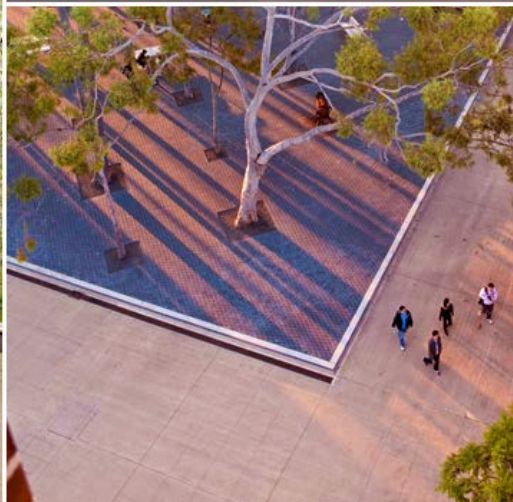




Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG



MQ-FU-HAM TRILATERAL STRATEGIC NETWORK



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FOREWORD DAAD

The shift towards a stronger strategic alignment of international partnerships is a worldwide trend among HE institutions; selected partnerships with few universities abroad are being expanded in keeping with the universities' internationalization strategies and key priorities. "Strategic Partnerships" on the institutional level allow universities and their partners to enhance their capabilities in terms of study and research, to join forces, share knowledge and extend their international visibility.

The DAAD wants to encourage this process and thus, in 2012, launched a funding program called "Strategic Partnerships and Thematic Networks".

The program is sponsored by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) and supports German universities in developing Strategic Partnerships with partners of their choice and according to their own strategy, therefore also sharpening their international profile.

One of the funded projects is presented in this brochure: the trilateral strategic partnership MQ – FU – HAM (Macquarie – Fudan – Hamburg) including three countries with very different educational systems and yet a mutual, fairly ambitious plan. Strategic Partnerships are long-term projects. They take effort and time – and resources – to set up, but in exchange, the benefits are very rewarding and long-lasting.

The last six years have shown a very fruitful cooperation with numerous successful projects and a sustainable implementation of the trilateral strategic partnership within the three universities. With this in mind, I am looking forward to this publication and wish everyone a stimulating read!

Dr. Kai Sicks
DAAD Secretary General



FOREWORD UNIVERSITÄT HAMBURG

Universität Hamburg places great value on the internationalization of research and education. An outstanding example of this focus is the trilateral strategic partnership with Fudan University in Shanghai, China, and Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia. This network, launched in 2012 and funded through the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) from 2015 through 2021, has allowed a wide range of participants—professors, doctoral and graduate students, undergraduates—to experience cross-faculty and interdisciplinary exchange.

In addition to internationalizing training for doctoral and master's students and establishing further dual and joint degree programs, the network has placed a particular focus on highly qualified early career researchers. These researchers have been encouraged to develop joint research projects, which support the development of international universities of

the future and create sustainable, long-term partnerships.

Over the last several years, we have successfully implemented multiple projects and fostered multidisciplinary collaboration in our mutual research areas.

I view the network as a key factor in attaining our strategic internationalization goals.

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Dieter Lenzen
President, Universität Hamburg



FOREWORD MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

Macquarie University's international partnerships are a source of great pride. Our long-standing, comprehensive bilateral and trilateral partnerships with Universität Hamburg and Fudan University are based on shared and complementary research strengths and a common goal to produce world-leading and impactful research.

International collaboration is vital for universities to produce graduates and research with the potential to change the world. The depth and scope of our numerous successful joint projects reflect the hard work and commitment of colleagues at all three institutions. I am confident that they contribute much to global thinking in their respective areas.

The strategic partnership funding awarded by the DAAD from 2015 to 2021 provided us with a unique opportunity to strengthen and deepen the ties between our three universities. It helped to grow relationships across disciplinary and geographic borders

and valued the personal exchanges crucial to effective international collaborative networks.

I look forward to the continuation of this important and exciting partnership beyond the external funding and to the long association of our three universities.

Prof. S. Bruce Downton, MD

Vice-Chancellor and President, Macquarie University



FOREWORD FUDAN UNIVERSITY

Fudan University is a leading comprehensive research university in China. Established in 1905, Fudan has made outstanding contributions to the country and the world over the past 116 years by developing talent, innovating in science and technology, carrying forward civilization, and serving society.

