

## Go8-GERMANY RESEARCH EXCHANGE

In early November the Go8 announced the funding of 36 new joint research projects worth AUD1.2 million 2010-11 under the Go8-Germany Research Co-operation Scheme.

Since signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in 2007, the Go8-DAAD Scheme has provided over AUD3 million for travel and living costs to foster research collaboration of the highest quality between Australian researchers from Go8 universities and German researchers.

A voluntary panel of senior German academics met with a Go8 representative at the DAAD's headquarters in Germany's former capital city, Bonn, on Monday 5 October, to select the successful projects from a total of 82 applications.

With a budget of over €250 million per year, the DAAD is the world's largest organisation of its kind. The DAAD's Manager of Australia and Oceania Department, Dr Ursula Toyka Fuong, said she was delighted that the number of applications in the third year of the scheme remains so high because it shows how much interest there is from both countries in working together.

**"The scheme is clearly filling an important need for mobility funding," said Dr Toyka-Fuong.**

In his first week as Australia's Ambassador to Germany, HE Peter Tesch said "the Go8-DAAD Research Scheme facilitates a diverse range of innovative research collaborations and makes a significant contribution to enhancing the Australian-German relationship".

A comprehensive list of the projects to be funded in 2010-11 and in previous funding rounds is available from [www.go8.edu.au](http://www.go8.edu.au).

## Go8 ATTENDS CHINA 9 PRESIDENTS' MEETING



*Professor Hilmer addresses C9 and HK delegates in Xi'an*

A Go8 delegation was invited to the China 9 and Hong Kong Presidents' Meeting, "Building World-Class Universities," at the Xi'an Jiaotong University from 8-10 October.

The Consortium of China 9 Research Universities (C9) is a group of nine leading and prestigious research-intensive universities in China, including Peking University, Tsinghua

University, Zhejiang University, Fudan University, Nanjing University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Harbin Institute of Technology, Xi'an Jiaotong University and University of Science and Technology China. This year, Presidents of The University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and The Chinese University of Hong Kong also participated in the forum.

C9, HK and Go8 delegates gathered in the ancient city of Xi'an to discuss educational reform, research training and the development of world-class universities. Professor Fred Hilmer AO, Vice-Chancellor of The University of New South Wales, presented potential areas of collaboration between the Go8 and C9.

At the meeting, the C9 member universities formally signed an 'Agreement on Personnel Training, Cooperation and Exchange among World-Class Universities'.

To enhance and formalise the existing cooperation between the Go8 and C9, the current, former and future Chairs of the C9 will visit Australia and join the Go8 Board Meeting in November 2009.



*L to R: Professor Tony F Chan (Vice-Chancellor and President, HKSTU), Ms Jane Liang (Go8), Ms Claire Hilmer and Professor Fred Hilmer (Go8-UNSW), Mr Mike Gallagher (Go8), Professor Lap-Chee Tsui (Vice-Chancellor and President, HKU) and Professor Benjamin Wah (Provost, CHKU)*

## GERMANY INVITES LESSONS ON INTEGRATING LIFELONG LEARNING INTO UNIVERSITY MISSIONS

Canada's Ambassador to Germany, Mr Peter Boehm, recently opened the fifth event in the Go8 sponsored workshop series, International Dialogue on Education in Berlin (ID-E Berlin). The event once again provided participants with the latest in policy and practical developments from the UK, the US, Canada and Australia. The concept of lifelong learning—an important theme in Europe's Bologna Process—is a relatively new one in Germany.

Winthrop Professor Krishna Sen, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at The University of Western Australia, spoke on behalf of the Go8 and conducted a workshop titled 'Lifelong learning in Australia: setting parameters for global comparisons'. In an effort to highlight that Australian universities have a long tradition of lifelong learning, she told the story of Sir Harold Walter Bailey, who began his studies at UWA in 1921 having had no prior experience of formal schooling. He subsequently studied at Oxford and became one of the world's most respected linguists, renowned for his ability to read 50 languages. He was knighted for services to Oriental Studies in 1960.

The ID-E Berlin series is a joint initiative of the Go8, the British Council, the German Academic Exchange Service, the German-American Fulbright Commission and the Canadian Embassy in Berlin. It aims to enrich debate on science, research and higher education policy in Germany, to place German perspectives in a global context and to learn from positive examples from other countries.

The workshops are held in April and October each year in Berlin. Further information is available on the [Go8 website](#).



*Professor Krishna Sen*

## Go8 UNIVERSITIES SIGN UP TO FRENCH COMPANY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

**On Tuesday 6 October, representatives of five Go8 universities participated in the official signing ceremony of the French Company Internship Program at the French Embassy in Canberra.**

The internship scheme has been established with a number of leading French companies with operations in Australia, to enable Australian students to undertake learning in France and to gain work experience in an international context.

Deans or their representatives of Faculties of Engineering and/or Business Studies from the universities of Sydney, New South Wales, Melbourne, Monash and Adelaide signed the agreements on behalf of their universities. Discussions are continuing with some other universities, which are expected to join the scheme shortly.

## AEI VIETNAM VISITS CANBERRA

**During October the Go8 was pleased to host AEI's Deputy Director of Government Relations in Vietnam, Ms Le Thi Thu Hien.**

Hien was visiting Canberra as part of her Endeavour Executive Award, which was supported by The University of Queensland.

While in Canberra she met with Go8 and ANU staff and took the opportunity to familiarise herself with Australian politics at Question Time in Federal Parliament.

The Endeavour Awards is the Australian Government's scholarship program for citizens of the Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Europe and the Americas to undertake study, research and professional development in Australia. Further information is available at:

[www.endeavour.deewr.gov.au](http://www.endeavour.deewr.gov.au)

## UPDATES TO Go8 EXECUTIVE DASHBOARD

The Go8 Executive Dashboard has been updated to include 2009 data. The layout has been changed to improve functionality. The Dashboard provides comparisons between the Go8 universities over time for several key indicators of performance. It contains data about student load, staff, research, finance, student experience and Learning Teaching and Performance Fund results.

**The Go8 dashboard is available from the benchmarking and statistics section of the [Go8 website](#).**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Go8 Data Sharing Network meets in Adelaide on 10 November
- Go8 Deans of Medicine meet in Sydney on 16-17 November
- Go8 Deans of Arts meet in Canberra on 18 November
- Go8 Human Resources Directors meet in Melbourne on 19 November
- Go8 International Directors meet in Adelaide on 23 November
- Go8 Facilities Managers meet in Canberra on 24 November
- Go8 Vice-Chancellors meet in Perth on 26 November