



PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE

2018 TERMS AND CONDITIONS¹ **INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FUNDING CALL** **SEED FUNDS**

1. OBJECTIVE

The Office for Research Affairs of the Office of the Vice-President for Research opens the call for its “**Interdisciplinary Research 2018**” fund to encourage joint research among experts from different areas to address innovative subjects.

In this occasion, the aim of the fund is to **boost and stimulate, from an interdisciplinary perspective, research collaboration partnership with foreign institutions**, in order to power joint applications to larger funds. All the academic units of the University are welcome to apply.

It is expected that these research actions and associations will result in substantial applications to associative projects with external funds. Likewise, we would like them to participate in larger initiatives, in the graduation of students in a joint degree program and joint publications, among other achievements.

2. REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1. Presentation of an interdisciplinary research project of international collaboration that had not received previous national or international funds, or funds from the University, either total or partial. The project must have at least two UC faculty members **together with an international institution**.
- 2.2. Interdiscipline must appear in either of these modalities:
 - a) Two or more UC faculty members from different academic units plus a foreign institution.
 - b) Two or more UC faculty members from the same academic unit plus a foreign institution from another area.
- 2.3. Whether it is or not a university, the international institution must be a research unit. **This seed fund requires the foreign associated institution to provide a pecuniary contribution equivalent to the amount requested in the application, in order to have equal funding (1:1 matching fund).**
- 2.4. For the purposes of the fund, a UC faculty member will present the project and act as the coordinator. A representative of the foreign institution must also be identified.
- 2.5. At least one representative of each discipline must be part of the team, according to the chosen modality.

¹ “In the event of any conflict between the Spanish and English versions, the Spanish version shall prevail.”



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- 2.6. Every researcher from the project must be full time, associate or assistant professor of the University with at least 22 working hours. This fund will not admit support letter for those who do not meet this requirement.
- 2.7. Each faculty member can act as coordinator of only one project and his/her contribution to it must be clearly identified.
- 2.8. Each participant will need the support of the Dean or Director of the School/Institute through a signed DOI (UC internal mandatory statement).
- 2.9. Like in any research project, the UC Ethics and Security Unit will look over the proposal. The generated ID will be required when making the application.
- 2.10. In the context of UC' regulation on Scientific Ethic Committees, the project must be approved on ethics and security aspects by June 28, 2019. If by that date the proposal does not have the required approvals due to unjustified delays from the research team, the project will be cancelled.
- 2.11. By the end of this call, every researcher must have sent his/her final reports of any previous funds given by the Office for Research Affairs.

3. APPLICATIONS

This call will be completely developed through a new application platform. To access you will need:

- 3.1. Before you apply, send an email to investigacioninterdisciplinaria@uc.cl indicating your desire to participate in this funding opportunity, and the names and ID numbers of the research team.
- 3.2. Once received this pre-registration information, the Office for Research Affairs will enable user logins for the researchers in the new application platform. This process will take up to 48 working hours.

4. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

- 4.1. Application form available in the [funding calls website](#) signed by every UC researcher of the project.
- 4.2. DOI signed by the Dean or Director of the School/Institute for each of the participating researchers.
- 4.3. CV of every participant researcher (UC and external). CVs must be no longer than five pages.
- 4.4. Commitment and Contribution letter from the participant foreign institution. An appropriate authority from the foreign institution must sign this letter (e.g. Office for Research Affairs, Academic Unit, or equivalent).
- 4.5. Detailed budget. Every amount must be duly justified in the budget when applying, and indicate the source of financing (UC internal or foreign).



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5. BENEFITS

- 5.1. Maximum budget of **\$5.000.000** (five million pesos) from each institution and for the total implementation period (one year).
- 5.2. The fund can be spent on: international and national mobility (travel expenses and associated costs for professors, postdoctoral researchers, graduate and undergraduate students), operating expenses, research assistants' fees, and expenses for seminar implementation. Resources for capital goods and researches' fees will not be financed.
- 5.3. The Office for Research Affairs can grant resources for pending activities as long as they are carried out no later than six months past the completion date.

6. ELEGIBILITY AND EVALUATION

- 6.1. Only the applications sent through the online platform with all the required information will be eligible. It is the applicant's sole responsibility to enter the correct information in the application as well as the required attached documents.
- 6.2. The received applications will be firstly reviewed to check if they comply with the terms and conditions, including the interdisciplinary aspects of each proposal.
- 6.3. Projects that pass this first stage will be evaluated by experts in fields of the projects according to the following criteria:
 - Novelty of the proposal to create high impact research, and the interdisciplinary approach to address the studied issue (30%)
 - Quality and content of the proposal (40%)
 - Long-term potential of the international partnership, future interdisciplinary activities resulting from the project, and possibilities to attain future external funding (30%)

Proposals must consider applying to international funds during the implementation of the project or up to six months after their completion.

- 6.4. Once completed the evaluation process, a decision committee composed by members of the Research Vice-Rectorate will review and select the awarded projects, considering the score achieved in the evaluation.

7. PROJECT COMPLETION

- 7.1. All the selected projects must take part in the following activities:
 - **Kick-off meeting:** presentation of the project and its objectives.
 - **Closing meeting:** presentation of the project's results.
- 7.2. The Office for Research Affairs' representatives and lead researchers of the allocated projects (not necessarily related to the specific study field) will participate in these meetings. Comments arising from these meetings must be considered to improve the project.



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7.3. The closing meeting will replace the final written report. However, researchers will have to submit expense reports according to the Research Vice-Rector's formats. The funds administrator of the Academic Unit must sign the original report, which must be submitted before attending to the closing meeting.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

The application results will only be notified by email to the UC coordinator of the project through the application platform. The final selection list will be published in the [call's website](#).

9. DATES

STAGE	DATE
Call opens:	June 6, 2018
Pre-registration due date:	September 3, 2018
Call closes:	September 13, 2018, 4:00 pm
Results:	January 31, 2019
Final report submission:	March 2020
Provision of benefits:	Once approved the University's ethics certification.

For enquiries, please contact investigacioninterdisciplinaria@uc.cl until September 3, 2018.