Community Partnership Research Program

Program Guidelines

Overview	
Value and Duration	Up to $50,000 per year for one to three years.
Theme Areas	New collaborative research partnerships between the University and community groups; alignment with the President's priority of "leveraging our location(s)"
Application Deadline	October 31, 2018.
Application Procedure	Proposals are to be submitted via MRA by the application deadline.
How to Apply	See application instructions.

The Vice-President Research and Innovation is pleased to invite applications for a pilot program to support Community Partnership Research, jointly funded by the University and the Connaught Committee. This initiative is intended to help create new collaborative research partnerships, or nurture early stage partnerships, between the University and community partners, fostering access to each other's unique knowledge, expertise and capabilities on issues of shared interest that, over time, may evolve into more established relationships that will attract external funding through, for example, the SSHRC Partnerships Grant program.

Value and Duration

Partnership Projects can request up to $50,000 per year for one to three years. Through this competition, up to four partnership initiatives will be supported. This is a one-time funding initiative, to be revisited based on the success of the initial project.

Eligible Projects

In the interests of responding flexibly to emerging community partnership opportunities, project eligibility parameters are not tightly prescribed. It is anticipated that the following attributes will characterize initiatives, as appropriate to the proposed project:

- Commitment of a UofT faculty member, supported by the academic unit/division, and an authorized representative of a community-based organization to a research partnership;
- An organizing team with representation from participating academic institutions, the community partner, and other stakeholder groups;
- Identification of a research issue/question that is of shared interest to the researcher(s) and community partner(s), with potential benefit to society;
- Involvement of graduate and/or undergraduate students for the purposes of integrating research and experiential learning;
- Engagement of existing UofT offices/officers (e.g., Director, Centre for Community Partnerships; Director, