Université Paris Cité - University of Toronto
First Call for Joint Research Proposals

Université Paris Cité (UPCité) and the University of Toronto (U of T) are contributing matching funds to support collaborative research initiatives through a joint call for proposals. The aim of the fund is to provide initial support for the development of research links and catalyze further collaboration. In the longer term, the goal is to build international teams who are well positioned to apply for external funding to develop their partnerships.

Proposals will be assessed and recommended for selection by a committee composed of members of both institutions.

1. **Projects**
    1. To be eligible, a proposal must include a PI from UPCité and U of T, and at least one other researcher on each team. We encourage early career researchers[1] (ECRs) to apply.
    2. The funding envelope comprises 50,000 € from UPCité and CAD$75,000 from the U of T. Up to five (5) joint projects will be selected.
    3. The fund is open for proposals across all research areas.
    4. Projects will be funded for a period of 18 months and should aim to start by September 2024 at the latest.
    5. Proposals with the potential for sustainability beyond the initial funding period are encouraged.

2. **Costs and proposal**
    1. Proposals may include workshops (face-to-face and virtual), symposia, staff exchanges, research seminars/presentations and formation or development of a collaborative network.
    2. Eligible costs include travel and subsistence, consumables and the cost of research assistants, research associates and technicians which are directly related to the project. Existing staff time including the Co-PIs time cannot be costed to the project. The fund does not support equipment, scholarships, conference attendance, PhD stipends, or tuition fees.

Eligible Costs	**Ineligible Costs**
• Travel costs including flights, hotels and subsistence • Research costs, including consumables and research assistants (up to 25% of total requested budget). • Costs associated with organizing workshops and meetings	• Replacement research/teaching costs • Directly incurred staff e.g. teaching assistants • Directly allocated costs including applicants' time • Indirect costs/estates costs • Equipment • Scholarships • Conference attendance • Tuition fees • PhD stipends • Honoraria

[1]**UPCité:** Up to 5 years after obtaining a doctorate or after a first faculty appointment without excluding research engineer.
U of T: an individual who is within five years of their first faculty appointment. This duration excludes any period of career break.

3. **Eligibility**
    1. **UPCité:** Academic staff members from all disciplines and at all levels are eligible to apply (excluding emeritus and honorary staff). The lead applicant must be a permanent member of staff.
    2. **U of T:** Faculty members in continuing U of T appointments from all disciplines are eligible to apply.

4. Value and Duration

Up to 5 successful proposals will receive up to the following funding:

1. UPCité will provide each approved project up to 14,000€ to support their applicants.
2. U of T will provide each approved project up to CAD$ 15,000 to support U of T applicants.

4. **Timeline**

Call for proposals opens	March 13, 2024
Intention to Apply	May 3, 2024
Deadline for submission	May 13, 2024 (11:59 EST)
Communication of results to applicants	June 24, 2024
Project start date	No later than September 2024

5. **Submission of Proposals**

This is a joint call and a single application should be submitted online using OVPI Application Portal. **Note:** In the system, the application form is categorized as "Workshop". Applicants have the option to upload their proposal, which includes parts i to iv (see below), under section 5b.

Applicants must submit an intention to apply by May 3, 2024 through this link Those who are unable to meet this deadline must request and receive approval from the same addresses before submitting a final application.

The full proposal is comprised of the following elements:

i. Proposal cover that includes the faculty member and affiliations from each Institution with contact details.

ii. A project description that includes the following items (in alignment with the selection criteria listed below):
    a. **Abstract** that describes the project.
    b. **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.
    c. **Methodology:** a short description on how the project will be carried out should be given in order to help the reviewer assessing its feasibility. The repartition of work and interplay between the 2 teams should be explained.
    d. **Project impact:** Description of the expected academic gains for the project as a result of the proposed cooperation and mobility, and the identification of corresponding performance indicators e.g. a publication, blog, meeting report etc.
    e. **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 UPCité.
    f. **Graduate student involvement**: Any opportunities for graduate student(s) engagement and anticipated benefits to the project and the student(s) themselves as applicable.
    g. **Equity, diversity and inclusion:** An assessment on how EDI issues are the considered in the proposal (e.g how it will benefit to under Trainee and Early Career Research Involvement) will be considered positively considered in the evaluation.
    h. **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
    i. **Proposed budget**: A breakdown of the cost of the activity e.g. flights, travel, hotels etc.

iii. Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae (not more than 2 pages) of the Co-PIs with a selected list of publications.
iv. A letter of support from your Line Manager or Head of Department to apply for the grant.

The overall proposal should not exceed 5 pages.

6. **Reviewing process**

A joint review committee will assess each full proposal according to the academic merit and compelling elements covered by the following criteria:

- **Project design and rationale (10 points):** How clearly presented and justified is the basis for, and design of, the project? How do the proposed activities assist with establishing new and emerging research collaborations? What are the anticipated benefits of involving ECRs and/or graduate researchers?
- **Potential impact (10 points):** What desired outcomes do the planned activities set out to achieve? What are the anticipated benefits of the activities to local or international communities? How does your proposal demonstrate strong relevance to strategic priorities of the participating institutions?
- **Trainee involvement (10 points):** What are the 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/funding (20 points):** What is the potential for this project to foster ongoing collaboration, and through what mechanism(s)? How well does the proposed collaboration plan to access external funding?

7. **Reporting After Project Completion**

All awardees must, as a condition of receiving an award under this call, complete a narrative report that describes the outcomes, nature of collaboration, project impact, trainee involvement and opportunities for future collaboration that evolved from their project (about 2 pages).

8. **Information about this call**

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