses for transport, residence (board and lodging), as well as health insurance and other costs in accordance with the regulations of the host country, shall be carried by the respective students. During the stay in the host country the students are obliged to have sufficient health insurance coverage.
2. Independently of the above mentioned exemption, all students who apply to be received by UACH must pay an enrolment fee (derecho de admision). The amount of this specific fee will be stipulated annually and informed previously to the application, being for the year 2013 of about 120 US dollars.
3. The host institution shall assist the guests of the partner institution to the best of its ability in obtaining the respective permits (visa, research permits, etc.) that are necessary to enable the implementation of this agreement. The parties of this contract shall permit the exchange participants who are sent on the basis of this agreement to use their academic and social facilities during their stay.
4. Both parties agree that the number of participating teachers and researchers must be in accordance with the needs and capacities of the host university. Acceptance of visiting teachers and researchers shall depend on concrete proof of available financial means (e.g., grants and stipends), and the period of guest residence shall be limited.
5. Unless otherwise agreed between both institutions, academic staff that participates in the exchange program will not incur any employment relationship with the host institution. Thus under all circumstances the employment relationship of the academic staff will remain with the University of origin.
6. No financial obligation shall arise from the present Agreement. Both parties shall undertake to apply to national and international support programs for funding of student exchanges. The financial requirements

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of the respective host University (for example enrolment fees, consolidated fee for the use of university facilities) are to be respected and met by the visiting student.

7. In order to cover the costs arising from the period of residence of visiting scholars and researchers, both universities shall make use of third-party funding. Both universities shall do all they can to obtain the financing necessary for the fulfilment of the partnership.

Paragraph 6 – Liability

It is hereby specified that neither of the contracting parties agree to be liable for damages or injuries that may result unintentionally or by means of a higher power, in particular due to the loss of working hours in administration and academic teaching.

Paragraph 7 – Duration and termination

1. Informal requests for participation shall be addressed to the respective coordinator.
2. This agreement may be altered by mutual agreement in writing.
3. This agreement shall come into effect as of the day of its ratification by the representatives of both universities and is valid for three years effective as of the day of ratification. The agreement shall be renewed automatically on a yearly basis if notice of termination is not given six months before expiration.

The agreement may be terminated by any of the parties by written notice 60 days before termination.

Student exchange programs, Cotutelle arrangements for graduate students and other common activities that are already being carried out at the time of the notice are to be continued and supervised together until their originally planned conclusion is reached.

4. In order to realize and implement the agreement, four identical copies of the agreement, two in English and two in Spanish shall be signed by the partners.

This exchange agreement is an expression of goodwill on both sides. Problems that might arise due to interpretation, fulfilment or further development of the agreement, shall be solved by mutual agreement.

Paragraph 8: LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES

President of the University of Giessen, Prof. Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee, acting as a legal representative of the Institution, according to the "Hochschulgesetz" (§ 44 Section 1, clause 1, HHG).

Rector of the Universidad Austral de Chile, Dr. Victor Cubillos Godoy, acting as legal representative of the Institution as recorded in the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Higher University Council of 18 June 2010, recorded publicly in Valdivia on July 2, 2010, by the Notary Carmen Podlech Michaud, code N ° 2696-2010.

Valdivia, 25. November 2013
 Para la Universidad Austral de Chile
 Dr. Victor Cubillos Godoy
 Rector

Giessen, 15. Mai 2013
 Para Justus Liebig University Giessen
 Prof. Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee
 Presidente