

Brown Bag Talks

In March 2021, the University Oldenburg and the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen adopted the Roadmap for Cooperation 2020–2030, defining the focus areas and objectives for the next ten years of collaboration.

To further strengthen this long-standing partnership, a range of innovative funding opportunities is now available. These programmes, supported by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture and the Volkswagen Foundation *under A Programme for Excellence (Potentiale Strategisches Entfalten)*, aim to foster new joint initiatives, promote networking between the universities, and provide new thematic impetus. Designed for different target groups, the funding instruments offer multiple ways to take our collaboration to the next level.

Funding initiative: Brown Bag Talks

The Brown Bag Talks programme aims to further promote networking among students, doctoral candidates, postdoctoral researchers, researchers and science management at the University of Oldenburg and Groningen.

The Brown Bag Talks funding line supports lecture formats (digital or in person). The sessions are held within a time frame of one hour. The focus is primarily on the subsequent discussion and exchange of opinions. This funding programme is made possible by the 'A Programme for Excellence' initiative, which is funded by the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture and the Volkswagen Foundation.

Who can participate?

Researchers at the PhD level and above are invited to participate. Please note that funding applications must be submitted through colleagues at the University of Oldenburg, as only they are eligible to apply for the funds.

Duration and funding

The following aspects are eligible for funding

- Material resources
- Funds for assistants.

A maximum of 1,000.00 Euro can be applied for per event.

Application

Funding applications must be submitted by 28 February 2026.

Oldenburg colleagues need to submit the application in electronic form via the application portal (link pending).

In a selection meeting after the end of the application period, the selection committee, consisting of the chairwoman Prof. Dr. Katharina Al-Shamery (Vice-President for Academic Careers, Equal Opportunities and International Affairs) and other members, will decide on the funding applications received. Applicants will be informed of the decision as soon as possible.

Evaluation criteria

- Potential of the planned cooperation beyond the duration of the measure
- Feasibility of the planned project with visible results (workshops, publications, draft proposals)
- Added value for cooperation between the two universities.

For more information, please contact Susan Garthaus (s.garthaus@rug.nl) or Tim Zwaagstra (t.n.zwaagstra@rug.nl).