



# ASEA-UNINET

ASEAN-European Academic  
University Network

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## Bernd Rode Award

This award is named in honour of Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Bernd M. Rode, the founder of ASEA-UNINET. The Bernd Rode Award is granted, starting in 2016, to outstanding scientific and higher education collaborations between European and South-East Asian universities in the framework of ASEA-UNINET and is awarded every 18 months in three categories (Junior, Senior, Project-based).

## ASEA-UNINET – Vision Statement

Having initiated and further developed a number of bilateral co-operations between Austrian universities and universities in Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam in the 1980s and 1990s I got the idea that co-operation could become much more efficient, if all involved institutions would be united in a network, overcoming all problems arising from incompatible faculty structures in bilateral projects. The idea was welcomed by all partners and thus a founding conference for the network was held in Ho Chi Minh City / Saigon in 1994, creating ASEA-UNINET as an Austrian South-East Asian University network. Soon universities in other European and Asian countries became interested in joining this network, and after their inclusion the network was transformed into the ASEAN-European Academic University Network of today.

The main focus was and is on doctoral studies and postgraduate research projects, making it unique among academic mobility programmes

and forming the basis for its extraordinary success. This success can be recognised from the large number of research publications and alumni, the alumni's present positions and the long-lasting relations between participants, and also from fruitful co-operations with industrial companies and government authorities.

It can be predicted, therefore, that ASEA-UNINET has a very bright future, in particular as the Asian partners invest more and more into education and research, providing excellent conditions for the European participants in joint projects. It can be truly seen as a shining example of how mutual understanding and scientific as well as intercultural co-operation can achieve technological progress and long-lasting relations between countries and people.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Bernd Michael Rode  
Founder of ASEA-UNINET,  
Honorary President of ASEA-UNINET

# ASEA-UNINET – ASEAN-European Academic University Network

Following the foundation of ASEA-UNINET in 1994 many European and Asian universities have joined. Nowadays, ASEA-UNINET consists of 80 universities from 20 countries. ASEA-UNINET aims at initiating research activities and higher education partnerships between its member universities in Europe and the ASEAN countries.

## Objectives

- Joint research projects in the following focus areas:
  - Science and Technology
  - Economic and Social Sciences
  - Health, Pharmacy and Medicine
  - Humanities, Culture and Music
- Graduate programmes (mainly PhD studies) and postgraduate education
- University staff exchange and student exchange
- Specialised training courses (summer schools, workshops)
- Support of collaboration projects between science and industry

## Benefits

- Building and deepening academic relations between member institutions
- Co-operation within ASEA-UNINET joint labs
- Fostering the excellent and long-lasting relationships of ASEA-UNINET, between universities, governmental and non-governmental organisations
- ASEA-UNINET is a forum to exchange ideas and opinions in the area of science, technology and innovation with the intention of shaping a future to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Involvement of top European and ASEAN ASEA-UNINET member universities with outstanding academic staff
- Promoting co-operation between the European and ASEAN economic regions
- Recognition of academic degrees, diplomas and credits
- Exemption from general tuition fees and handling fees

Students – Exchange – Professors

Training Courses – Education – Full Scholarships

Mobility – Research – Joint Projects

learn opposing  
opinions.

# Planning Your Research

topic, form a research question or wo  
search plan, and s

Research

# ASEA-UNINET – Further information and contact

## Co-ordinators of all member universities and national representatives:

[www.asea-uninet.org/contact-persons](http://www.asea-uninet.org/contact-persons)

## Co-ordinator for Austria

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. A Min Tjoa  
Vienna University of Technology  
Institute of Software Technology and  
Interactive Systems  
Favoritenstraße 9-11/188, 1040 Vienna  
E-Mail: [office@asea-uninet.org](mailto:office@asea-uninet.org),  
[asea-uninet@ifs.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:asea-uninet@ifs.tuwien.ac.at)

## Contact for Austrian member universities

ASEA-UNINET Network Office (AUNO)  
Ebendorferstraße 7, 1010 Vienna  
T +43 1 534 08-476 or -477  
F +43 1 534 08-499  
E-Mail: [auno@oead.at](mailto:auno@oead.at)

## Austrian Database for Scholarships and Research Grants:

[www.grants.at](http://www.grants.at)

[www.asea-uninet.org](http://www.asea-uninet.org)



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Prof. DI Dr. Bernd Nidetzky (Graz University of Technology)  
on his way to visit the University of Danang, Vietnam.

