



UNIVERSITY GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP NETWORK (UGPN)
RESEARCH COLLABORATION FUND
CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2018

SUMMARY

The University Global Partnership Network (UGPN) exists to create a foundation for international collaboration enabling academics and students from world-leading universities to work together on issues of global importance. Its members are North Carolina State University (NCSU), the Universidade de São Paulo (USP), the University of Surrey (UOS) and the University of Wollongong (UOW). The UGPN is now accepting proposals for the 2018 UGPN Research Collaboration Fund (RCF), which is the seventh cycle of this program. The RCF has been set-up to support international activities leading to high quality research collaborations between researchers at UGPN partner institutions. Funding will be awarded on the basis of strategic benefit and scholarly merit of proposals along with availability of resources.

Proposals should involve substantive engagement that is expected to lead to high quality outputs, such as international research training for graduate students or early career faculty, publication of joint papers from collaborative research or joint research bids to external funding agencies. We strongly encourage visiting staff to engage with the postgraduate curriculum at the host university and to specify this in the proposal. This can include teaching on postgraduate programmes, guest lectures, joint supervision or development of collaborative programmes.

Projects funded during the first six cycles are listed online at:

<http://www.ugpn.org/Research>

Proposals should be submitted by the Principal Investigator to: ugpn@surrey.ac.uk

no later than 17:00 (UTC) on Friday **1st June 2018**



THE UNIVERSITY GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

The mission of the University Global Partnership Network is to develop sustainable world-class research, education and knowledge transfer through an active international network of selected universities collaborating in research, learning and teaching to benefit global society. The UGPN focuses on two priority areas: (1) promoting research with global impact (2) promoting global graduates: student experience and employability. Further information can be found at www.ugpn.org

THE UGPN RESEARCH COLLABORATION AWARDS

Goals of this award

- To promote and facilitate high quality and long term research collaboration between faculty / researchers at UGPN partners in areas of strategic importance
- To facilitate the publication of high quality joint research papers
- To facilitate the submission of high quality research bids

Eligibility: applicants

- Proposals are invited from permanent faculty (permanent, tenured or tenure track) or research professionals at NC State (those who comply with Sponsored Programs eligibility requirements), USP, UOS and UOW.
- All proposals must involve collaboration between university-eligible faculty from at least two of UGPN partners, with trilateral and quadrilateral collaboration welcome.

Funding

- Funding of up to US\$10,000 (or the approximate AU\$, £, R\$ equivalent) per participating institution in each successful proposal will be made available for travel and subsistence costs (i.e. up to a maximum of US\$20,000 for bilateral

collaboration and up to a maximum of US\$40,000 for quadrilateral collaboration¹).

- Planned expenditures should be in line with the financial policies of the participating institutions.
- Proposals that include match funding from other sources are encouraged.

Eligible costs

Eligible costs include:

- International and local travel
- Accommodation
- Subsistence

Staff costs are not eligible for inclusion. Consumables and/or funding for the use of a partner's laboratory facilities should not be included.

Timeline

- Call for project proposals issued on 17 April 2018.
- Submission deadline – 17:00, 1st June 2018.
- Successful projects selected by 30 June 2018.
- Funded projects to be completed by 31 July 2019.

Indicative activities

Funding will support the travel and subsistence costs associated with researchers spending time at partner institutions. Proposals that include opportunities for the exchange of postgraduate and PhD students are encouraged.

Proposals may include collaborative activities such as:

- Workshops, guest lectures and high-level seminars on multidisciplinary research areas with global impact
- Video-conference seminars

¹ By way of illustration, a successful bilateral bid may be funded up to a maximum of US\$20 000 – with US\$10 000 available from each partner.

- Development of joint industry-research collaborations with global impact
- Delivery of a joint publication or other output resulting from collaborative research or scholarship activities.
- Collection of preliminary data to augment a full proposal with potential for global impact to a funding agency
- Creation and support of resources such as websites, research collaboration sites, or other social networking tools to facilitate the dissemination of results
- Development of a discipline-specific Dual PhD program by two network partners.

The above list is indicative and is not intended to be comprehensive.

Format and Guidelines

Proposal content: UGPN research grant applications are limited to six pages with one inch (2.54 cms) margins, 11 font in Arial or Times New Roman, or 12 font in Calibri and must include the following sections:

- **Cover Page** including the title of the project, principal investigator, contact information, duration of project, a 1,000 character synopsis of the proposed project, and a list of 5 key words. *Use of the cover page template provided online is strongly encouraged. (1 page maximum)*
- **Project Description:** specifically address who your collaborators are, objectives of the collaboration, how the proposed activities align with the goals of the RCF, ***especially the potential for global impact***. The description should include specific objectives and clearly articulate the activities or plan of work, which would be undertaken to achieve those objectives. It should be in sufficient detail that reviewers can evaluate the proposed plan according to the evaluation criteria. *Remember some reviewers may come from outside*

your discipline so use language that those lacking expertise in your area will understand. (4 pages maximum)

- **Budget with Justification (1 page maximum)**

In addition, the following must be included in the proposal and does not count against the 4 page content limit of the Project Description:

- **Biosketch** (2 page maximum) of the PI(s) including Education, Professional Appointments, Synergistic Activities relevant to this grant application, and up to ten (10) publications related to this research or scholarship.
- **Letter(s)** from Faculty Deans (or their designees) or from sources of any matching funds.

Application Process

The proposal and supporting documents should be submitted, as a pdf document, to ugpn@surrey.ac.uk

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals that meet the eligibility requirements will be reviewed and assessed by review panels at each of the four universities. A joint committee consisting of representatives from the UGPN partners will make the final decision for awards. Proposals will be assessed with reference to the following criteria:

- 1) **Relevance:** degree to which the project addresses a globally important challenge and demonstrates innovative, interdisciplinary and sustainable collaboration among UGPN partners;

- 2) Proposal Content: clearly articulates measurable goals, objectives and activities that are feasible (evidenced by a reasonable and justified budget) and align with the purpose of the RCF;
- 3) Impact/Sustainability: focus on achievable results that can lead to high impact outcomes and the potential to leverage future funding;
- 4) Researcher Commitment: demonstration of the involvement of appropriately qualified researchers from at least two UGPN partners.

In making their decisions, the joint selection panel will seek to support a representative variety of research topics. Proposals that include visiting staff engaging in postgraduate programmes/research areas are strongly encouraged.

Reporting

Successful applicants are required to submit a final report no later than one month after the end of the grant period. Periodic status updates on the progress of the project may be requested. The report should include information on:

- objectives proposed and activities undertaken
- project outcomes and achievements, including key findings and future plans
- a brief assessment by the lead researcher on the impact (positive and negative) on their research
- actual expenditure against budget

Enquiries

Enquires should be directed to the following contacts at each UGPN Partner:

Mr David Dixon, Director of Global Partnerships, NCSU: djdixon@ncsu.edu

Ms Louise Lawton, Global Partnerships Officer, UOS: louise.lawton@surrey.ac.uk

Ms Sally McNeill, Major Research Initiatives Officer, UOW: sallymc@uow.edu.au

Mr Daniel Barcelos, International Officer, USP: international.networks@usp.br