UCL-University of Toronto

Second Joint Call for Collaborative Projects and Exchange Activities

Following an initial successful call for joint seed fund collaborative projects and exchange activities with University of Toronto (UofT) in June 2017, a second round of funds to broaden and expand the partnership is now open.

This opportunity is specific to UCL Faculties that are underrepresented in the partnership: UCL Faculty of Life Sciences, UCL Faculty of Arts & Humanities and UCL Faculty of Laws.

1. Projects

i) To be eligible, a proposal must include team participants from both Institutions.
ii) This call invites research or education proposals in areas of mutual interest and complementary strength that will broaden the partnership between U of T and UCL. This call is open to applications and proposals from the following UCL Faculties: Life Sciences, Laws and Arts and Humanities.
iii) Up to three (3) projects will be selected to receive funding.
iv) Each Project will have a maximum time length of one year, unless otherwise agreed by GEO.
v) The proposals will be assessed and recommended by a committee composed of the UCL Pro-Vice-Provost (North America) and Co-Chairs of the UCL-UofT Working Group.
vi) The funding provided is intended to support expenses, including but not limited to costs related to exchange (students, post-doctoral fellows, research associates and/or PIs) between the institutions.

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

Applications are open to UCL staff members with the following roles:
• 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.**
• Applicants are not required to have a doctorate to apply, but do need to hold a role at one of the levels described above.
• PhD students are not eligible to apply.

3. Collaboration Activities

Collaboration activities may be based on joint projects set up by faculty/staff members with a named PI
• Joint research projects
• Joint teaching projects
• Doctoral student mobility
• Any other form of partnerships, to be promoted and implemented jointly when both U of T and UCL find it mutually beneficial.

4. Value and Duration

Up to three successful proposals will each receive up to £10,000. The maximum duration of each project is 12 months. Projects will be selected in 2019 and begin in May 2019 for one year, i.e. funds will be expended between 1 May 2019 and 30 April 2020.

5. Timeline

Call for proposals: 18 March 2019
Deadline for submission of proposal: 30 April 2019, 23:59 GMT
Communication of results to applicants: 21 May 2019
Start date of awards: 27 May 2019

6. Submission of Proposals

i) Each proposal must be submitted by 30 April 2019 to UCL by the UCL faculty member(s).
ii) Submissions must be sent by e-mail to: Helen Gibson, Partnerships Assistant, Global Engagement Office Email: helen.gibson@ucl.ac.uk
iii) The full proposal should be comprised of the following elements:

• Proposal Cover that includes the faculty member and affiliations from each Institution with contact details

• A Project Description, maximum three (3) pages (excluding bibliography if included) that includes the following items (in alignment with the Selection Criteria listed below):
  o Abstract that describes the project.
  o Description of the planned activities (for example, seminars, short courses, visits to other institutions that carry out research/teaching activities in cognate areas, etc.) including rationale and timeline
  o Project impact: Description of the expected academic gains for the project as a result of the proposed cooperation and mobility, and the identification of possible outputs of the project e.g. a publication, blog, meeting report etc.
  o Impact of collaboration: Anticipated benefits of the collaboration to the faculty member’s other active research and/or teaching projects and on strengthening the overall partnership between U of T and UCL.
  o Trainee involvement: Any opportunities for graduate student(s) engagement and anticipated benefits to the project and the student(s) themselves as applicable.
● **Capacity for future collaboration**: A description of the potential future collaborations and outcomes that will be possible as a result of having undertaken the current collaboration. For example: joint publications, joint supervision of PhD students, joint teaching, joint patent applications, joint reports to governments, joint funding applications.

○ **Proposed budget**: The amount for 1 year as outlined in section 4, including a breakdown of the cost of the activity e.g. flights, travel, hotel, meals, etc. for each of the two years of the project.

iii. **Curriculum Vitae** of the faculty members.

### 7. Adjudication

i) **Applications** will be received by the UCL Global Engagement Office, and forwarded to the internal review committee (as outlined above) along with a template for ranking applications.

ii) **Selection Criteria**: The internal review committee will assess each Full Proposal according to the academic merit and compelling elements covered by the following criteria:

  - **Project design and rationale** (how clearly presented and justified is the design and basis for the collaboration)
  - **Project impact** (how clearly linked are the academic gains to the planned activities and performance indicators)
  - **Impact of collaboration** (how strong is the link being between the proposed collaboration and current research or teaching project(s).)
  - **Trainee involvement** (are opportunities provided for students to engage in the collaboration? What are the anticipated benefits of student engagement to the project and for the students themselves?)
  - **Capacity for future collaboration** (what is the extent to which future collaborations are possible as a result of the proposed exchange activities.)

### 8. Communication of Results

Final results will be announced by means of a communication to the successful faculty members.

### 9. Reporting After Project Completion

All awardees must, as a condition of receiving an award under this call, complete a narrative report (of between 1 and 2 pages) that describes the outcomes, nature of collaboration, project impact, trainee involvement and opportunities for future collaboration that evolved from their project. The final report will be due by 30 May 2020.

### 10. Information about this Call

All questions related to this Seed Fund Call for Collaborative Projects must be directed to:

Helen Gibson, Partnerships Assistant, Global Engagement Office
Email: helen.gibson@ucl.ac.uk