



Alexander von Humboldt
Stiftung/Foundation

Programme Information

German Research Chair in “Mathematics and its Applications” of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Ghana

As part of the programme initiative “German Research Chairs”, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation is calling for applications for a research chair funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF) at the *African Institute for Mathematical Sciences* in Biriwa, Ghana. AIMS Ghana (www.aims.edu.gh) is part of the AIMS-Next Einstein Initiative (www.nexteinstein.org). This initiative seeks to establish a coordinated network of 15 supra-regional centres of excellence in Africa during the next ten years to help meet the need for scientists trained in mathematics. The first AIMS centres in South Africa and Senegal are models for AIMS Ghana and other institutes being created in Africa. Calls for applications for other research chairs at AIMS centres in South Africa, Cameroon and Tanzania are planned.

The research chair, which is being advertised internationally, is designed to help strengthen university education in mathematics and research in Africa, promote networking between AIMS Ghana and German universities, and support networking amongst the various AIMS centres in Africa.

The call addresses academics from any country who demonstrably conduct application-related research in the field of mathematics, have several years of experience in training students and (ideally) doctoral candidates. The application must be supported by at least one collaborative partner in Germany.

The research chair is expected to be present at AIMS Ghana on a permanent basis. A joint appointment at a university in Ghana is planned. AIMS Ghana intends to evaluate the chair holder after three years of funding and considers an appropriate continuation of the position.

Sponsorship

The sponsorship will initially be made available for four years and will total up to 560,000 EUR. It will comprise the following items:

- salary attached to the research chair of up to 85,000 EUR p.a.
- relocation costs of the chair holder (up to 10,000 EUR once only)
- research stays undertaken by the chair holder to conduct research projects of her/his own choice at institutions of collaborative partners in Germany (up to 10,000 EUR p.a.)

- participation in national and international conferences (up to 7,500 EUR p.a.)
- realisation of workshops and conferences at AIMS Ghana (15,000 EUR p.a.)
- funding for specialist literature, equipment and expendable materials at AIMS Ghana (up to 20,000 EUR p.a.)

For detailed information on the use of the sponsorship amount, please refer to our [“Regulations on the use of funds”](#).

The chair holder at AIMS Ghana will become eligible for the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation’s alumni sponsorship.

Application procedure

There will only be one call for the research chair in “Mathematics and its Applications” at AIMS Ghana. Applications may be submitted by academics who

- have completed a doctorate and have at least three years of teaching experience, including experience in supervising university students
- have an outstanding, internationally recognised research record
- are active in international scientific networks and collaborations
- have experience in scientific capacity building (research and teaching) preferably in developing and emerging countries including Africa
- conduct research in the field of mathematics and its applications and welcome the challenge of cooperating with other fields inside and outside academia
- are able to develop concepts based on their research which could contribute to meeting some of the key challenges relevant for the development of Ghana
- already have scientific contacts with a German university

Cooperation with German partners

Applicants are also expected to explain convincingly how future cooperation between AIMS Ghana and researchers at one or more universities/research institutions in Germany can be developed and how junior researchers will be integrated.

AIMS Ghana will enter into collaboration with German partner institutions, which may be represented by university-based academics (W2/W3). Academics at non-university research institutions can additionally be involved in the collaboration.

Selection procedure

An independent selection committee, which also includes representatives of AIMS Ghana and AIMS-NEI, will decide on appointment to the chair in November 2015. Selection is based on independent peer review. Suitable candidates will be invited to hold trial lectures in Ghana. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation will notify applicants of the outcome shortly after the selection committee’s decision. The successful candidate will be requested to take up the position as soon as possible.

**The deadline for submitting applications is
15 July 2015.**

This deadline for submissions is final; applications received after this date or incomplete applications cannot be considered.

Complete applications should be sent to:

**Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
Selection Department
Jean-Paul-Str. 12, 53173 Bonn, Germany**

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation explicitly welcomes applications from qualified **female academics**.

All application documents are available on our website www.humboldt-foundation.de. In case of further questions please contact GermanResearchChairs@avh.de.

as of: February 2015