



UCL – IIT-D University Strategic Partner Funds

Purpose

Introduction

University College London (UCL) and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-D) are contributing matching funds to support collaborative and interdisciplinary education and research initiatives, through a joint call for proposals, for the development of collaborative activities that will lead to impactful research outcomes.

This is similar to the Multi Institutional Faculty Interdisciplinary Projects (MFIRP) programme at IIT Delhi. It is expected that the faculty members of IIT-D and UCL, will jointly prepare a suitable full proposal for further, possibly external, funding post completion of the successful project, whose duration will be one year. This is in addition to research output(s) such as publications, and is an important measure of success for the project in order to ensure its viability and sustainability.

Projects

- i) Research proposals must be in areas of mutual interest and complementary strengths that will strengthen the partnership between UCL and IIT-D.
- ii) Proposals must include participants from both institutions.
- iii) Proposals from all fields are welcome including areas such as Advanced Materials, Bio-Engineering, Energy Technologies, Global Health and Wellbeing, Global Policy, Healthcare Engineering, Sustainable Urban Design and Society and Waste Management
- iv) Up to four joint projects will be selected for funding.
- v) Proposals will be assessed by a committee composed of members from both institutions.

Eligibility

- i) Applications are open to UCL staff members with the following roles:
 - Professor/Professorial Teaching Fellow or equivalent.
 - Reader or equivalent.
 - Senior Lecturer/Principal Researcher/Principal Research Associate/Senior Teaching Fellow or equivalent.
 - Lecturer/Senior Research Associate/Teaching Fellow or equivalent.
 - Post Doc/Researcher/Post Doc Fellow/Research Associate or equivalent – **eligible provided the contract covers the spend and activity period.**

- Applicants are not required to have a doctorate to apply, but do need to hold a role at one of the levels described above.
- PhD students are not eligible to apply, but are encouraged to take part in the project.

ii) For IITD the call is open to all the faculty members.

Value and Duration

Up to four successful proposals will receive up to £10,000 i.e. each successful proposal will receive up to £5,000 per year for UCL faculty and up to Rs 5 lakh per year for IIT Delhi faculty for 1 year.

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

However, only one application should be submitted, and IIT-D will take the lead on this as submission will be via their on-line portal. The PI's will need to sign the joint application, or the IIT-D PI will need to confirm that his UCL counterpart has agreed to the joint submission of the application.

Identifying Academics at IIT-D and UCL

- i) In order to identify academics at either institution, please refer to the institutional websites in the first instance. These are <http://www.ucl.ac.uk> and <http://www.iitd.ac.in/>.
- ii) If further help is required, then UCL applicants should contact Professor Bodh Raj Mehta at deanrnd@admin.iitd.ac.in whilst IIT-D applicants should touch base with Dr Amit Khandelwal at amit.khandelwal@ucl.ac.uk to seek help. We will help where practicable and possible.

How to apply

- i) Proposals are to be prepared and submitted jointly.
- ii) Compilation of the proposal will be handled by IIT-D. It is therefore crucial that UCL academics, in particular the lead Principal Investigator, liaise closely with their IIT-D counterparts who will be responsible for filling an on-line form, a copy of which they will need to share with you prior to populating the form. IIT-D are an on-line form, a copy of which is attached below.



IITD MFIRP Proposal
Format.pdf

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

- iii) IIT-D counterpart will be responsible for submitting the final proposal on **Friday 17th January 2020, 4pm UK time, 21.30 hrs Indian Standard Time.**
- iv) IIT-D Dean R&D office will forward all the proposal received before the deadline to UCL's Global Engagement Office for adjudication.

Adjudication

- i) Proposals received by IIT-D and UCL's Global Engagement Office will be evaluated by a separate review at each institution.
- ii) **Selection Criteria:** Both internal review committees will assess each proposal according to 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 outcomes to the planned activities and performance indicators, such as joint papers, external funding applications, joint research with industry and proposal for policy recommendations; does the project have a focus on the UN Sustainable Development Goals? If so which ones and why?)
 - **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 up to four final proposals.

Contacts

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

| UCL | IIT-D |
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