



▶ SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE FEAST TEAM 2007/2008



▶ ACCESS THE NEWSLETTERS ONLINE WWW.FEAST.ORG/?NEWSLETTERS

FEAST

focus

BUILDING THE EUROPEAN-AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COMMUNITY
WWW.FEAST.ORG

Lets change our approach to research engagement with Europe (and the rest of the world).

More self-reliant approaches to research collaboration with Europe are a better bet

The end of the year is a good time to think about what to do differently in the new year. Re-thinking how we approach international engagement in research should now be a priority. Australia has a new government with significantly different priorities in some areas, notably with regard to multilateral mechanisms for addressing global challenges such as climate change - as witnessed recently in Bali. Coupled with this, Australian researchers have now accumulated significant experience in collaboration with Europe.

The time has come to learn from this experience by adopting more effective self-reliant strategies. This new stance has important implications for international academic research collaboration - further strengthening basic research capability. It also has implications for international collaboration in R&D and in technology demonstration in which business plays a more central role. Closer engagement with

industry in Australia over key challenges, such as greenhouse gas emission reductions, will facilitate closer engagement with European industry-academic partnerships with the same focus.

For instance, the scope exists for Australia-located businesses to use the R&D Tax Concession to fund R&D carried out overseas - in addition to funding work in Australian research organisations that is also internationally engaged. This opens up a rich seam of funding for 'linkage' based industry-academic collaboration with Europe that is under-exploited at present. The key is to fully integrate international collaboration as part of the core business of research, and to avoid treating international collaboration either as a supplement to domestic research funding or as an "optional extra".

*Dr. Mark Matthews,
 FEAST Executive Director*



You can read more about this more self-reliant approach to engagement with Europe at: www.feast.org/?article&ID=858



Forum for European-Australian Science and Technology Cooperation

www.feast.org
info@feast.org
 building 67a

The Australian National University
 Canberra ACT 0200
 Australia

The new Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)

The European Commission has released a new Marie Curie scheme, the Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES). IRSES provides support for Australian research organisations to establish or reinforce long-term research co-operation through a joint programme of short-term institutional staff exchanges of up to 12 months.

Significantly, technical and management staff may also participate in these exchanges.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=852

The first ARIA-ACT Award is open for applications

The call for applications for the ARIA-Award for Research Collaboration was released at the beginning of December. The Award is aimed at recognizing excellence in research cooperation between the ACT and Italy and to foster further research activity.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=853



Funding of international Missions and Workshops

The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) is offering Australian researchers an opportunity to submit expressions of interest for Frontiers of Science and Technology international Missions and Workshops held during the financial year 2008-2009.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=855

European Research Council awards its first prestigious grants to top researchers

On 14th December the European Research Council (ERC), the new research funding body created under the EU's 7th Framework Programme for Research, announced the outcome of its first call for Starting Independent Investigators. About 300 researchers, between two and nine years after their PhD, will receive grants. The successful candidates represent over 30 nationalities and are based in some 170 host institutions in 21 different countries, including Australia.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=847

New details of ERC's Advanced Grant scheme have also been announced:

www.feast.org/?article&ID=826

Six more elite German universities

An international panel labelled six German "elite universities" — Berlin's Free University, RWTH Aachen University and universities in Freiburg, Göttingen, Heidelberg and Constance — to join an list that already includes two universities in Munich and one in Karlsruhe. The German government "excellence initiative" was developed in 2005 to encourage high-level research and competition.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=807

New Australian centre to focus on climate and weather research

The Bureau of Meteorology Research Centre and CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research have joined forces to focus their weather and climate research efforts into a new joint research centre. The Centre's researchers will also work with the UK Met Office's high-powered computer-based weather and climate prediction program and adapt it to Australian conditions.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=841

Diary

Asnapshot of Australian and European activity.
www.feast.org/?diary

Bilateral networks:

- ARIA
www.scientificambitalia.org.au/aria.asp
- FEAST France
www.feast.org/france
- FEAST Germany
www.feast.org/germany

UK

hopes to attract

international scientists with new fellowship scheme

The UK Government has announced a new fellowship for researchers to go to the UK, and to support collaboration between UK and overseas scientists. The Government will provide £13.4 million to the Royal Society, the British Academy, and the Royal Academy of Engineering and Research Council UK.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=840

€1.75 billion of new research money available for European projects

On 30th November, the European Commission issued calls for proposals in 32 research areas, making available about €1.75 billion from the 7th Research Framework Programme. These calls cover the first priorities for the 2008 work-programmes.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=835

Catalogue of FP6 food projects available

The European Commission has published a catalogue of all projects funded under the 'Food quality and safety' strand of the Sixth Framework Programme (FP6). A total of 181 projects obtained funding between 2002 and 2006, receiving €751 million between them. 12 projects involved Australian partners.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=820

NICTA secures extra funding to keep world-class researchers in Australia

The Australian Government has contributed an extra \$4.8 million over two years to NICTA, Australia's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Research Centre of Excellence, which will enable retention of a team of world-class researchers in Australia.

www.feast.org/?article&ID=808

FEAST is the only organization having an official mandate from the Australian government and the European Commission to foster cooperation in research
www.feast.org



Australian Government
Department of Education,
Science and Training



European Commission

This project is proudly supported by *International Science Linkages* established under the Australian Government's innovation statement, *Backing Australia's Ability* and by the European Community's Sixth Framework Programme

The FEAST Secretariat is hosted by The Australian National University on behalf of Australia's research community