

NC State University – Nagoya University

Joint Call for Research Collaboration Seed Grants

SUMMARY

The longstanding relationship between North Carolina State University and Nagoya University serves as a strategic partnership to leverage complementary strengths and inter-disciplinary scholarship in the advancement of research collaboration and academic exchanges. NC State and Nagoya University are now accepting proposals for the development of research collaboration. Funds will support international travel and related activities leading to high-quality research collaboration.

These awards are designed to provide pump-priming and early contact partner outreach with the expectation that they will lead to more substantive engagement. The intention is that these collaborations will result in high quality outputs, such as workshops/seminars, research collaboration, exchanges of researchers and graduate students, publication of joint papers from collaborative research, or follow-on joint research bids.

Jointly-drafted proposals should be submitted to the institutional contacts (see details below) by the lead faculty/Principal Investigator.

The deadline for submitting applications is February 17, 2017.

Goals of this award are to facilitate:

- high quality and long term research collaboration between faculty / researchers in areas of strategic importance;
- publication of high quality joint research papers;
- subsequent submission of high quality collaborative research funding bids.

ELIGIBILITY

- Proposals are invited from permanent, tenured or tenure track faculty or research professionals at NC State (those who comply with Sponsored Programs eligibility requirements) and faculty and research professionals at Nagoya University.

DURATION/TIMING

- Awarded projects will receive funding for activities over a period of time not to exceed 24 months from the commencement date.

FUNDING

- Funding of up to US\$10,000 and JP¥ 1,000,000 per year for a maximum of up to two (2) years from each institution to the respective PI / collaborators at NC State and Nagoya University will be made available for travel and to seed research costs.
- Planned expenditures should be in line with the financial policies of the funding institution.

INDICATIVE EXPENDITURE

Funding will support the travel and subsistence costs associated with researchers spending time at the partner institution. 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
- 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 joint 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.

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

FORMAT AND GUIDELINES

Proposal Content: Research grant proposals are limited to five (5) pages with one (1) inch margins and not less than 11 font and must include the following sections (*Use of the application form provided online is strongly encouraged.*):

- Cover Page including the title of the project, principal investigator(s) contact information, duration of project, and a list of up to five (5) key words. (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 elaborate a timetable or schedule of activities, anticipated outputs and outcomes, including plans for the future development of the project and should be in sufficient detail that reviewers can evaluate the appropriateness and feasibility of how the project aims will be achieved. *Remember some reviewers may come from outside your discipline so use language that those lacking expertise in your area will understand.* (3 pages maximum)
- Budget with Justification (1 page maximum)

In addition, the following must be included in the proposal and does not count against the 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 authorized representatives confirming any additional funding or cost-matching contributions.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The proposal application and supporting documents should be submitted, as a single pdf document, to one of the following key contacts.

- Mr. David Dixon, North Carolina State University david_dixon@ncsu.edu
- Mr. Masa Fukai, Nagoya University fukai.m@aip.nagoya-u.ac.jp

SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals that meet the eligibility requirements will be reviewed and assessed by review panels at both universities in the first instance. A joint committee consisting of representatives from NC State and Nagoya University will make the final decision for awards. The criteria for consideration will involve the extent to which each proposal:

- 1) Seeks to address a research problem of global importance;
- 2) Brings together complementary expertise from the two institutions
- 3) Has clear and measurable objectives and activities aligned with the purpose of the project;
- 4) Focuses on the achievement of concrete outcomes and results;
- 5) Demonstrates commitment from appropriately qualified researchers;
- 6) Has a clearly articulated and justified budget.

REPORTING

Successful applicants are required to submit a two page report no later than one month after the end of the grant period, which should include information on:

- a brief summary of the activities undertaken
- project outcomes and achievements, including key findings and a brief assessment by the lead researcher on the impact (positive and negative) on their research; the report should indicate intention for potential future (or ongoing) collaboration
- actual expenditures against the approved budget

ENQUIRIES

Enquires should be directed to the contact within the relevant university partner, as identified above in the Application Process section.