## Umbrella Agreement of ASEA-UNINET Member Universities

Initiated in 2014, this multilateral agreement highlights the excellent working relationship within ASEA-UNINET during the past 20 years. The Umbrella Agreement aims to enhance the co-operation by means of general agreements on procedures and the facilitation of study and research programmes performed within ASEA-UNINET.

## Austrian contribution to ASEA-UNINET in numbers

... financial support of more than 100  
projects per year

... more than 1,400 incoming scientists

... more than 500 alumni (PhD programme)  
since the foundation of ASEA-UNINET,  
more than 1,000 since the beginning of the  
Austrian ASEAN academic co-operation

## ASEA-UNINET – Best Practice Examples

### Lactobacillus-based vaccine for shrimp

Dr. Nguyen Tien-Thanh started his doctoral studies, financed by a scholarship, at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna in 2007. In 2011 he completed his studies and returned to his home university, Hanoi University of Science and Technology. Ever since we have stayed in contact. I went back regularly to teach in his courses, Thanh came back to work as a postdoc with us. Currently, we are co-operating in a research project which we applied for together in the Vietnam-Austria Scientific and Technological Co-operation Programme. Our goal is to find a cheap, Lactobacillus-based vaccine for shrimp against the white spot syndrome virus (WSSV) and to apply this in aquaculture in Vietnam. Here, Thanh applies the knowledge he acquired at the BOKU for a truly South-East Asian problem, since WSSV infections can have disastrous effects on shrimp cultivation.

*Prof. DI Dr. Dietmar Haltrich, ASEA-UNINET Co-ordinator,  
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria*



### Ancient Buddhist and Hindu Architecture in Central Java

Central Java has a significant number of monumental religious buildings (candi), which date from the last quarter of the 1<sup>st</sup> millennium CE and contain the most important architectural monuments of Hindu and Buddhist eras of insular South-East Asia. With the exception of several outstanding monuments, most of this building stock has not yet been adequately documented.

ASEA-UNINET heavily promoted preliminary field work carried out by teachers and students of the Vienna University of Technology and the Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, which started in July 2011. A research project on the documentation of Central Javanese Hindu and Buddhist religious buildings and their significance within the architectural history of South-East Asia is currently in progress.

*Prof. DI Dr. Erich Lehner, Vienna University of  
Technology, Austria*



## Neurocritical Care Medicine: Austrian Malaysian Collaboration

After a successful scientific collaboration on arboviral encephalitides, comparing epidemiology, clinical features and morbidity/mortality patterns of tick-borne encephalitis (Central Europe) with Japanese encephalitis (Malaysia), a second step of intensive collaboration between these two universities was started in the area of postgraduate training. A set of teaching courses in critical care neurology was planned and finally organized involving the Department of Neurology, Neurocritical Care Unit, Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria and the Universiti Putra Malaysia, Departments of Neurology, Neurosurgery, Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine as well as the Department of Nuclear Medicine.

In addition to these highly practically organised teaching courses with hands-on teaching at the Malaysian CCUs, further training in various aspects of Critical Care Neurology is offered to interested Malaysian trainees/residents in Neurology, Neurosurgery and/or Intensive Care Medicine.

*Prof. Dr. Erich Schmutzhard, ASEA-UNINET Co-ordinator, Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria & Prof. Dr. Abdul Jalil Nordin, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

## AIC - ATC Joint Labs

The establishment of two joint labs, the Austrian-Thai Centre (ATC) and the Austrian-Indonesian Centre (AIC) for computational chemistry, is an excellent example of the trend-setting co-operation activities of ASEA-UNINET. Based on the long-lasting co-operation between the Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand and the Leopold-Franzens University Innsbruck, the Austrian-Thai Centre for Computer-Assisted Chemical Education and Research Building was founded in 1990 on the initiative of Prof. Dr. h.c. mult. Bernd Michael Rode with funds of the development-aid budget under the Foreign Minister Dr. Alois Mock.

