



# Strategic Internationalization at Freie Universität Berlin

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# What does the CIC do?

- ➔ Administer an intra-university funding program for internationalization
- ➔ Advise researchers on international research proposals
- ➔ Produce & distribute marketing materials
- ➔ Co-host high profile events with focus on international themes
- ➔ **Lead a worldwide network of liaison offices**
- ➔ **Develop a university wide internationalisation strategy**
- ➔ **Develop strategic partnerships with selected universities abroad**

# FUB Liaison Offices



# Strategic Partnerships – Means to an end, not an end in itself

## Objectives:

- Additional quality for research and teaching
- Deliver complementary strengths
- Promote sustainable research cooperation
- Develop joint PhD & PostDoc initiatives
- Increase co-publications
- Increase FUB's global visibility and attractiveness



## Question:

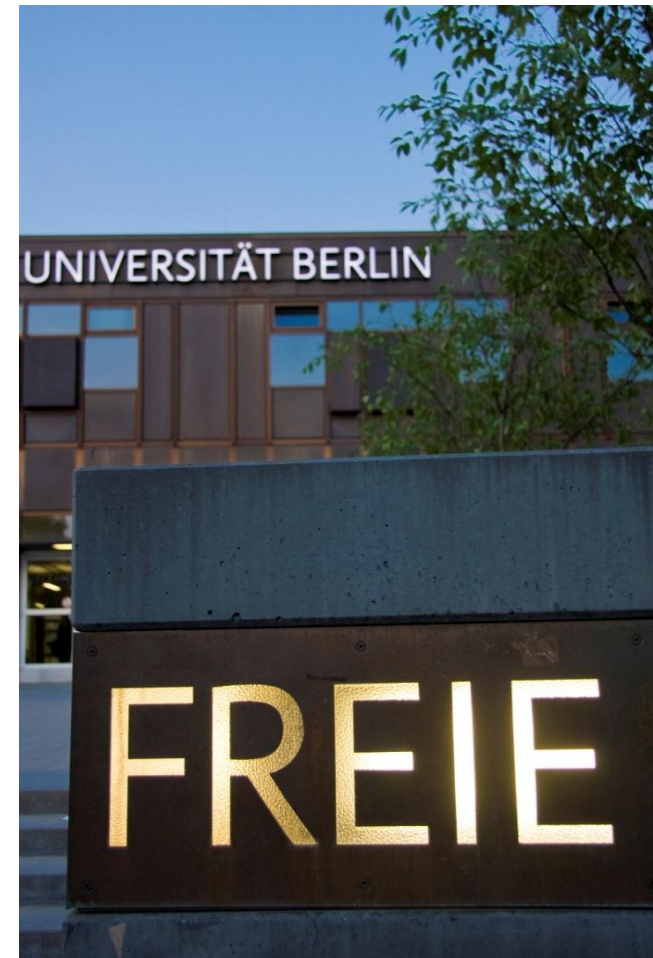
**Which partnerships have this potential?**

## Answer:

**Identify particularly synergetic partnerships.**

# Background: Freie Universität Berlin

- Founded 1948
- One of Germany's 11 Excellence Universities
- 11 Departments, 3 Central Institutes
- 5 Focus Areas (large thematic research clusters)
- Charité (joint medical faculty)
- Around 28,500 students + 4,500 doctoral students
- Degree programs: about 150
- Over 400 professors + junior faculty
- More than 150 partnerships with institutions abroad
- Over 300 Erasmus agreements





Intern. Students 2011	
Freie Univ. Berlin	5416
LMU München	4965
TU Berlin	4621
TU München	4300
Humboldt Univ. Berlin	4285

Intern. Doctoral Students 2011	
Freie Univ. Berlin	1139
U Heidelberg	909
Humboldt Univ. Berlin	888
U Göttingen	798
LMU München	693

DAAD scholarships 2011 (incoming)	
Freie Univ. Berlin	613
U Heidelberg	479
U Leipzig	450
Humboldt Univ. Berlin	437
TU Dresden	400

ERASMUS scholarships 2010 (incoming)	
Freie Univ. Berlin	847
Humboldt Univ. Berlin	731
LMU München	418
TU Berlin	417
TU München	400

# Identification process

## Top-down

- Research interest driven
- Focus on regions/countries with high/growing research potential
- Partnerships should have a history of collaboration at min. 3 departments
- Availability of funding opportunities should be taken into consideration
- Identification process managed by a central unit (Center for International Cooperation)