In the context of globalization and cross-cultural integration, we need to cultivate talents with a sense of global citizenship and sensibility of cultural diversity. Fudan thus attaches great importance to internationalized, quality-oriented education.

The Fudan-Hamburg-Macquarie trilateral network is a good example of cross-cultural collaboration. Through the network, we have boosted international cooperation, mobility, and joint research among the three universities and have explored further opportunities with other academic institutions.

We are proud that we have been able to cement the numerous achievements of the last five years and are looking forward to expanding upon our successful trilateral cooperation.

Prof. Dr. XU Ningsheng
President, Fudan University



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ABOUT THE NETWORK

The foundation of the trilateral network in its current form is a decades-long history of university cooperation. Universität Hamburg has enjoyed its partnership with Macquarie University since the 1990s and with Fudan University since as far back as the 1980s. When it revised its international strategy in 2012, Universität Hamburg resolved to further develop its partnership activities with Macquarie University and Fudan University. By creating strategic partnerships, the universities strengthened their cooperation, especially in the area of research excellence.

The three partners decided to expand upon their successful bilateral cooperations. They then jointly developed a concept for their trilateral strategic partnership during a matchmaking workshop in 2014. Their successful DAAD funding application ultimately laid the groundwork for the trilateral network.

FUNDING LINE 2015–2018

The MQ-FU-HAM trilateral strategic partnership was founded in 2015 as part of the DAAD's Strategic Partnerships and Thematic Networks funding line with funds from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

During this first funding phase (2015–2018), the DAAD funded 12 bilateral and trilateral projects with a total of €840,000.

1. China in Europe, Europe in China: Past and Present
2. Chemistry for Energy Materials
3. Establishment of Joint Doctoral Degrees in Biology
4. Master of Arts in International Business and Sustainability
5. Internationalization of the Humanities
6. Film as an Intercultural Facilitator of Knowledge
7. Transnational Media Histories
8. Cancer Proteomics
9. Modernisms and Modernities East, West and South: Comparing Literary and Cultural Experiences
10. Sustainable Energy Landscapes and Climate Transformation of Urban Systems
11. New Direction in International Political Theory
12. Corporate Governance, Integrated Reporting and Risk Management

FUNDING LINE 2019–2021

While the first funding phase (2015–2018) was dedicated to creating and establishing the network and subsidiary projects, the second and final funding phase (2019–2021) focused on the transition from an externally funded network to one in which all three universities contribute equally to the funding of the strategic partnership.

Eight projects were taken on in the second and final DAAD funding phase from 2019 to 2021, with the DAAD providing a further €250,000.

1. China in Europe, Europe in China. Past and Present
2. Internationalization of the Humanities
3. Transnational Media Histories
4. Modernisms and Modernities East, West and South: Comparing Literary and Cultural Experiences
5. Chemistry for Energy Materials
6. Cancer Proteomics
7. Sustainable Energy Landscapes and Climate Transformation of Urban Systems
8. New Direction in International Political Theory

The trilateral network pursues the following goals for the current funding phase (2019–2021) and beyond:

- strong multidisciplinary research cooperation in the three universities' research areas
- development and creation of certified double degrees
- recruitment of excellent doctoral and early career researchers for cotutelle (binational doctoral programs) and joint PhD programs
- introduction of innovative learning and teaching models and their continuous development
- ongoing evaluation to ensure quality and needs-based project development
- consolidation and development of the trilateral network infrastructure beyond the external funding phase
- strengthening cooperation at university level



1. CHINA IN EUROPE, EUROPE IN CHINA. PAST AND PRESENT

In line with the guiding principles of internationalization and sustainability, this program has three goals:

- to promote the exchange of doctoral researchers from Universität Hamburg, allowing them to spend a year at Fudan University as part of a three-year research program
- to organize alternate workshops or summer school programs in order to strengthen cooperation and make the graduate program known to wider academic circles
- to create a joint PhD degree program with a single curriculum and doctoral thesis, ensuring a single examination process and a single diploma from both universities

2. INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE HUMANITIES

This project explores internationalization strategies in the humanities with research on and analysis of internationalization concepts and their impact at the national and institutional level.

The project examines how the manifold linguistic and intercultural interpretation skills fostered in the humanities can contribute constructively to internationalization processes. Analyses focus on internationalization policies at universities in general as well as on internationalization strategies at the participating universities.

Special emphasis is placed on international research communication and the organization of student, doctoral researchers, and staff exchanges.

