



University of Melbourne-University of Toronto Call for Joint Research Proposals (2020)

The University of Melbourne (UoM) and the University of Toronto (UofT) are contributing matching funds to support collaborative research initiatives through a joint call for proposals.

The overall aim of the fund is to encourage and provide initial support for development of high quality research projects in areas of mutual strength and shared interest.

Funding is available at both institutions to undertake short-term visits to initiate, deepen and extend collaborative research links with a view to enabling principal investigators (PIs) to subsequently make joint proposals to external funding sources for the next phase of their research.

1. Projects

- i. To be eligible, a proposal must include team participants from both institutions.
- ii. The funding envelope for the collaborative fund comprises \$16K AUD from UoM and \$15K CDN from the UofT.
- iii. Funds will be allocated to joint proposals in all fields that will support the partnership between UoM and UofT.
- iv. Up to 5 joint projects will be selected for a funding period of one (1) year. Proposals with the potential for sustainability beyond the initial funding period are encouraged.
- v. Proposals may include, but are not limited to workshops, symposia, staff exchanges, research seminars/presentations and formation or development of a collaborative network.
- 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. Funding does not cover salaries, equipment, scholarships, conference attendance or tuition fees.
- vii. The proposals will be assessed and recommended for selection by a committee composed of members of both institutions appointed by the office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (or delegate) for UoM and the Office of the Vice President International for UofT.

2. Eligibility

- i. Applicants must hold an appointment at the University of Melbourne at Academic Level A (6) or higher and 0.5 FTE or higher at the time of application and for the duration of the award. Honorary and adjunct academic staff are not eligible to apply. Previous recipients may not reapply to the scheme.

ii. Eligibility for U of T participants within the scope of this call: Faculty members in continuing UofT appointments are eligible to submit proposals. Faculty members in continuing UofT appointments, and students and fellows under their supervision at UofT, are eligible to participate in exchange activities.

3. Value and Duration

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

- 1) UoM will provide each approved project up to \$16K AUD per year to support UoM applicants.
- 2) UofT will provide each approved project up to \$15 CDN per year to support UofT applicants.

4. Timeline

Call for proposals	March 13, 2020
Deadline for submission	May 18, 2020, 11:59PM EDT/May 19, 2020, 3PM AEDT (extended deadline)
Internal review and selection	May 20 – June 3, 2020
Joint decision on awardees	June 10, 2020
Communication of results	June 15, 2020
Start date of awards	July 1, 2020

5. Submission of proposals

This is a joint call and a single application should be submitted to the University of Melbourne via [SmartyGrants](#).

<https://ricunimelb.smartygrants.com.au/2020-MEL-TOR>

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. **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.
 - d. **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 UoM and UofT.
 - e. **Graduate researcher involvement:** Any opportunities for graduate researcher engagement and anticipated benefits to the project and the student(s) themselves as applicable.

- f. **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 graduate researchers, joint teaching, joint patent applications, joint reports to governments, joint funding applications
 - g. **Equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI):** Discuss how the proposed project reflects the EDI priorities
 - h. **Proposed budget:** A breakdown of the cost of the activity e.g. flights, travel, hotels etc. iii. Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae of the faculty members with a selected list of publications.
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 - iv. A joint review committee will assess each full proposal according to the academic merit and compelling elements covered by the following criteria:
 - a. **Project design and rationale:** how clearly presented and justified is the design and basis for the collaboration.
 - b. **Project impact:** how clearly linked are the academic gains to the planned activities and performance indicators.
 - c. **Impact of collaboration:** how strong is the link being between the proposed collaboration and current research or teaching project(s).
 - d. **Graduate researcher involvement:** are opportunities provided for graduate researchers to engage in the collaboration? What are the anticipated benefits of graduate researchers engagement in the project and for the individuals themselves?
 - e. **Equity, diversity and inclusion:** how does the project demonstrate commitment to EDI where appropriate?
 - f. **Capacity for future collaboration/funding:** What is the extent to which future collaborations are possible as a result of the proposed exchange activities? What is the ability of the proposal to leverage future external funding?

6. 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.

UoM and UofT will convene a workshop at the end of the granting period for all successful applicants to present on their collaboration, establish best practices, and identify next steps and additional funding opportunities.

7. Information about this Call

All queries related to this joint call for collaborative projects should be directed to:

The University of Melbourne: Kim Turner, Researcher Development Grants (ric-internalgrants@unimelb.edu.au)

University of Toronto: Tak Koguchi, International Research Officer (tak.koguchi@utoronto.ca)