# Identification process

## Bottom-up

- Target Agreements: Departments map their international activities and develop their own internationalisation agendas
- Consultation process with Deans
- Analysis of existing partnerships (level of activity, mobility, etc)
- Analysis of third party funded research projects (FUB database)
- Analysis of research output (co-publications), when data available
- Analysis of incoming guest scholars / fellows

First three strategic partners:  
Peking University  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
St. Petersburg State University





# Managing Strategic Partnerships

## Underlying notion of joint ownership, mutual benefit, joint coordination



- Typical cross-unit task: Involves Research Dpt, International Office, Academic Affairs, University Leadership, Press & Communication, etc
- Administrative coordinators assigned to communicate, manage and monitor development
- Academic coordinators assigned to serve as champions of strategic partnership
- Seed money funds / annual calls for proposals
- Admin. staff exchange to facilitate understanding of partner's administration and system

# Example: Freie U – Hebrew U

## Joint Activities 2012

involving over 30 FUB faculty

### Academic:

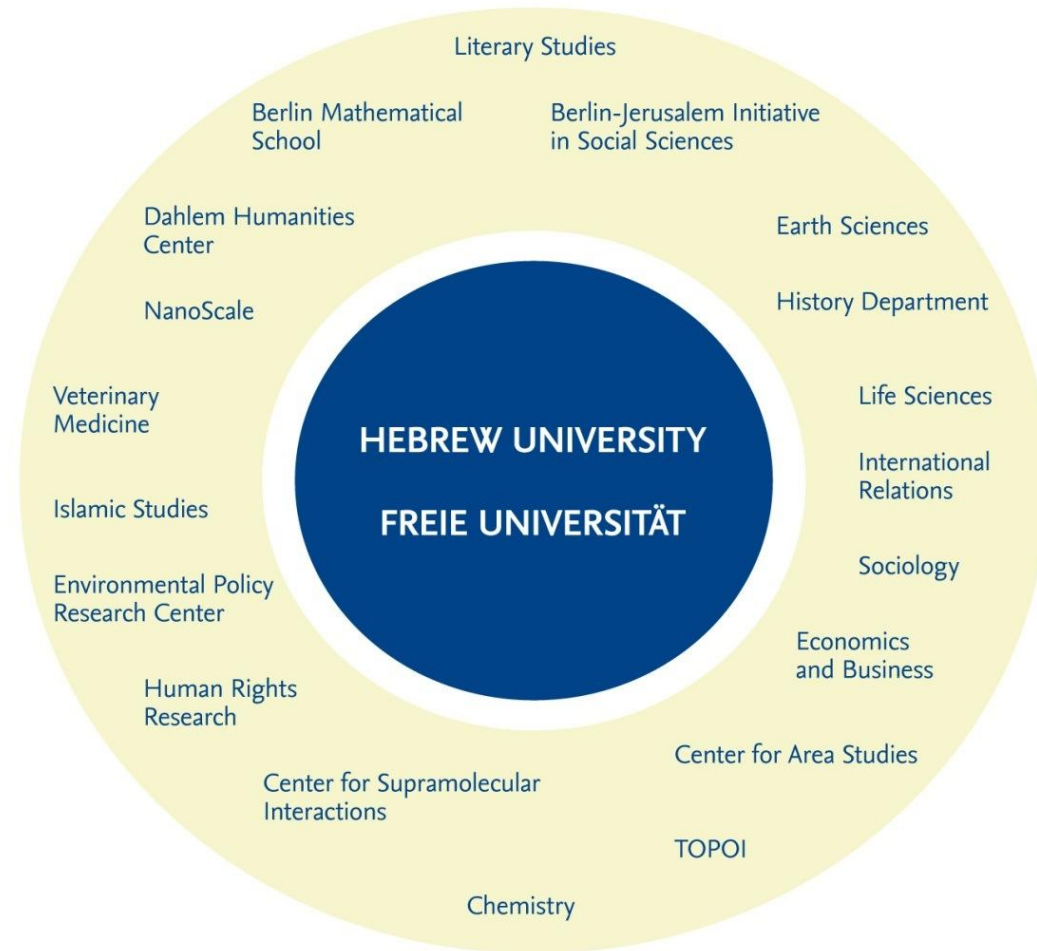
- Summer Schools, PhD Workshops
- Conferences
- Research Projects
- PostDoc Initiatives
- Faculty Exchange
- Doctoral research stays/Joint supervision
- Teaching Modules
- Student Exchange

### Administrative:

- Advising on funding opportunities for research proposals
- Consultations between university leadership
- Press releases / marketing

External funding secured in 2012/2013 for new joint projects:

**approx. € 6 Mio**





**THANK YOU**

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