3. TRANSNATIONAL MEDIA HISTORIES

This cooperative project involves the Research Centre for Media History at Universität Hamburg, the Centre for Media History at Macquarie University, and the Center of Information and Communication Studies at Fudan University. It aims to establish close collaboration between Hamburg, Sydney, and Shanghai in research and teaching in media history. It facilitates frequent exchanges of senior and junior researchers, including postgraduates, to discuss and explore transnational media histories.

Thus, this project is linked to work on entangled media histories, drawing upon and contributing to *histoire croisée*, connected history, and *Verflechtungsgeschichte*

in the field of media and communication studies.

By doing so, the new trilateral network is extending the research on media history beyond national boundaries and enabling transnational research from a globally entangled perspective.



4. MODERNISMS AND MODERNITIES EAST, WEST AND SOUTH: COMPARING LITERARY AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

This project aims to create a dialogue between four cultures—British, US, Australian, and Chinese—to address how these societies have reacted and continue to react to the upheavals of modernity. Essential to this discussion is the degree of counterinfluence, as these societies have critically negotiated their traditions and developed new forms of cultural expression. The project also addresses the question of what remains of modernism and modernist practices in an era of globalization and climate change.

Doctoral researchers are intimately involved at every stage, be it conducting workshops or preparing manuscripts, in order to facilitate dissemination and increase impact. This project will conclude with an international conference; the conference papers will be published for use by scholars and students.

5. CHEMISTRY FOR ENERGY MATERIALS

This project aims to initiate joint research activities by exchanging guest lecturers and arranging research visits to the partner universities.

An integrated exchange program is being planned that will enable students from Universität Hamburg to visit other universities and doctoral researchers from Fudan University to participate in research projects and publish findings jointly.

A long-term objective, based on joint research findings and the success of the partnership, is the creation of an integrated research training group.

Ultimately, this should lead to the establishment of a trilateral graduate school in cooperation with the joint PhD program currently offered by Macquarie University and Universität Hamburg.

6. CANCER PROTEOMICS

Joint activities in the field of proteomics and glycomics aim to improve and apply methods for investigating cancer on the level of proteomes, glycoproteomes, and glycomes. Analyzing these types of -omes in cancer cells and tissues will help researchers to identify diagnostic cancer markers and decipher the molecular mechanisms of cancer.

An important aspect of this trilateral cooperation is the joint teaching of doctoral researchers from all three partner institutions, who have an opportunity to attend workshops and summer school programs together.

Additionally, joint PhD programs allow doctoral researchers to work in the laboratories of at least two partner institutions, and postdoctoral exchanges ensure knowledge transfer at all three institutions.



7. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY LANDSCAPES AND CLIMATE TRANSFORMATION OF URBAN SYSTEMS

The main objective is to create a trilateral research project on sustainable energy landscapes and urban transformation pathways that lead to a smart city. The project explores synergies of mitigation and adaptation of rural-urban systems in the areas of climate change, health, migration, and water and energy systems.

Research focuses on developing and integrating sustainable urban transformation—particularly, renewable energy and low-carbon pathways. The project

contributes to evidence-based policy for assessing the efficacy of local and regional planning instruments on urban climate risks in Hamburg, Shanghai, and Sydney and examines environmental and health risks associated with climate change.

All three partner universities will also organize doctoral projects, multilateral exchanges, visits, and workshops.

8. NEW DIRECTION IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL THEORY

Since the end of the Cold War, new theories have challenged established paradigms, offering a wide range of alternative perspectives on international politics.

This project addresses, among other issues, challenges to traditional concepts of security, sovereignty, and the state; the contestation of global norms; the implications of civil war and secessionism for the international system; problems of environmental governance at regional, national, and global levels; and the global distribution of poverty.

In a series of three collaborative writing retreats with participants from each university, including established researchers and postdoctoral researchers, this project aims to offer fresh perspectives on international theory.



