

**UNIVERSITY GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP NETWORK (UGPN)
RESEARCH COLLABORATION FUND 2016
FIFTH CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

SUMMARY

The University Global Partnership Network (UGPN) is a preferred partnership network including North Carolina State University, the University of São Paulo, the University of Surrey and the University of Wollongong. The UGPN is now accepting proposals for the 2016 UGPN Research Collaboration Fund, which is the fifth cycle of this program. This Fund will support international activities leading to high quality research collaborations between researchers at the UGPN partner institutions. The fund will support projects based upon scientific and scholarly merit of proposals and the availability of resources.

These awards are designed to go beyond pump-priming and early contact partner outreach; they will support substantive engagement that leads 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. Proposals should be jointly submitted by faculty from at least two of the UGPN partner institutions. Projects funded during the first four cycles are listed online at: <http://www.ugpn.org/Research>

The deadline for submitting proposals is 5:00 pm GMT May 3rd 2016

THE UNIVERSITY GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP NETWORK

The University Global Partnership Network has created a platform for international collaboration enabling academics and students from some of the world's top universities to work together on issues of global importance. The mission of the UGPN 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: (a) promoting global graduates: student experience and employability, and (b) promoting research with global impact. 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), the University of São Paulo, the University of Surrey and the University of Wollongong.
- All proposals must involve collaboration between university-eligible faculty from at least two of the UGPN partners, with trilateral and quadrilateral collaboration being particularly welcomed.

Funding

- Funding of up to US\$10,000 per participating institution for each successful proposal will be made available in respective currencies 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).

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.

- Planned expenditures should be in line with the financial policies of the lead institution.
- Proposals that include matching funds are encouraged.

Eligible costs

Eligible costs include:

- International and local travel
- Accommodation
- Subsistence

Staff costs are not eligible for inclusion. Funding for the use of a partner's laboratory facilities should not be included.

Duration / timing

- Funded proposals must begin by August 1, 2016 and be completed within one year of commencement.

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 post-graduate and PhD students are encouraged.

Proposals may include collaborative activities such as:

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

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 (6) pages with one (1) inch 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(s) 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 this RFP, ***especially the potential for global impact***. The description should include specific objectives and activities to achieve the objectives and should be in sufficient detail that reviewers can evaluate the appropriateness and feasibility of the proposed plan. *Remember some reviewers may come from outside your discipline so use language that those lacking expertise in your area will understand. (4 pgs. 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)

Proposals should be submitted according to the format outlined above and available online at www.ugpn.org

Application Process

The proposal and supporting documents should be submitted, as a pdf document, via email to ugpn@surrey.ac.uk, as the secretariat for the UGPN Executive committee resides at the University of Surrey.

Selection 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. The criteria for consideration will involve the extent to which each proposal:

- 1) addresses a research problem of global importance;
- 2) has clear and measurable objectives and activities aligned with the purpose of the UGPN award;
- 3) focuses on the achievement of concrete outcomes and results;
- 4) demonstrates commitment from appropriately qualified researchers from at least two UGPN partners;
- 5) has a clearly articulated and justified budget;

In making their decisions, the joint selection panel will seek to support a representative variety of research topics. The panel will particularly welcome proposals that involve three or more partners. Proposals that include mobility and participation of young scientists in training (PhD students or postdoctoral fellows) are strongly encouraged.

Reporting

Successful applicants are required to submit a two to three page final report, which should be submitted no later than one month after the end of the grant period. Periodic status updates on the progress of the project may be requested, depending on the projected length of the project. 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 plan

Enquiries

Enquires about the UGPN RCF should be directed to contacts within the relevant partner, as identified:

- Mr. David Dixon, NC State – david_dixon@ncsu.edu
- Ms. Louise Lawton, Surrey – louise.lawton@surrey.ac.uk
- Mr. Daniel Barcelos, University of São Paulo – international.networks@usp.br
- Ms. Vicky Wallace, Wollongong – vwallace@uow.edu.au