Universität St.Gallen



Funding for Networking Initiatives

Would you like to create new opportunities for exchange and networking among early and mid-career researchers at HSG?

Networking is more than just socializing – it is a vital driver for academic and professional success. Building strong networks creates space for peer learning, enables the exchange of tacit knowledge, provides room for navigating career transitions together, and builds lasting professional relationships. Whether aiming for a future in academia or exploring pathways beyond the university, a robust network provides visibility, collaborative opportunities, and vital career orientation.

Do you have an idea for an event or innovative format designed to spark peer exchange, strengthen professional networks, or provide strategic career guidance? The Academic Career Development offers funding for initiatives developed and organised by Postdocs, groups of doctoral researchers and administrative staff working with doctoral students and/or Postdocs.

The funding is offered as part of the "PgB Nachwuchsförderung" project, funded by swissuniversities.

You can apply for up to 3'000 CHF. Funds may be used for the implementation of the initiative, e.g.

✓ Room rental costs for the event ✓ Travel expenses and accommodation
✓ Catering allowance

The "Spesenreglement" of the University of St. Gallen applies.

Requirements

- ✓ You apply as a group (at least two people) of HSG Postdocs, PhD students or staff.
- ✓ Your initiative creates concrete added value for the career development of PhD students and/or Postdocs.
- ✓ Your initiative enables new academic contacts, facilitates access to relevant networks, and/or provides orientation for academic and non-academic career paths.
- ✓ The initiative/event is open to all members of HSG and takes place before the end of March 2027.
- ✓ Possible formats include for example: interdisciplinary networking formats, career events about academic and non-academic career paths, other innovative formats that promote exchange, networking and community building, brown-bag seminars, research/academic event series.

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Application

Please submit your application in one single PDF file:

✓ An application letter that contains:

- Your names and affiliation(s) as well as your role in the initiative
- Objective and target group of the initiative
- Planned format and, if applicable, schedule
- Expected added value for participants and contribution to networking or career development
- Brief budget outline.

✓ For groups of postdocs and doctoral researchers: CVs of each member of the group

Please submit your application no later than **December 6, 2026** to Dr. Susanne Tönsmann: susanne.toensmann@unisg.ch.

Please note that scientific events that can be covered by the funding scheme "Funds for Scientific Events" of HSG's Research Committee or the SNSF "Scientific Exchanges" scheme will not be considered.

Applications will be assessed based on whether they address a clear need, create new networking opportunities, and offer sustainable benefits beyond the individual initiative. The pilot project will also help identify promising formats and inform the future development of the funding scheme.

Expenses will be refunded upon completion of the initiative and submission of a summary of all expenses and supporting receipts. Applicants are expected to hand in a short report (max. one page about the success of the initiative) no later than three weeks after completion of the event.

Questions & Application
Academic Career Development
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HSG - Uni SG - Academic Career Development