Moreover, in the last five years, there have been a number of project ideas outside the scope of DAAD funding. Over 10 bilateral and trilateral cooperation projects have been implemented or are still active:

1. International Law Plus (IL+)
2. LAW—Trilateral Conference Series: Recent Issues in Public International Law
3. Master of Arts in International Business and Sustainability
4. Water Disclosures Related to Water Reporting and CDP
5. Analysing Computational Thinking Development in Classroom
6. Multilingualism
7. Visual Narratives in Initial Teacher Training
8. Theoretical Philosophy
9. Public History
10. Establishment of Joint Doctoral Degrees in Biology
11. Laser Physics and Integrated Optics
12. Corporate Governance, Integrated Reporting and Risk Management



CROSCUTTING PROJECTS

In addition, three crosscutting projects have been implemented:

1. Joint Programs
2. Innovative Learning and Teaching Methods
3. Risk Management



JOINT PROGRAMS

Joint Programs focuses on formalizing processes and establishing structured programs. We follow up joint doctoral programs that have already been initiated. Based on the close evaluation of the pilot project China in Europe, Europe in China. Past and Present, we develop framework agreements, formalize procedures, and offer a structured joint doctoral program between Fudan University and Universität Hamburg to students from all disciplines.

We also continue to encourage the development of joint and double degrees at graduate level. Internationalization of the

Humanities is planning a master's degree program of Research as part of the second funding phase. This would involve a flexible program enabling students to spend one semester in the respective master's degree program at a partner institution. The participants can use this period to prepare a doctoral proposal. A coordinator at the receiving institution helps them become acquainted with the research landscape, including learning, and research groups.

INNOVATIVE LEARNING AND TEACHING METHODS

This work package introduces blended learning as a component for cooperation at undergraduate level. The pilot project covers a transformational learning approach, an innovative learning and teaching concept, and a digitalization concept that is unique to the three partner universities. It therefore fosters further cooperation with other disciplines.

The International Law Plus (IL+) summer program is a joint pilot project between the partner universities' law schools and successfully premiered in 2018. It was launched with Macquarie University and Universität Hamburg and expanded to include students from Fudan University. In the meantime, professors from Fudan University have been invited for lectures and seminars within the IL+ summer program. In addition to addressing issues related to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the IL+ summer program serves as a model for other disciplines.

Transnational Media Histories systematically works on digital tools that contribute to the emerging field of digital media history within the broader framework of digital humanities. The joint collaboration draws upon

Macquarie University's and Fudan University's extensive experience to develop an English-based research platform. The sub-project makes use of the Hamburg Open Online University platform and integrate its tools there. Universität Hamburg is part of the Hamburg Open Online University, which is working to create a digital forum for students, teachers, and members of the public who wish to collaborate on interdisciplinary projects based on academic findings. The plan is to develop a transnational histories digital platform to support innovative teaching methods and provide scholars and students all over the world with access to data. The platform is dictated by scholars' and students' needs, allowing users to share and link references, theoretical reflections, and methodological tools within the scope of media histories. The platform's framework and digital architecture was devised by scholars at all three universities from 2019 to 2021.





RISK MANAGEMENT

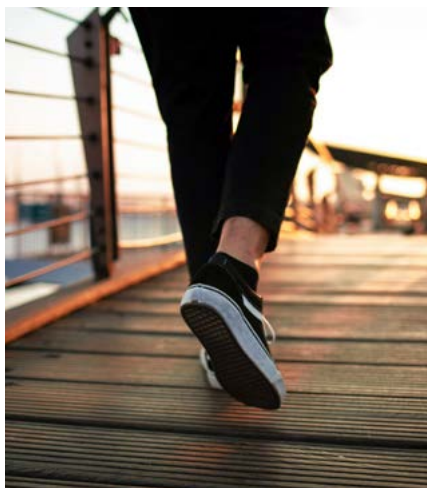
Long term, we plan to standardize risk management for a range of eventualities—for example, extreme weather and major accidents. Universität Hamburg aims to develop a crisis plan, identifying organizational crossroads, linking them more effectively, and displaying emergency numbers on the University website. We have started by targeting international incoming students before expanding to include other groups. We are also creating a best practice guide for crisis management for fires, bomb threats, chemical accidents, and extreme weather, among other things.

During the second funding phase, the University's Occupational Safety and Environmental Protection Unit and a crisis management specialist have been involved. In 2019, knowledge was shared through staff exchange and an additional workshop on the topic of crisis management at Macquarie University. This was followed by a workshop at Universität Hamburg in 2020 to involve stakeholders from Fudan University and within Universität Hamburg.

CURRENTLY AND LOOKING AHEAD

The MQ-FU-HAM trilateral strategic network will continue after 2021, when DAAD funding runs out. All parties highly value their cooperation in the trilateral network and have expressed their commitment to the partnership.

