

The University of Manchester-University of Toronto Specifications for the 2020 Call for Joint Research Proposals

The University of Manchester (UoM) and the University of Toronto (U of T) are contributing matching funds to support collaborative research initiatives through a joint call for proposals. The overall aim of the fund is to provide initial support for the development of high quality research projects in areas of mutual strength and shared interest.

This is the second round of funding following the initial round in November 2018. A list of the projects supported in the first round is on the [Manchester-Toronto Research Fund](#) page.

Funding is available for faculty/staff at both institutions to undertake short-term visits to initiate deepen and extend collaborative research links with a view to enabling principal investigators to 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 £50,000 from UoM and CAD\$85,000 from the U of T.
- iii. Funding will be based on shared areas of interest but proposals from all fields will be accepted. We are particularly interested in funding up to two projects related to digital humanities and digital heritage.
- iv. Up to ten (10) 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. Proposals with the potential for launching an international doctoral cluster (IDC) or developing a collaborative digital teaching model between the two universities are particularly encouraged.
- vi. Eligible costs include travel, accommodation and subsistence and other exchange related activities such as workshop costs. The fund does not support 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 Vice-Presidents for Research and Innovation/International or their designate.

2. Eligibility

- i. **Eligibility for UoM participants within the scope of this call:** Academic staff members from all disciplines and at all levels are welcome to apply. The lead applicant must be a permanent member of staff. Post-doctoral staff are eligible to

apply on the condition that the end of their post-doctoral contract is after the end of the proposed project.

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

3. Value and Duration

Up to 10 successful proposals will receive up to the following funding:

- 1) UoM will provide each approved project up to GBP5,000 per year to support UoM applicants; and
- 2) U of T will provide each approved project up to CAD\$8,500 per year to support U of T applicants.

4. Timeline

Call for proposals opens	Monday 9 th March 2020 (noon Toronto time)
Deadline for submission of proposal	Friday 15 May 2020 (noon Toronto time)
Communication of results to applicants	Early June 2020
Project start date	From July 2020

5. Submission of Proposals

This is a joint call and a single application should be submitted online using [SmartSurvey](#). It is possible to preview the form without filling in details here.

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):
 - **Abstract** that describes the project
 - **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
 - **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.
 - **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 UoM.

- **Graduate student involvement:** Any opportunities for graduate student(s) engagement and anticipated benefits to the project and the student(s) themselves as applicable.
 - **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
 - **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.
- iv. A confirmation of approval from your Line Manager or Head of Department to apply for the grant (UoM only).
- i. 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:** how clearly presented and justified is the design and basis for the collaboration.
 - **Project impact:** how clearly linked are the academic gains to the planned activities and performance indicators.
 - **Impact of collaboration:** how strong is the link being between the proposed collaboration and current research or teaching project(s).
 - **Graduate student involvement:** are opportunities provided for PhD researchers to engage in the collaboration? What are the anticipated benefits of PhD researchers engagement in the project and for the individuals themselves?
 - **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 that describes the outcomes, nature of collaboration, project impact, trainee involvement and opportunities for future collaboration that evolved from their project.

7. Information about this Call

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