



# Research-Alumni Meeting

## Delhi, India – 23/24 March, 2012

- First results and next steps -

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- I. Members
  - II. Suggested Network Activities
  - III. Cooperation with Branch Offices
  - IV. Funding
  - V. Young Researchers
  - VI. Desirable, additional services of the Network
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### I Members

- The participants want to interact and use the [HAlnet](#) with all its opportunities. For this reason it was mentioned, that all members should sign in and keep their profile up-to-date.
- The participants want to intensify the links between Germany and India as well as between India and other South-Asian countries themselves.
- With the support from the participants HAI tries to expand the network and win additional members. The participants look out for contacts to further Research-Alumni in their local environment, institution and university and inform HAI about new contacts. The network relies on the help of its members for its expansion.
- Research-Alumni interact as ambassadors of Heidelberg as a location for excellent research. As role models for junior researchers Research-Alumni explain how a research stay in Heidelberg and Germany can become an important career step for young scientists.

### II Suggested Network Activities

- During and after the meeting the idea about a “Summer school” for and with Research-Alumni on a special and interdisciplinary topic came up. Information and more detailed ideas shall be collected.
- It was mentioned that the network shall help to create a closer link to Research-Alumni from and in South-America. HAI will check the database and look for contacts to expand the network towards this region and to create a “South-South connection” via Heidelberg University. With the *Heidelberg Centre for Latin America (HCLA)* Heidelberg University has already a good precondition for a successful cooperation. (See below III.)

### III Cooperation with Branch Offices

- The Research-Alumni and HAI will intensify the cooperation with the branch offices of Heidelberg University.
- The Branch offices, for example the [HCSA](#) in Delhi, shall be used as a port of call for all kinds of information. These ports of call are available for Research-Alumni as well as for outgoing in incoming visiting scholars. An overview over the University’s centres abroad can be found [here](#).

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#### **IV. Funding**

- The participants appreciated the idea to extend the funding for “flying visits” as a modern kind of knowledge transfer and scientific cooperation.
- Short term visits in Heidelberg should help to connect young with experienced international scientists. As one of several possibilities to receive [funding for a short term visit in Heidelberg](#) the Research-Alumni Network offers the possibility to apply for a financial support.
- It was mentioned that funding opportunities in India should be requested by Research-Alumni more often. Those funding should also be used to support the German-Indian science exchange.
- Prof. Dr. Eitel recommended the [European Research Council \(ERC\)](#) and its funding and grants. The ERC supports individual researchers of every nationality and age who wish to pursue their frontier research. Rector Prof. Dr. Eitel also mentioned that Heidelberg University offers to manage the administrative part of an application and support the Research-Alumni during that period.

#### **V. Young Researchers**

- Research-Alumni have the possibility to look for young scientists in their environment and recommend them a research stay in Heidelberg. HAI will help to support such projects.
- Scientists from Heidelberg staying for research in South-Asia or elsewhere shall be automatically connected to Research-Alumni through the network. Research-Alumni can help the outgoing scientist as mentors to find their way around more easily, to learn about South-Asia, India, or the particular background and more.
- The Research-Alumni want to interest young scientists and students in Heidelberg for India and its research possibilities, e.g. with a short term programme on or an introduction to India.

#### **VI. Desirable, additional services of the Network**

- It was desired that active members of the Research-Alumni Network should get free access to conferences and symposia in Heidelberg. HAI will try to support this idea in the frame of the above mentioned short term funding.
- HAI offers help and support to Research-Alumni when it comes to Visa questions for scientific stays in Germany.
- It was desired to have access to scientific journals via HAI.net. HAI will make enquiries about such possibilities for the Research-Alumni. Already now a lot of [E-journals are available via the Universitätsbibliothek \(UB\) here.](#)

#### **VII. The Research-Alumni Newsletter**

The Research-Alumni Newsletter helps to inform the network members twice a year about...

- ... the [Research-Alumni Network](#), its mission, development and activities
- ... Research-Alumni returning to Heidelberg
- ... research projects in Heidelberg and international cooperation
- ... possibilities to apply for research funding
- ... new phd, postdoc and degree programmes
- ... current job vacancies in Heidelberg

*If you have further questions, comments or suggestions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us via [research@alumni.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:research@alumni.uni-heidelberg.de) or visit the [online group Research-Alumni in HAI.net!](#)*