The successful establishment of the management board in 2019 underscores that commitment and provides the structural conditions for the further development of the MQ-FU-HAM trilateral network. In April 2019, Fudan University, Macquarie University, and Universität Hamburg agreed to extend the enriching partnership and sustain the achievements made in the previous years. A joint management board was set up to steer the network once DAAD funding ends. The board consists of up to three representatives from each university and meets once annually.



One key aspect of supporting the partnership's sustainability is the establishment of a joint fund to support bilateral and trilateral projects. The goal is to strengthen the universities' network by encouraging new projects and establishing cooperation projects and to contribute to top-level international research.

A first joint call for applications for MQ-FU-HAM Funding 2020 was made in September 2019. In 2020, six projects began receiving implementation funding from the partner universities. The projects are coordinated in three faculties and include two bilateral (MQ-HAM) and four trilateral projects.

1. Overcoming Language Barriers to Social Inclusion
2. Development and Evaluation of Intercultural Training for Adolescent Problematic and Pathological Gamers
3. Professional Vision and STEAM Education
4. In Others' Shoes: Pre-Service Teachers' Cross-Comparison of Multilingual and Multicultural Experiences in Hamburg and Sydney
5. Development of a Systematic Global Network Architecture for Building Up a Proteoform Atlas
6. Changing Regional Perspectives on Arms Control, Disarmament, and Non-proliferation

RESULTS AND MILESTONES

The trilateral partnership has facilitated international exchange among countless academics, doctoral researchers, and students since 2015. Study and research trips abroad, joint courses and degrees, conferences, workshops, symposia, and public lecture series are the results of the lively cooperation in the MQ-FU-HAM trilateral network.

These activities are organized from both the top down and the bottom up: the university administrations provide the framework by creating general procedures and conditions, while individual researchers foster personal contacts and jointly establish research topics.

The organization and consolidation of bilateral and trilateral programs have also benefited from the introduction of the

Joint Programs project. Some of the results of this successful cooperation are:

- the creation of joint PhD programs between the partner universities
- the introduction of innovative teaching models such as International Law Plus (IL+)
- deeper cooperation at the administrative level, for example, in risk management
- the establishment of a joint management board to steer the network.



TESTIMONIALS

We asked our funded students, academic staff, researchers, and professors, among others, how they benefited from the trilateral strategic network.

What makes the network so special and what personal and professional opportunities have resulted from the funding?

International Law Plus (IL+) Summer School 2019

The IL+ experience was a great way to develop a deeper understanding of international law while also engaging in cross-cultural study. I highly recommend the program for anyone looking to work on thought-provoking topics while experiencing the culture and legal systems of another country.

Jessica Amusah

Attending the IL+ summer school was an incredibly enriching, exciting, and valuable experience. The cooperation between the international participants was effortless. My time in Australia had not only academic value but also personal value for me, and I am grateful for the friendships I was able to make and the lasting impressions I have of a foreign country and culture. Therefore, I can highly recommend taking advantage of the IL+ summer school and experiencing it for yourself.

Maxime Stegemann

The IL+ program was an amazing experience. I was able to learn firsthand about European and German environmental law and made some great friends from across the world.

Hans Tan



WORKSHOP TRANSNATIONAL MEDIA HISTORY: VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

It was clear from the start that we would make a video documentary of our workshop. The trilateral meeting in September 2018 was titled “Communicating Port Cities.” As media scholars, we decided not only to write a report but also to use media in a way that grasps the atmosphere and visualizes the project. Scholars from Fudan University, Macquarie University and Universität Hamburg met for a two-day lab. And what better way is there than to create an audiovisual recap in the form of an image video?

Thus, we—Hermann Breitenborn, Kirstin Hammann, Philipp Seuferling, and I—got ourselves a camera and microphone and just started filming. We conducted interviews with the participants and tried to capture the overall look and feel of the workshop. In the afternoon, we also took an amazing walk around the city’s harbor area, visiting the Speicherstadt and the

Elbphilharmonie with junior researchers from Sydney and Shanghai.

After we had captured all that was said and done, postproduction started. On our hard disks were three hours’ worth of material that needed to be condensed into a short and informative video clip. The result showcases the academic work that was done during this time. Even more, it gives a glimpse of the relaxed environment and fruitful collaboration.

It was such a great experience getting to meet marvelous people from faraway port cities. And because of this image film, we are now able to bring back these moments and relive the special energy that was set free in those two days.

