



United in Solidarity: UoN-UCU Faculty Collaboration Research Programme

2023 Seed Funding Guidelines

Summary

The United in Solidarity: UoN-UCU Faculty Collaboration Research Programme (the Programme) provides an opportunity to develop broader and deeper collaborations in areas of strategic focus for each institution by leveraging complementary strengths and trans-disciplinary scholarship to advance research collaboration and academic exchanges. The University of Nottingham (UoN) and the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) are now accepting proposals for funding for the development of collaborations in the identified key priority research areas:

1. War and Resilience

Key narratives and discourses about war, its ideological justifications, root causes, and the geopolitical, national, social, economic, and psychological consequences of protracted violence and deaths.

2. Religion and War

How religious groups can be either objects of oppression or enlisted to provide ideological justification for a group that oppresses. The expression of religion as a focal point and site of protest and resistance against war.

3. Moral and Legal Considerations of Wartime Actors

Considerations of the moral responsibility of major actors and sponsors of war and aggression and the collective responsibility of a group or a particular nation, laying bare the legal and extra-legal mechanisms for accountability (e.g., war crime commissions, international tribunals, and reparation, truth, and reconciliation committees).

4. Integral Human Development and Sustainable Reconstruction

A wide ranging and open exploration of ideas on the reconstruction of institutions and how to attend to the communal effects of post-conflict trauma.

Funding available

Grants of £5,000 and £15,000 are available per application, with a total of £100,000 available. It is expected that eight £5,000 grants and four £15,000 grants will be awarded.

Schedule

The Research Seed Funding Program will open for applications at midnight UK time (BST) on **Friday 14 April 2023** and will close at midnight UK time on **Sunday 30 April 2023** (BST). Complete applications must be received by the deadline. No extensions will be granted.

The Selection Committee will meet in early May 2023, with results announced by mid-May 2023.

Funded projects must be completed, or expenditure associated with the project committed, by 31 August 2023.

Purpose and Description

The United in Solidarity: UoN-UCU Faculty Collaboration Research Programme Seed Funding is designed to spur new research collaborations, with the expectation that funded projects will lead to more substantive engagement between the two institutions.

The Seed Fund intends to:

- Facilitate high quality and long-term collaboration between UoN and UCU faculty / researchers in the four priority areas of strategic importance as listed above and described below.
- Advance research partnerships and better position UoN and UCU faculty/researchers to achieve external funding success.
- Result in the publication of high-quality outputs including international research training for graduate students and/or early career faculty, publication of joint papers from collaborative research, or follow-on joint research funding bids.
- Identify additional collaborators to expand the UoN-UCU network.

Funding

Grants of £5,000 and £15,000 are available per project and will be made available to the UoN co-principal investigators after the announcement. Planned expenditures should be in line with the financial policies of the collaborating institutions. Proposals that include opportunities for the exchange of post-graduate and PhD students are encouraged. Where funding will be required to be transferred to the UCU co-principal investigator, please ensure this is noted in your application.

Allowable expenses

- Travel, accommodation, and subsistence

- Workshops, guest lectures, and seminars on multidisciplinary research areas
- Video-conference seminars
- Development of joint industry-research collaborations with global impact
- Delivery of joint publications or other scholarly output
- Collection of preliminary data to strengthen a full proposal to an external 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
- Support ad-hoc/short term research assistant costs.

Non-allowable expenses

- Salary or salary supplementation of any kind
- Funding for the use of a partner's laboratory facilities
- Indirect and overhead costs.

Eligibility

- Applicants/PI's must be academic staff or equivalent (at any stage of their careers) at UoN and UCU, with the duration of employment sufficient to cover the applied funding period.
- Applications must include at least one member of staff from each institution
- Additional external partners can be involved; industry partners are encouraged; however, a strong argument should be made if an external University is participating and their contribution exceeds 20% (no limits for industry partners), as the focus is the collaboration between UoN and UCU.
- Projects incorporating Early Career Researchers (ECRs) or postgraduate research students are strongly encouraged

Selection Criteria

Proposals that meet the stated eligibility requirements will initially be evaluated by review panels at both universities. The UoN-UCU Joint Research Committee 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 and regional importance within one of the four themes
2. Brings together, or builds on pre-existing research collaborations with, complementary expertise from the two institutions
3. Has a clear plan for implementation within and beyond the grant period
4. Articulates clear and measurable objectives and focus on the achievement of concrete outcomes and results, including:

- a. high impact publications
 - b. collaborative application for external research funding
 - c. student and staff exchange for training and research
5. Describes the plan for sustaining the collaboration beyond the grant period, including:
- a. applications for and award of external funding, including grants and fellowships
 - b. industry engagement and contracts
 - c. “higher degree by research” graduate student recruitment
 - d. post-doctoral fellow recruitment
6. Has a clearly articulated and justified budget

Application Process

Applicants must complete and submit the application form, which can be downloaded from UoN [here](#) and UCU [here](#), with any supporting documents (CVs, lists of relevant publications etc), to the email addresses listed below. Only one application is required from the lead applicant at UoN or UCU for each project.

University of Nottingham as lead applicant: uonglobal@nottingham.ac.uk

Ukrainian Catholic University as lead applicant: researchsupport@ucu.edu.ua and international@ucu.edu.ua

Application results

Successful applicants will receive a letter of confirmation from their home institution and will receive an Acceptance letter that must be signed and returned by the due date to either UoN or UCU.

Reporting

Recipients are required to submit a final report (developed in consultation with the theme leads) no later than one month after the end of the funded project. The report should include:

- a brief summary of the activities undertaken, using the bullets under “Selection Criteria” in this document as a guide
- project outcomes and achievements, including key findings and a brief assessment by the lead researcher on the impact (positive and negative) on their research
- a list of confirmed or planned publications
- future plans and next steps for the collaboration
- actual expenditure against the approved budget

Please note that where applicable, we may use information from the project to create media articles to further promote the United in Solidarity: UoN-UCU Faculty Collaboration Research Programme

and the Universities UK International Ukraine Twinning Scheme. This will be done in consultation with the recipients.

Forfeiture of grants

Grants not spent by the end date will be transferred back either to UoN or UCU as applicable.

Change of investigator

If the principal investigator, or another team member, leaves the project, awardees must provide notification with an explanation to the Global Engagement Team at UoN or UCU. All changes must be approved in writing.

Extensions to grant period

Under exceptional circumstances, no-cost extensions may be approved. Applicants seeking an extension must submit a written request for formal approval at least one month before the end of the grant, along with a revised budget and timeline of activities to the Global Engagement Team at UoN or UCU. All changes must be approved in writing.

Further information

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Ukrainian Catholic University as lead applicant: researchsupport@ucu.edu.ua and international@ucu.edu.ua