NCTU-IIT Delhi Collaborative Project Proposal Scheme

Introduction
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-D) and National Chiao Tung University (NCTU), Taiwan have established academic cooperation through a Joint Doctoral Program (JDP) and now ready to explore the possibility of Joint Faculty Interdisciplinary Research Project Proposal Scheme.

About the Scheme and its Objectives
This scheme will be similar to Multi Institutional Faculty Interdisciplinary Projects (MFIRP) programme at IIT-D.

Objective of such scheme would be to enhance and promote interdisciplinary and collaborative research interest between IIT-D and NCTU, Taiwan and increase visibility and popularity of existing JDP among the students and faculty alike.

Faculty members of IIT-D and NCTU will jointly prepare a project proposal for the seed grant of total Rs. 10 Lakhs for 2 years. It is expected that these interdisciplinary research groups will attract strong support from external funding agencies and catalyze the 'cross-research activity' between the two institutes, leading to joint research publications, patents etc. These projects are to be considered as one-time grant and the success of these projects will be judged based on how these project have contributed to joint research activity between the two institutes leading to external grants the team is able to generate.

Project Areas
i) This call invites research proposals in areas of mutual interest and complementarity that will further strengthen the partnership between IIT-D and NCTU, Taiwan.

ii) Proposals are invited in the below mentioned areas such as:
   - Semiconductor, Electrical and Electronics
   - Artificial Intelligence, IoT (Internet of Things), Cyber Security
   - Renewable Energy/Clean Energy
   - Biotechnology, Drug development and Biomedical devices

Eligibility
i) Call is open to faculty members of IIT-D and NCTU
Value and Duration

1. Successful proposals will receive seed fund of Rs. 5 Lakhs per year for IIT-D faculty member and a matching contribution for NCTU faculty member will be NT$250,000 from NCTU for the first year.
2. A similar funds in the second year will be given after the review of the annual progress report, submission of full proposal to external agency (applicable to non-industry and/or MoE funded MFIRP projects) and submission of Statement of Expenditure and Utilization Certificate to respective institutes.
3. It is expected that the faculty members of IIT-D and NCTU, will jointly prepare a suitable full proposal for further, possibly external funding post completion of the successful project tenure of one year.

Funding will be jointly provided by NCTU and IIT-D, with 50% going to the academic at each respective institution.

Identifying Academics at IIT-D and NCTU

i) In order to identify academics at either institution, please refer to the institutional websites in the first instance. These are http://www.iitd.ac.in/ and https://www.nctu.edu.tw/en.
ii) If further help is required, then IIT Delhi applicants should contact Professor Edward Yi Chang at edc@mail.nctu.edu.tw whilst NCTU applicants should touch base with Professor Bodh Raj Mehta at deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in to seek help. We will help where practicable and possible.

How to apply and important timelines

i) Faculty members of IIT-D and NCTU, Taiwan, will jointly prepare suitable project proposals.
ii) In addition faculty members of IIT-D and NCTU in the same project proposal can also submit a full project proposal as an attached additional document with the research plan and funding details to be submitted to Taiwan Industry Partners (details to be given) and/or Ministry of Education (MoE), Taiwan. The faculty PI from NCTU will take the lead to submit the full project proposal to the Industry partners and/or MoE.
iii) Faculty PI from IIT-D will submit the joint project proposal online in IRIS under MFIRP with collaborating institute as NCTU. Faculty PI from NCTU should submit the hard copy of the same proposal to Dr. Edward Yi Chang of NCTU.
iv) A copy of the MFIRP online form can be found in the link given below.

http://ird.iitd.ac.in/sites/default/files/ird_circulars/MFIRP-Proposal%20Format.pdf

It is crucial that there is full agreement on all aspects of the proposal between IIT-D and NCTU applicants prior to submission.

v) Deadline for submitting the final proposal is Friday 14th February 2020 (Friday).

Collaboration Activities

Collaboration activities may be based on joint projects set up by faculty members of both institutions, including:

- The project work can be part of the thesis/dissertation work of MD/MS/MCh/DM/MTech etc. However, the supporting staff should not receive funding from two sources at a time (the student will have joint supervisor as co-guide).
• **Collaborative Research Agreement, Intellectual Property Right and joint supervision issues will be addressed as per the guidelines of the two institutes described in detail in the IIT-D and NCTU MoU.**

• It is expected that the joint research team will submit at least one research project to an external funding agency post completion of the first year; applicable to selected project proposals not submitted to Industry Partners and/or MoE under MFIRP project scheme.

• A final technical report highlighting the achievements vis-à-vis proposed objectives, outcome in terms of publications, patents, conference proceedings, etc. and details on project/projects submitted to external agency will be submitted within 3 months after completion of joint project tenure.

**Evaluation Methodologies**

i) Proposals will be assessed by a committee composed of members from both the institutions.

ii) Project proposal shall be majority assessed on following aspects:

• **Project design and rationale** (how clearly presented and justified is the design and basis for the collaboration)

• **Project impact** (how clearly linked are the outcomes to the planned activities and performance indicators, such as joint papers, external funding applications, joint research with industry and proposal for policy recommendations)

• **Impact of collaboration** (is there a distinct advantage provided by this collaboration that is not possible by the two institutions working individually?)

• **Capacity for future collaboration** (what is the extent to which future collaborations are possible as a result of the proposed activities.)

iii) A joint committee will convene to select the project proposals.

**Contacts**

For any clarification points or questions on the joint call, please do not hesitate to contact the colleagues listed below.

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<th>IIT-D, India</th>
<th>NCTU, Taiwan</th>
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| **Professor Bodh Raj Mehta**  
Dean, Research and Development  
IIT-D  
Email: deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in | **Dr. Edward Yi Chang**  
Senior Vice President,  
National Chiao Tung University  
Email: edc@mail.nctu.edu.tw |