Prof. Hans-Ulrich Wagner,
Hermann Breitenborn





JOINT PHD AND SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH PROJECT

I am glad to be a joint PhD researcher at Universität Hamburg and Macquarie University and to be participating in the Sustainable Energy Landscapes and Climate Transformation of Urban Systems research project within the trilateral network.

I am thankful to have had the opportunity to visit Fudan University in Shanghai in 2016 for our project meeting, to organize an international conference in Hamburg in 2017, and, particularly, to complete a research stay aboard at Macquarie University as part of my joint PhD. This international research exposure definitely benefits my doctoral research, as it allows me to present my research and obtain feedback from experts in the field. As an early career researcher, it is a special experience to work closely with many senior researchers and develop my research network.

If I have to pick one favorite experience, I would go for the teaching experience I got at Macquarie. One module I taught was called “Environmental Management for a Changing World.” I was a tutor for a class of 20 bachelor’s students, and we discussed human interactions with the environment through the lens of sustainability and connectivity. Those 12 weeks were an amazing experience and allowed me to share my insights on sustainability development in Germany and Europe (where I obtained my master’s and am now doing my PhD) and Hong Kong and Asia (where I originally come from) with the students. At the same time, I also learned a lot about what is happening in Australia from the students. This would not have happened without the support of Macquarie and the trilateral network—I really appreciate that.

Tracy Cheung



MQ-FU-HAM TRILATERAL COLLABORATION PROJECT

I participated in two significant events for this project. The first is the trilateral conference Modernisms and Modernities East, West, and South: Comparing Literary and Cultural Experiences, held 19–22 July 2017 in Fudan. Nearly 70 scholars from various universities—though mostly from Macquarie, Fudan, and Hamburg—attended this event to share their research, while some early career researchers and postgraduate students from local Shanghai-based institutions were also invited to take part in the panel discussions. At this conference, I presented a working paper on the long-forgotten and controversial Taiwanese novelist Liu Na’Ou, discussing his life trajectory in terms of the progress of modernism, nationalism, and the revolutions

in early 20th century Shanghai. My talk received some insightful comments from other scholars, for which I was very grateful.

This conference could be considered the most stimulating international conference on world literature to be held at Fudan University in the last decade and was certainly one of the most exhilarating in Shanghai that year. This particular trilateral project owed its fruition to the organizational endeavors of Professors Susanne Rohr and Ute Berns from Universität Hamburg, Nick Mansfield and Toby Davidson from Macquarie University, Sun Jian and Zhu Jianxin from Fudan University.

The second trilateral event I took part in was in July 2019. I was invited to coteach the summer school Global Modernisms / Global Modernities: Developing Transcultural Reading Practices in a Global Age in Hamburg, which was also supported by the generosity and auspices of the DAAD. I took this opportunity to share with the attendants my understanding of modern Chinese literature—a category of literature with distinct historical significance that initiated my childhood love for reading. This summer school was taught by scholars from Macquarie, Fudan, Hamburg, and many other institutions, leading to a fantastically diverse and intellectual scope of world literature. With the participation of about 12 students from various countries (three from China) of Asia, Europe, and the Americas, this project successfully attained its aim to bring people closer together and nurture mutual understanding and open-mindedness.

In August 2019, I took office as the director of the Office of Global Partnerships, Fudan. The MQ-FU-HAM trilateral project has been

a pioneering initiative not just in the field of literature but also at Fudan University. It has also paved a more noticeable way for in-depth bilateral collaboration. As Fudan is highly appreciative of our partnership with Macquarie in selective areas, the contribution of this trilateral project to innovating and fostering the sense of a global academic community is beyond question. Understandably, such a project will certainly require more time, energy, and resources to cultivate. My heartfelt gratitude goes to the synergistic devotion and participation of those who have helped make the MQ-FU-HAM trilateral project possible. It is my belief that this initiative shall continue by all means, especially in this time of shared global challenges.

Prof. Lu Lian

JOINT PHD WITH FUDAN UNIVERSITY

Already during my master's studies at Universität Hamburg, I heard about the China in Europe, Europe in China. Past and Present doctoral program through former doctoral researchers. After successfully graduating and looking for financial support for my dissertation project, I was offered a scholarship for the China in Europe, Europe in China. Past and Present doctoral program jointly run by

Universität Hamburg and Fudan University. Shortly after the supervisor of my master thesis informed me about that, I prepared my application.

