Academia Sinica – University of Ottawa

INAUGURAL JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS
TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS 2020–2022

CALL GUIDELINES
(document aussi disponible en français)

Objectives

This Call for proposals follows the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding between Academia Sinica (AS) and the University of Ottawa (uOttawa) on June 4, 2019 in Taipei. The agreement aims to establish a bilateral scientific exchange program through:

- Developing collaborative projects between AS and uOttawa researchers;
- Enriching the experience of early career researchers by giving them the opportunity to meet and work with senior researchers;
- Capitalizing on areas of common strength in research at AS and uOttawa, and
- Increasing the visibility of both institutions within the international research community.

This Call, the first of two to be launched in the next three years, will provide seed funding to joint proposals from research teams based at Academia Sinica and at the University of Ottawa, giving support to the next generation of researchers building relations between the two institutions.

While the Call solicits proposals of diverse scale and scope in all fields of knowledge, priority will go to interdisciplinary initiatives that seek to develop long-term, externally-funded collaborations.

Program Description

Project Composition and Requirements

- Through this Call, Academia Sinica and the University of Ottawa will support up to two projects. Each project lasts two years.

- Each team consists of two co-PIs (one Academia Sinica researcher and one uOttawa professor), of eventual co-applicants (Academia Sinica researchers and University of Ottawa professors), and of up to three Academia Sinica graduate students and up to five uOttawa graduate students.

- In addition to conducting research, uOttawa professors and Academia Sinica researchers are required to offer at least one seminar or public lecture at the partner's institution.

- The support of Academia Sinica and of the University of Ottawa should be acknowledged whenever funds are used to organize public events or to publish relevant research results.

Funding

- Each project will receive up to CAD 67,500 ($\approx$ TWD 1.5 million) in funding.

- Academia Sinica will provide up to CAD 30,000 ($\approx$ TWD 700,000) per project, over two years, to allow its researchers and graduate students to travel to Ottawa (up to 6 months).

- Successful University of Ottawa applicants will receive up to CAD 37,500 per project, over two years, to allow its researchers to travel to Taiwan. This amount will consist of i) CAD 7,500 for uOttawa professors to visit Academia Sinica, and ii) up to five awards of CAD 6,000 for uOttawa students to spend between 12 and 24 weeks each at ASinica over the course of the project.

- uOttawa applicants are encouraged to secure additional funds to support more uOttawa professor visits to Academia Sinica.

Fund administration

- The responsibility for the management of the funds provided by Academia Sinica rests with the Academia Sinica applicants. The responsibility for the management of the funds provided by the Office of the Vice-Present, Research (OVPR) rests with uOttawa applicants in accordance to rules for travel expenses as defined in the University's Policy 21.

- Financial support will cover the cost of return economy airfare, ground transportation, accommodation, and living allowance for researchers and graduate students. uOttawa students travelling to Taiwan must comply with the OVPR's <u>Centre for Research Opportunities guidelines</u>.

- Under no circumstances can the funding be used to pay salary or honoraria for academic and non-academic staff, nor can it be used to buy software, equipment or research/academic supplies, to host events or to travel to/participate in conferences. Fees required to enter Taiwan or Canada are not eligible expenses (e.g. work permits, visas).

- No additional funds will be provided if actual costs related to the project are higher than estimated. Any unused funds must be returned within one month of the end of the project to Academia Sinica or to the University of Ottawa, respectively.

- A one-page report must be submitted to Academia Sinica and to the University of Ottawa after the first year of the project. The second half of the award will be transferred to the team only after a positive review of activities conducted in the first year.

Eligibility

The eligibility criteria for each institution are:

- For Academia Sinica: Research Fellows of all Research Institutes within the three Divisions (Mathematics and Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, and Humanities and Social Sciences)

- For the University of Ottawa: Holders of a full-time tenure or tenure-track position at the University of Ottawa, or of a full-time position at one of the University's affiliated institutes.

Researchers/professors can lead a maximum of one application as co-PI.

Application Process

A complete application package includes the following documents:

- The Application Form: each section on the application form must be completed.
- Curriculum vitae of the two co-PIs and of co-applicants, including lists of publications (maximum of 10 relevant publications) and grants received (for the past 3 years).
- A budget, together with adequate explanatory notes, justifications, and a signed 'Request for Funds' form (uOttawa Applicants only).

Applications must be submitted simultaneously by email to oir@uottawa.ca and lsd@gate.sinica.edu.tw. Proposals should be written in the English language. No proposal will be accepted after the closing date for submission, nor will any addendum or explanation be accepted.

Note: uOttawa student members of successful applicant teams will need to submit their own applications to the Centre for Research Opportunities (CRO). Because this is a months-long process, we encourage uOttawa Faculty members to contact the CRO ahead of submission and validate their students' eligibility to receive Globalink Research Awards. Eligible students have a high success rate.

Evaluation process

All proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Quality of the proposal, anticipated scientific impact and sustainability of the collaboration over the long term (Scoring value = 30%)
- Excellence of the applicants and team members' research record (publications, impact of research, international recognition) and fit and complementarity of team members (Scoring value = 30%)
- Participation of uOttawa early- or mid-career researchers, multidisciplinarity, knowledge mobilization (Scoring value = 20%)
- Planned activities to attract external funding (Scoring value = 10%)
- Budget justification and level of support provided by the applicant and other sources (Scoring value = 10%)

AS and uOttawa will set up a joint evaluation committee, and simultaneously announce results and notify applicants.

Timeline

Call launched	November 18, 2019
Application deadline	February 7, 2020
Announcement of results	March 2020
Start date of projects	May 1, 2020
Latest project end date	April 31, 2022
Progress reporting	One year after the beginning of the project
Final reporting	No later than one month after the end of the project

Contact information

For further information regarding the Call, contact:

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