

UCL-ZJU Joint Call for Collaborative Projects and Exchange Activities

University College London (UCL) and Zhejiang University (ZJU) are contributing matching funds to support collaborative education and research initiatives through a joint call for proposals for the development of collaborative activities.

1. Projects

1. This call invites research proposals in the areas of mutual interest and complementary strengths that will strengthen the partnership between UCL and ZJU.
2. Proposals must include participants from both institutions.
3. Proposals from all fields are welcome but the following areas will be prioritised:
 - i) Proposals aimed at addressing and mitigating the health, social, economic, cultural and environmental impact of the COVID-19 outbreak.
 - ii) Proposals relating to one or more of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
4. Up to six joint projects will be selected for funding. Proposals will be assessed by a committee composed of members from both institutions. Priority will be given to emerging collaborations that have not previously received funding.

2. Eligibility for participants within the scope of this call

Applications are open to UCL staff members in 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, but are encouraged to take part in the project

The call is open to ZJU Principal Investigators (PIs) employed on a full-time basis. Postdoctoral researchers and PhD students at ZJU are not eligible to apply, but are encouraged to take part in the project.

3. Collaborative activities

Given the uncertainty surrounding international travel, we strongly encourage applicants to explore methods of remote collaboration, within the limits of what is permissible within the financial regulations of each institution.

Activities supported by UCL include:

- Developing joint research projects.
- Organising a joint seminar/workshop (remotely or in person, with travel restrictions in mind) including costs for any external services required to facilitate the event, e.g. professional moderation or technical support.

- Visiting a collaborator to work on a research paper/project or other research activity that cannot be carried out remotely.
- Stipends for research assistants, interns and students.
- Doctoral student mobility.
- Services used to disseminate results.

Activities supported by ZJU include:

- Research-related mobility, including remote forms.
- Project-related joint meetings and workshops, including remote forms.
- Limited expenses on relevant research materials and supplies.

The above lists are not exhaustive and we understand that there may be other ways you wish to conduct the project.

4. Value and duration

Up to six successful proposals will receive up to £10,000 in total. Funding will be provided jointly by UCL and ZJU, with approximately 5,000 GBP from UCL going to the UCL academic and 50,000 RMB from ZJU going to the ZJU academic. **However, only one proposal should be submitted.**

Please note that UCL and ZJU have different financial years and this will have an impact on the funding schedule. Funds provided by UCL must be spent by 31 July 2022, whereas funds provided by ZJU must be spent by 30 November 2022. Applicants should take this into account when planning their proposed activity.

5. Timeline

Call for proposals	19 October 2021
Deadline for submission of proposal	1 December 2021
Communication of Results to applicants	December 2021
Start date of Awards	January 2022

6. Submission of proposals

- Proposals are to be prepared and submitted jointly. As agreed by UCL and ZJU, each proposal must **be submitted by the lead UCL academic by midnight (GMT) 1 December 2021.**
- Proposals must be submitted to UCL at the following link:
<https://form.jotform.com/212434077808356>

7. Adjudication

- Proposals are received by UCL's Global Engagement Office and forwarded to ZJU for separate review at each institution.
- Selection Criteria: Both internal review committees will assess each proposal according to 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 outcomes to the planned activities and performance indicators, such as joint papers, external funding applications, joint research with industry and proposals for policy recommendations?)
- **Impact of collaboration** (is there a distinct advantage provided by this collaboration that is not possible by the two institutions working individually?)
- **Capacity for future collaboration** (what is the extent to which future collaborations are possible as a result of the proposed exchange activities?)

iii) A joint committee will convene to select up to six final proposals.

8. Communication of results

Final results will be announced by means of an email 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 achievements (of between 1 and 2 pages) preferably with images shortly after the project's completion.