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**USyd-SJTU Partnership Collaboration Awards**

**Guidelines for Applicants**

**Purpose**

The University of Sydney (USyd) and the Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) have identified each other as strategic partners to foster deep collaborations in research and education. The USyd-SJTU Partnership Collaboration Awards (PCA) have been established to facilitate and support joint initiatives that will strengthen the two universities’ strategic priorities as well as develop multi-disciplinary cutting-edge research to create academic and societal impact.

In this round of the PCA, applicants are encouraged to submit funding proposals for innovative and sustainable programs built around collaborative research linking USyd and SJTU. Proposals for learning and teaching initiatives may also be considered if included as part of a larger collaborative research proposal.

Applicants must also demonstrate that their projects are sustainable in the long-term, preferably by including a plan for engagement that includes leveraging external funding and publication outputs.

Preference will be given to teams which include PhD or masters by research students, postdocs, Early and Mid-Career Researchers (EMCR) and researchers on Sabbatical Leave rather than simply one-to-one research projects. Projects which are multidisciplinary in nature are encouraged.

In this round, up to ten proposals will be funded (each with two Chief Investigators; one from USyd and one from SJTU). Each successful proposal may receive CNY 50,000 from SJTU unilaterally for one year.

1. **Eligibility** 
   1. Proposals are invited from academic staff from all disciplines at USyd and SJTU and their affiliated Research Centres and Institutes.
   2. Applicants from affiliated Research Centres and Institutes must be University Title Holders.
   3. Chief Investigators must be employed on a full-time, fixed term or continuing basis. If on a fixed term contract, the end date must be beyond the funding period.
   4. PhD and masters by research students, post-docs, and research assistants/associates are not eligible to apply as Chief Investigators but they are welcome to join the applications.
   5. Current recipients of PCA funding whose project is still ongoing are not eligilble to apply.
   6. Previous recipients of PCA funding whose projects have finished or will have finished by the application close date may only apply for consecutive grants if they have submitted their final report.
2. **Duration**

Funding is available early October 2021 until 30 September 2022.

1. **Timeline**

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| --- | --- |
| Applications open | 20 July 2021 |
| Applications close | 30 August 2021 |
| Successful applicants notified | October 2021 |
| Final reports due | 30 September 2022 |

1. **Eligible Grant Activities**
   1. Activities that will be considered for funding include:

* Airfares (if the travel restrictions are lifted);
* Other travel expenses (e.g. train, rental car);
* Costs for hosting a seminar/conference or workshop;
* Accommodation and subsistence;
* Consumables; and
* Publications and printing costs.
  1. All travel activities must comply with the guidelines of the respective universities.
* **USyd –** All USyd travel must comply with the [Travel Policy 2018](http://sydney.edu.au/policies/showdoc.aspx?recnum=PDOC2011/135&RendNum=0).
* **SJTU –** All SJTU travel must comply with the information on the website of [Service Center for Exit-Entry Administration](http://cgcj.sjtu.edu.cn/).

1. **Submission Requirements**

The proposal must include the following elements:

* 1. Project Details:
* Proposed research collaboration and activity
* How the project will lead to long term collaboration beyond the scope of the seed project
* Expected outcomes:
  + The submission of at least one joint co-authored publication (or equivalent output);
  + Virtual activities within the first instance until travel restrictions have been lifted and then at least 1 reciprocal visits for staff and/or research students to be conducted within the duration of the award.
  + Target a suitable scheme for the submission of a joint application for external research funding.
  1. CVs

Attach CVs for the SJTU and USyd investigators (all listed on the project team; no more than 2 pages each and including current position and employment history; 10 career-best publications; awards and relevant presentations; current grant income)

* 1. Approval Letters

Evidence of approval from the relevant School or Department at both institutions.

1. **Expected Outcomes**

It is expected that the selected proposal will result in the following outcomes:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Outcome** |
| Research quality and influence | The research:   * will advance knowledge in the field which addresses an issue of importance * may result in fundamental outcomes * is innovative in concept * will use well established approaches to good effect |
| Publications | At least one (1) referred publication in a nationally/internationally recognised scholarly journal |
| External funding | At least one (1) national/international competitive grant submission |
| Training & education | Supervision and mentoring of visiting PhD students/postdoctoral researchers/ECRs |
| Joint Workshop | Organise at least one (1) joint workshop at either institution |
| Conference | At least one (1) conference presentation |

1. **Application Submission**
   1. A single, jointly prepared application must be jointly submitted by a Chief Investigator from SJTU.
   2. All applications must be submitted online via SJTU’s online platform with a jAccount.
   3. Only complete submissions will be considered.
   4. Late applications will not be considered.
2. **Notification of Application Outcomes**

Successful applicants will receive a letter of award outlining the process to accept the award including payment. Feedback specific to individual applications will not be provided.

1. **Change of Investigator**

Applicants should contact the Program Coordinator. Such changes will need to be approved and documented.

1. **Extensions**

Under exceptional circumstances extensions will be approved for a maximum period of six months. Applicants seeking an extension must submit a report along with a revised budget and timeline of activities to the Program Coordinator for approval.

1. **Publications**

Any publications (e.g. abstracts, articles) or dissemination (e.g. public presentations) arising from activities supported by the PCA should acknowledge assistance received from the PCA and copies or notification should be submitted. The standard acknowledgment is “USyd–SJTU Partnership Collaboration Awards”.

**Program Coordinator**

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