Chancellor’s Interdisciplinary Collaboratories (CIC)

Important Update

This fellowship program concluded in AY 2020-21. Please email gradadvisor@ucsd.edu with any questions, which will generate a ticket in the Services & Support portal. Archived information appearing below this box is for recordkeeping purposes only.

Call for Nominations

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About

On behalf of the Chancellor's Office, Dean Antony is pleased to announce the Chancellor’s Interdisciplinary Collaboratories: An Opportunity for Funding for Faculty and Student Collaborations. Graduate Division is accepting new proposals that will be conducted from June 1, 2021 – May 31, 2022.

The Chancellor will fund small interdisciplinary groups of faculty willing to form a collaboratory and supervise the research of 3 to 5 graduate, undergraduate or professional students for one year. A second year of funding is possible but not automatic; awardees will need to submit a progress report one month before end of the project period. The funding will support full or partial fellowships for the jointly supported students. Funding is not intended for equipment or other lab expenses. There is a total of $62,500 available for this round. Please note that if awarded, this funding should be used as a fellowship and not a GSR appointment.

The aim is to encourage faculty and students from different disciplines to work together as they develop preliminary results sufficient to support applications for extramural funding.

Final applications should be submitted electronically through the Chancellor’s Interdisciplinary Collaboratories Application by May 6, 2021 for Summer 2021. This is the final call for applications for this program.

Introduction from Chancellor Pradeep Khosla

Interdisciplinary scholarship is at the heart of the truly excellent research university. More and more frequently, solutions to the most challenging research problems require the collaborative talents of groups of investigators with a range of disciplinary skills. And yet, most graduate programs derive research support from single investigator sponsored research through contracts or grants from public or private sources. A new funding mode is therefore required for truly innovative collaboratives.

UC San Diego has set aside support for small groups who seek to undertake cooperative/collaborative research. The Collaboratories program is intended to provide fellowship support for groups of students (undergraduate, graduate or professional) who will work jointly under the supervision of an interdisciplinary faculty group. The aim is to encourage faculty to form and support such groups as they develop preliminary results sufficient to support applications for outside funding.

As Chancellor, I will fund small groups of faculty (3 to 5 PIs) willing to form a collaboratory to supervise the research of 3 to 5 students (full-time graduate, professional or part-time undergraduates) for up to two years. The funding will support full or partial fellowships for the jointly supported students. Faculty eligible to participate in the program will include all those who are eligible to chair doctoral committees. Departmental affiliations of faculty collaborators must include representation from at least two divisions and three departments. Supported students must be enrolled in at least two different departments, although not necessarily the same departments as the faculty members. Eligible students must have completed one academic year at UC San Diego (at the time of funding), must carry a GPA of at least a 3.00, and must be in good academic standing, as demonstrated by making expected progress toward a degree.

Eligibility

Faculty collaborators (3-5 PIs):
- must be from at least two divisions and three departments.
- only faculty that are eligible to chair doctoral committees may apply for the Collaboratories program.
  - this is a strict requirement
Supported students (3-5):

- must be enrolled in at least two different departments (although not necessarily the same departments as the faculty members)
- must have completed one academic year at UC San Diego in their program
  - if a student graduates from UCSD and will be continuing in a graduate program in the fall, they are not eligible to participate until the following year
- must have a GPA of 3.00
- must be in good academic standing and making expected progress towards a degree.

Application Materials

All application materials should be sent in a single PDF. Application instructions are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document</th>
<th>Page Limits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Abstract</td>
<td>Less than 100 words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Proposal</td>
<td>2-page max, including references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Budget</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. CVs</td>
<td>2-page max per person</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

A jointly written abstract

Proposal with title, description of the work to be undertaken.

- The **project proposal should be written for a general audience**. An interdisciplinary group of faculty will review the proposal. If the proposal is too jargon-heavy, it will be difficult for the interdisciplinary group of faculty to review the proposal.

A first-year budget indicating the academic quarters for which support is requested and the proposed fellowship value

1. $62,500 is available for this cycle
2. Not to exceed $15,000 per graduate student and $7,500 per undergraduate student
   - Example budget: If there are three students, 1 undergraduate student and two graduate students the maximum request is $37,500. ($15,000+$15,000+$7,500=$37,500)
3. The total amount of funding allocated for this cycle is $62,500. The Faculty Fellowship Committee may fund one project in full or split $62,500 among two project proposals.

Please note this award is meant to fund student researchers ONLY, funding for new equipment is not an allowable cost under this award. If awarded, the project is not guaranteed to receive the full request.

A CV for each faculty and student participant

See the application link at the bottom of the page.

The application must be submitted by a faculty member. Applications submitted by student researchers will not be accepted.

Effective March 1, 2010, no individual faculty member or student may be named on more than one proposal in any given round.

Review Criteria

Download a PDF of Rubric

Chancell...eria.pdf
**Topic:** Is the research topic exciting and timely such that funding opportunities likely exist for continued studies?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yes; there is a strong case that the collaboration will likely seed future funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Somewhat; the topic is exciting, but it is not clear that there are opportunities for future funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Unlikely; the topic is not particularly novel and funding opportunities are likely rare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No; the topic is incremental, and future funding opportunities are not discussed.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Collaborative nature:** Does the project bring together complementary expertise that is essential for success?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yes; the expertise is clear and each of the 3-5 groups contribute unique and valuable tools to the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Somewhat; there is some overlap between two groups but otherwise, there is distinction in expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Unlikely; there is one group with unique contributions, but the other 2-4 groups overlap.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No; all groups overlap in expertise and contributions; or, the proposal does not address if there is complementary expertise.</td>
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**Coordination and PIs:** Are the groups qualified for the project, and is there evidence of effective leadership/coordination to ensure success?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Rationale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yes; there is a plan for communication and sharing of results, and responsibilities are divided appropriately.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Somewhat; there is a track record of successful collaborations for some members of the team, but it is not clear if the proposed team is wholly integrated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Unlikely; the collaboration appears to exist in name only, with minimal attention to coordination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>No; the proposal does not address methods to ensure collaborative success.</td>
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**Submission and Deadlines**

For more information please visit the [Graduate Division Website](#). Proposals may only be submitted by a listed Faculty Member on the application.

**Final applications should be submitted electronically (Single Sign-On is required) through the Chancellor’s Interdisciplinary Collaboratories Application by May 6, 2021 for Summer 2021.** This is the final call for applications for this program.

**For Awarded Applications**

**Reporting Requirements & Renewal Support for Awardees**

A progress report must be submitted for each year of support. Awarded groups will submit a progress report one month prior to the end of the project period.

The progress report will request the following information:

- Jointly affirms that the supported students are making progress toward their degree programs or have graduated.
- Summarizes the progress that the group has made in securing extramural support, including specific grant applications/awards and/or planned submissions of prospective funding applications.
- Any publication reprints or preprints resulting from the collaboration should also be included.
Additional years of support are not automatic. In addition to filling out the first page of the progress report (see reporting section above), the Principal Investigators will need to fill out the second page to formally request a second year of funding.

**Download Progress Report Template**

When filling out the second page of the report, it is allowed to add, replace, or remove other eligible students who are in good academic standing at the time of program renewal.

Funding is contingent upon the faculty team making satisfactory progress towards obtaining research support from outside sponsors.

Failure to submit this report by the due date will automatically terminate the proposed fellowship support for the following year. If funding is available, and the faculty group is making sufficient progress in their research program, the Dean of Graduate Division may elect to renew funding.