Thanks to the close co-operations between Thailand and Austria many different research topics could be jointly worked on, leading to many outstanding publications in internationally renowned journals. Furthermore, the research area of Theoretical and Computational Chemistry was established as a separate academic subject at the partner universities. Moreover, in 2014 the donation of a high performance computing (HPC) system to the AIC was made possible. This donation is associated with appropriate scientific programmes.

*Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thomas Hofer, ASEA-UNINET Co-ordinator, University of Innsbruck, Austria*



## ASEA-UNINET – Testimonials



### **Agus Sartono – Indonesia**

*Education is the license to the future and the premise of progress in every society and every family. More importantly, higher education fosters mutual understanding and helps to build global networks for the future. With long experience, it is no doubt that ASEA-UNINET plays a significant role in increasing country knowledge and innovation capacity. I do believe that part of my achievement is due to a high-quality education from the University of Innsbruck, Austria. I congratulate ASEA-UNINET on enhancing and training highly skilled future leaders and contributing to the countries' competitiveness.*

*Prof. Dr. R. Agus Sartono (Alumnus of the University of Innsbruck)*

*Deputy Minister for Education and Religion, The Coordinating Ministry of Human Development and Culture, The Republic of Indonesia*



### **Hoang Anh Nguyen – Vietnam**

*I was very fortunate to get a grant for my PhD study (from 2008–2011) after passing a strongly competitive interview of the ASEA-UNINET committee. This was a great opportunity for me not only to gain much knowledge in the food biotechnology field, but also to establish collaboration between the Vietnam National University of Agriculture and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna, which is very successful. There are not enough words to explain all my emotions for this chance. However, there is no denying that this PhD study has positively changed my life in terms of science and education.*

*Dr. Hoang Anh Nguyen, Vietnam National University of Agriculture, Hanoi, Vietnam*



### **Kendra Stepputat – Austria**

*ASEA-UNINET is essential in funding an active exchange between students and academic staff across continents, thereby furthering a fruitful co-operation and joint activities between universities in Europe and South-East Asia, and in the case of the KUG, Austria and Malaysia in particular. Without the organisational and financial support provided by ASEA-UNINET, many of the existing, active international ties on a university level would not exist.*

*Dr. Kendra Stepputat, University of Music and Performing Arts Graz (KUG), Austria*



### **Wichian Chutimaskul – Thailand**

*Co-operation between Thailand and Austria under ASEA-UNINET has led to excellent academic development, especially the Summer School in Bangkok, as well as staff and student exchange. The kindness, help and support from professors at the Vienna University of Technology, the University of Vienna, and the Johannes Kepler University Linz are very much appreciated. This academic network has also resulted in close friendships between both countries. We wish to see further co-operation in the near future.*

*Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wichian Chutimaskul*

*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Member of the University Board, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Bangkok, Thailand*



**Albin Atzmüller – Austria**

South-East Asia is one of the fastest-growing markets in the world, and the ASEA-UNINET provides a unique way of accessing universities in this region. Studying in Indonesia was probably the best way for me to become familiar with local cultures and languages, build up network contacts and develop friendships for life. The ASEA-UNINET offered me knowledge and support in the process of applying for, planning and implementing my student exchange. But more importantly, it was the regional ASEA-UNINET co-ordinator who helped me find the right doctors and hospitals when I got sick – and he stayed with me during this difficult time. Thus, ASEA-UNINET provides the safety net that we know from social states and from the help of families, which we do not have when we go overseas as an exchange student.

*Albin Atzmüller, MSc., guest student at Gadjah Mada University (Indonesia), University of Innsbruck, Austria*



**Sheila R. Bonito – Philippines**

Given the number of natural hazards and the increasing use of social media in my country (Philippines), I became interested in the use of social media in disaster management. Through the grant of the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy of Austria within the framework of ASEA-UNINET, I was able to pursue a post-doctoral study on data mining in Twitter in order to develop a model of extracting information and deriving analysis to support information management during typhoon events. During my six-month stay at the Vienna University of Technology, I became familiar with new concepts and tools that can be applied to my study, such as natural language processing and social network analysis. I also learned more about the history, art and culture of Austria. This post-doctoral study has been a truly marvellous experience.

