UCL - University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) Seed Funds

University College London (UCL) and the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) are jointly contributing funds to support collaborative research initiatives through a joint call for proposals focusing on these collaborative activities. Applicants are invited to submit proposals that support the development of research collaboration between UCL and Wits in the areas of a) Material, Energy and Nanotechnology and b) Migration.

Collaborative Projects

1.1. To be eligible, a proposal must include participants from both UCL and Wits.
1.2. PIs from Wits and UCL will submit one joint application via online application system on the Wits website. Only Wits PIs can access the online application system.
1.3. Each successful joint proposal will be funded a maximum value of £5000 or roughly R91300. These funds should be seen as seed funds for the project.
1.4. Each university will evaluate the internal proposal received and compile a shortlist of potentially successful projects. The two universities will share their shortlist. Projects that are shortlisted by both universities will then be assessed and recommended for selection by a committee composed of members from both Institutions appointed by the Vice-President for Research and Innovation/International or their designate.
1.5. The funding provided by the Universities is intended to support expenses, including but not limited to costs related to exchange of personnel (post-doctoral fellows, research associates and/or Principal Investigators - PIs) between the institutions.
1.6. Proposed funding in each application should be somewhat evenly balanced between the UCL and Wits participants and preferably involve visit/s in at least one direction.

2. Eligibility for UCL participants within the scope of this call

2.1. The PI’s at UCL must be UCL staff members with the following roles:
   i. Professor/Professorial Teaching Fellow or equivalent, Reader or equivalent, Senior Lecturer/Principal Researcher/Principal Research Associate/Senior Teaching Fellow or equivalent, Lecturer/Senior Research Associate/Teaching Fellow or equivalent, Post Doc/Researcher/Post Doc Fellow/Research Associate or equivalent – eligible provided the contract covers the spend and activity period.
   ii. Applicants are not required to have a doctorate to apply, but do need to hold a role at one of the levels described above.
   iii. PhD students are not eligible to apply.
2.2 The PI’s at Wits must be academic / research staff of post-doctoral fellows who have a PhD.

3. Collaborative Activities

3.1. Collaborative activities should be developed jointly by an academic from UCL and Wits and could include: joint research projects, Doctoral student mobility and any other form of research partnerships, to be promoted and implemented jointly when both UCL and Wits find it mutually beneficial.

4. Value and Duration

4.1. The maximum funding that a successful project could receive would be £5000 or a rough equivalent of R91300. The total funding can be used at any of the two partner sites. Projects will be selected in July 2019 and begin in August 2019. This award should be evenly split between the Wits and the UCL PI and the costing breakdown outlined in the proposal.

5. Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call for proposals</td>
<td>16 May 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for submission of proposal</td>
<td>30 June 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication of Results to applicants</td>
<td>15 July 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start date of Awards</td>
<td>5 August 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion date for Awards</td>
<td>31 July 2020</td>
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7. Communication of Results

7.1. Results will be announced by means of a communication to the successful faculty members by 15 July 2019.

8. Reporting After Project Completion

8.1. All awardees must, as a condition of receiving an award under this call, complete a narrative report (of 500 words maximum) that describes the outcomes, project impact, student and early career researchers involvement and opportunities for future collaboration that evolved from their project. There will be two
reports: An interim report due by 01 December 2019 describing progress on the first year’s activities, and a short follow up report by 30 April 2020.

9. **Information about this Call:**

All questions related to this Joint Call for Collaborative Projects must be directed to Dr Mahomed Moolla, Strategic Partnerships: [Mahomed.Moolla@wits.ac.za](mailto:Mahomed.Moolla@wits.ac.za) Tel: +27 11 717 9731

10. **Submission of Proposals**

Proposals are to be prepared and submitted by the PI’s to their host university via Wits’s online platform.