Announcement EAM Starting Grant 2022/2023
Call for proposals (deadline September 15, 2022)

Dear FAU researchers,

To support the most talented young scientists working in the field of new materials and processes, the FAU Competence Unit Engineering of Advanced Materials (EAM) is launching a new call for the EAM Starting Grants. The grant is endowed with 100,000 Euro, and should serve as seed for the preparation of a Starting Grant of the European Research Council.

The recipients of the grants are required to apply for an ERC Starting Grant in 2023 or 2024 the latest. The grant must be used for the specific research needs of the grant recipient (personal, equipment, consumables, dissemination). Funds will be available immediately after a positive decision and have to be spent completely by December 2023. Only proposals with a strong link to new materials and processes will be considered.

Besides the financial support, the successful candidates will be invited to join the FAU Competence Unit EAM as full members. They will be also given the opportunity of participating in the training program designated for early stage academics offered within the Competence Unit.

In order to apply, candidates are requested to send a tentative title and a short summary of a grant (ca 2000 characters) to eam-administration@fau.de by August 31, 2022. The deadline for the submission of the proposals is September 15, 2022. The proposals need to be provided in the electronic form to eam-administration@fau.de. The evaluation will be overseen by the EAM Executive Board and will be based on assessments by highly esteemed external referees. A decision will be made by November 2022.
Guidelines for proposals:

The requirements of the proposal are equal to those of the ERC Starting Grant (section 1) and are as follows:

I. Title page with an abstract (2000 characters)

II. Scientific leadership potential (max. 1 page)

III. Extended synopsis of the scientific proposal (max. 5 pages): a concise presentation of the proposal including the scientific feasibility of the project, with particular attention to its groundbreaking nature and how it may open up new horizons or opportunities in research.

IV. CV (max. 2 pages)

V. Early achievement track-record (max. 2 pages):
   - Publications as main author in major international peer-reviewed multi-disciplinary scientific journals and/or leading international peer-reviewed journals, peer-reviewed conference proceedings and/or monographs
   - Granted patents
   - Invited presentations to peer-reviewed, internationally established conferences and/or international advanced schools
   - Awards, scholarships and granted research projects under the name of the applicant

The application can be strengthened by outlining the significance/relation of your research to current and future research initiatives (ASta, CRC, RTG, ...) at FAU.

For specific questions, please refer to Simone Gehrer (simone.gehrer@fau.de or 09131 85-70475).

Best regards,

Erdmann Spiecker