My thesis aims to illuminate how national memorials mirror the Chinese Communist Party's political and historical self-perception. This topic requires intensive fieldwork on

Chinese memorials over a longer period. The bilateral program made this possible. During the time I spent in Shanghai, I conducted a field study to 55 memorials in 11 provinces between April 2019 and November 2019.

With a supervisor from each university, I receive a broader range of essential revisions and suggestions. This helps me to continually improve my research skills and the way I prepare for my examinations. Having a dissertation project means working on your topic independently and in a self-organized manner. The advantage of the graduate school is the assistance that the students give each other through discussions, feedback, and exchanges of perspective. In my view, a graduate school provides the optimal environment to write a doctoral dissertation. In the bilateral program, these advantages are twofold, since Fudan University offers an international work environment with doctoral researchers from China and countries all over the world.

The most intensive experience has been the accomplishment of my field study, for which I traveled roughly two months in total. Each time that my organization worked according to plan and that I reached a more remote destination, it gave me a feeling of great satisfaction.

Stefanie Schaller



VISITING SCHOLAR AT RESEARCH CENTER FOR MEDIA HISTORY

I encountered the trilateral network when I was a visiting scholar at the Research Center for Media History at Universität Hamburg during 2018 and 2019. Encouraged by Dr. Hans-Ulrich Wagner, I was invited to join an ongoing collaboration on transnational media history, specifically media histories of the port cities Hamburg, Shanghai, and Sydney. As part of this exchange, I participated in two workshop meetings—the first in Hamburg in September 2018, the second in Shanghai in September 2019.

The project has offered me valuable opportunities to exchange ideas and knowledge about my own doctoral project on media in refugee camps and to get to know the other participants' research. I was able to rediscover my topic from the perspective of port cities and urban media history and also to receive feedback and support from media historians across the globe. At the moment, we are working on a joint collection of essays on mediated spaces in the three port cities. Activities like these show how the network offers a great opportunity to connect scholars from the East and the West and to gain insights into the research perspectives and traditions of each other.

Some personal highlights of the exchange were definitely the production of a video about transnational media history during the Hamburg workshop and a conversation with local activists trying to preserve the

heritage of one of Shanghai's historical harbor districts.

Philipp Seufferling





PUBLISHING WITH A TRILATERAL RESEARCH PROJECT

I am an assistant professor at the School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University. I got to know about this opportunity from the International Office. The MQ-FU-HAM platform was actively promoted by the Office of Foreign Affairs of Fudan as well.

I did a trilateral project with two other fellows from the Institute for Peace Research and Security (IFSH) at Universität Hamburg and Macquarie University, which was developed into a paper and published in S+F Security and Peace. The project presented Germany's, Australia's, and China's perspectives on major ongoing international relations issues, such as the decay of liberalism and the rise of populism, which I think is very interesting and informative. Based upon the paper, I wrote a research proposal to explore one of the questions further, which was accepted and funded by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs last year. I greatly benefited from coauthoring

with the other two fellows and interacting with fellows at the IFSH.

It is quite rare to compare views from Germany, Australia, and China on the same topic. This trilateral network definitely is unique in this regard. Also, bringing fellows from different education and research backgrounds together to work intensively on one project is very effective.

My favorite experience was the trilateral workshop. Although it was small and short, I saw very interesting research done by scholars from different institutes; we had quite thorough discussions on most of the presentations.

Fanglu Sun

DOCTORAL RESEARCHER — HARBOR CITY AND COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP

In September 2018, I was funded by the MQ-FU-HAM trilateral network to attend the Harbor City and Communication Workshop in Universität Hamburg. During my stay, I joined a poster session with other doctoral researchers from Australia, China, and Germany, where I briefly presented my ongoing research into bike sharing and spatial production in China. By describing my insights and having discussions with various colleagues, I received several practical suggestions that later helped me to improve my research a lot.

Furthermore, I met Dr. Hans-Ulrich Wagner at this workshop, who led the Research Center Media History in Hamburg. We kept in constant contact during and after the workshop. In September 2019, I finally succeeded in coming back to Hamburg as a one-year

visiting doctoral researcher and am now working on my doctoral project, a media history study, under the supervision of Dr. Wagner.

I have been really lucky to have such experiences with the help of the trilateral network. It gave me a great chance to broaden my horizons at an international level and therefore provided me with a good basis for my academic career.

Chen Xinsheng



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