



**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**



**Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>**

May 2020

## **University of Geneva – University of Zurich**

### **Joint Seed Funding for Collaboration in Research and Teaching**

#### **Call for Proposals**

**(Submission all year round)**

##### **Call for Proposals**

Since December 2017 the University of Geneva (UNIGE) and the University of Zurich (UZH) have entered into a strategic partnership agreement. The largest comprehensive universities in the German- and French-speaking parts of Switzerland already maintain close links in research, teaching and student exchange. It is the aim of the partnership to further foster and intensify these links and to jointly strengthen the visibility of both institutions within Switzerland and abroad.

With the goal of facilitating cooperation in the framework of the strategic partnership, UNIGE and UZH have established a Joint Seed Funding Scheme. The funding shall enable UNIGE and UZH faculty and researchers to intensify joint academic activities by supporting the development of outstanding common projects in research and teaching. The supported activities should have a clearly defined focus and serve as a catalyst for the development of new joint projects.

The funding scheme is not limited to a specific academic field and the proposals can be either focused on one discipline or be of interdisciplinary character.

##### **Submission and Deadlines**

Geneva and Zurich faculty are invited to submit proposals for collaborative projects in research and/or teaching using a common application form. Proposals may come from individual faculty members or a group of faculty but should have Geneva and Zurich faculty members as co-PI's (Principal Investigator) in all cases. Principal Investigators may be of any faculty rank, but must be regular faculty members with employment contracts covering the entire period of the project.

Proposals can be submitted all year round. Decision over funding will be communicated within six weeks after submitting the proposal. It is expected to start the project within two months after notification and to finish within one year.

Given the multilingual character of the academic community in both universities, English has been chosen as the official language for this Call for Proposals. To facilitate project review, applications should be made in English. An online application platform will be ready in the summer 2020. In the meantime, please send in your application to Nuné Nikoghosyan and Sara Elmer using the enclosed application form and budget template. Applications will include the following:

- Short project description (max. 500 words)
- Answers to a questionnaire referring to the criteria mentioned below
- Project timeline
- Budget outline

Please note that in order to keep the application and review process proportionate with the funding involved (see below), full project descriptions beyond the points above are not necessary and will not be considered.

Proposals will be evaluated by a joint committee composed of the Heads of the International Relations Offices and nominated representatives such as Academic Ambassadors of the Partnership. Particular attention will be given to the following criteria:

- Coherent and clearly formulated plan of the activity (comprehensible for non-expert reviewers)
- Scientific merit and envisaged synergies of the proposed activities and of the anticipated outcome
- Potential for strengthening the institutional links between UNIGE and UZH
- Potential for creating sustainable follow-up collaborative activities
- Potential for obtaining third party funding (at the national and/or international levels)

## **Funding**

Funds can be spent over the course of the grant period on

- Travel and accommodation costs for meetings at the partner university
- Jointly organized workshops or conferences
- Invited lectureships
- Use of research facilities and consumables
- Joint preparation of external funding proposals
- Science communication (e.g. joint publications, policy-briefs, or activities to foster the dialogue between science and society and/or politics)

Grants will be awarded in the amounts of min. CHF 2,000 to max. CHF 8,000 over a one-year period.

## **Administrative Contacts for Submission of Proposals and for Further Information**

### At UNIGE:

Dr. Nuné Nikoghosyan  
Partnerships Manager  
International Relations and Partnerships Office  
[nune.nikoghosyan@unige.ch](mailto:nune.nikoghosyan@unige.ch)

### At UZH:

Dr. Sara Elmer  
Project Manager  
International Relations Office  
[sara.elmerudry2@uzh.ch](mailto:sara.elmerudry2@uzh.ch)