



Programme Information

Humboldt Alumni Award 2018 for Innovative Networking Initiatives

I. Programme

Every year, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation grants up to four Humboldt Alumni Awards to promote innovative networking initiatives. For this award, projects shall be recognised which help to create or extend sustainable academic and cultural relations between Germany and the country of residence of fellows and research award winners of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and to strengthen the alumni networks in their respective countries and regions by building on the foundations of the time spent by the Humboldt alumni in Germany.

One Humboldt Alumni Award is designated for the sponsorship of initiatives promoting networking between female academics. In this context, initiatives promoting and strengthening the long-term career paths of female scientists and scholars and their collaborative partners within the respective networks, taking account of professional and family obligations, should be favoured. Additionally, the initiatives should encourage more female researchers to participate in the Foundation's sponsorship programmes in future.

The Humboldt Alumni Award is designed to promote initiatives not so far covered by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's sponsorship programmes.

The Humboldt Alumni Award ceremony will take place in June 2018 during the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Annual Meeting in Berlin. Funding for the award is being provided by the German Foreign Office.

Descriptions of successful networking initiatives which have already received the Humboldt Alumni Award may be found here: <http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/alumni-award.html>.

II. Eligibility and recipient of funding amount

Alumni of Alexander von Humboldt Foundation fellowship and award programmes ("Humboldtians") based abroad are eligible to apply for the award. If the application is successful, the applicant becomes the recipient of the funding amount and takes on responsibility for the planning, the contents as well as the organisational and financial implementation of the proposed networking initiative, which should be completed within three years. Applications may also be submitted on behalf of Humboldt alumni associations or on behalf of several Humboldt alumni.

Humboldt alumni who have already received a Humboldt Alumni Award or special funding through this programme in the past are not eligible to apply.

III. Amount and use of sponsorship

The award is valued with an amount of up to 25,000 EUR, and this funding amount should be used to implement the proposed networking initiative. In addition, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation will cover the costs of travel and accommodation to allow the successful applicants to attend the award ceremony during the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Annual Meeting.

When a networking initiative comes to an end, the recipient of the funding amount is required to present the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation with a short report on the actions implemented including an overview of the use of funds based on the relevant items in the financial plan.

IV. Applications

An application package is composed of the following:

- a complete application form, including the detailed time and expenses schedule for the implementation of the project (*cf. 7. of the application form*).
- a detailed description of the networking proposal based on the selection criteria stated in the Programme Information, including a list of the groups participating in the networking initiative (e.g. Humboldtians, junior scientists, etc.), maximum five pages.
- a curriculum vitae.

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation welcomes the use of the "Alumniportal Deutschland" for any Internet-based aspects of applicants' initiatives, and encourages applicants to integrate the portal into the implementation of their initiatives. The Foundation is a partner organisation of this social network, which is supported with funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. In addition to creating regional and specialist groups, the portal can also be used to organise online seminars (webinars) and announce events. For more information about the possibilities offered by the Alumniportal, please click on the following link: www.alumniportal-deutschland.org.

Furthermore, the Foundation would like to draw your attention to the option of using Humboldt Life in the framework of your networking initiative: <http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/3095377.html>. Humboldt Life is the exclusive online network of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. As a Humboldtian, you can introduce yourself and present your work here, search for individuals and exchange information with other members of the Humboldt network in discussion groups and blogs. Furthermore, this platform offers the opportunity to share information on events, photo albums, surveys etc. The portal is open primarily to sponsored individuals and hosts of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Nonetheless it is possible to personally invite selected guests to register.

Applications should be submitted to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation by using the online application form by **November 30, 2017**.

To download the application documents, click on the following link: http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/alumni_award.html.

We are also happy to advise applicants personally. Please send queries to alumniaward@avh.de

V. Selection

An internal Alexander von Humboldt Foundation selection committee will decide on the award winners. Quotas will be imposed neither for particular countries or regions, nor for particular academic disciplines. Decisive criteria for selection will be that the proposed networking initiatives

- involve innovative formats for bi- and multilateral academic cooperation which go beyond the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's established sponsorship programmes – including those for alumni;
- awaken the interest of new (groups of) individuals, who have not so far been included in bilateral academic exchanges (i.e. between their own countries and Germany or in cross- border collaborations with Humboldtians), in bilateral academic or cultural cooperation and possibly integrate them in this cooperation;
- look set to have a lasting effect on international academic or cultural collaboration (multiplication effect);
- enhance understanding between individual countries or cultures and Germany.

A criterion in the decision regarding the recipients of the Humboldt Alumni Award for the promotion of networking between female academics is, furthermore, that the initiatives applying for sponsorship serve the specific networking of female academics abroad, possibly also with their specialist colleagues in Germany, supporting them via mentoring and coaching strategies, for example, and encouraging their interest and involvement in international academic and cultural collaborations.

Networking initiatives that may be sponsored in the context of existing Alexander von Humboldt Foundation programmes cannot be considered for the Humboldt Alumni Award for Innovative Networking Initiatives.

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/alumniprogramme.html>

Successful applicants will be informed of the selection committee's decision in March 2018.