*Sheila R. Bonito, DrPH, Associate Professor, University of the Philippines Open University, Los Baños, Philippines*



**Andreas Karabaczek – Austria**

The ASEA-UNINET has taken the academic exchange between universities in Indonesia, Austria and all the other participating countries to a new level, paving the way for many fruitful projects which otherwise might not have been possible. By actively promoting scholarship programmes, it has given many students and scholars the opportunity to broaden their horizons and contribute to both their host and their home countries. The activities of ASEA-UNINET and its member universities constitute one of the highly successful and productive areas of bilateral co-operation between Austria and Indonesia. I wish the ASEA-UNINET long-lasting success in all its endeavors, from which our countries and our bilateral relations benefit so much.

*Dr. Andreas Karabaczek, Austrian Ambassador to Indonesia*

# ASEA-UNINET – Member universities

## → Austria

University of Innsbruck  
University of Vienna  
University of Graz  
Johannes Kepler University Linz  
University of Salzburg  
Vienna University of Technology (TU Wien)  
Danube University Krems  
Graz University of Technology  
University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna  
Vienna University of Economics and Business  
Montanuniversität Leoben  
University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna  
University of Applied Arts Vienna  
University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna  
University of Music and Performing Arts Graz  
Mozarteum University Salzburg  
Medical University of Innsbruck  
Medical University of Graz  
Medical University of Vienna

## → Czech Republic

Czech Technical University in Prague

## → Denmark

University of Southern Denmark

## → Germany

University of Freiburg  
University of Passau

## → Greece

University of Ioannina

## → Indonesia

Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta  
Institute of Technology, Surabaya  
Diponegoro University, Semarang  
Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta  
Institute of Technology Bandung  
Udayana University, Bali  
University of Sumatera Utara  
Airlangga University  
Bogor Agricultural University

## → Iran (associate member)

Sharif University of Technology

## → Italy

University of Trento  
Politecnico di Milano  
Università degli Studi di Genova  
Università degli Studi di Brescia

## → Malaysia

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia  
Universiti Putra Malaysia  
University of Malaya  
Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka  
Universiti Utara Malaysia

## → Myanmar

Yangon Technological University

## → Netherlands

University of Groningen

## → Pakistan (associate member)

University of Karachi

## → Philippines

University of the Philippines, Quezon City

## → Poland

Wroclaw University of Economics

## → Portugal

University of Porto

## → Russia

Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University

## → Slovakia

Comenius University in Bratislava

## → Spain

University of Murcia

### → Thailand

Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok  
Mahidol University, Bangkok  
Kasetsart University, Bangkok  
King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang  
King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok  
King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi  
Chiang Mai University  
Khon Kaen University  
Maharakham University  
Naresuan University, Phitsanulok  
Prince-of-Songkla University, Hat Yai  
Suranaree University of Technology, Nakhon Ratchasima  
Silpakorn University, Bangkok  
Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok  
Thammasat University, Bangkok  
Burapha University  
Ramkhamhaeng University, Bangkok  
Ubon Ratchathani University

### → Vietnam

Vietnam National University of Ho Chi Minh City  
University of Medicine & Pharmacy of Ho Chi Minh City  
Vietnam National Academy of Music, Hanoi  
Hanoi University  
Hanoi University of Science and Technology  
Hue University  
National Economics University, Hanoi  
University of Danang  
University of Transport and Communications, Hanoi  
Vietnam National University of Agriculture, Hanoi



14<sup>th</sup> ASEA-UNINET Plenary Meeting, July 2014, Innsbruck, Austria

### How to become a member?

Precondition: Only universities as a whole (and not faculties thereof) with established PhD programmes can become members.

- Applications are to be addressed to both, the respective national co-ordinator and the regional co-ordinator.
- Following the admission, the rector appoints in writing a university co-ordinator who should be a professor actively carrying out teaching and research.

WWW.

asea-uninet.org  
oead.at/asea-uninet  
grants.at

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Head office: Vienna | FN 320219 k | Commercial Court Vienna | DVR 4000157 | ATU 64808925 | T +43 1 53408-0 | F +43 1 53408-  
999 | info@oead.at | **Responsible for the content:** Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. A Min Tjoa | office@asea-uninet.org | **Cover Photo:** © coffee yu,  
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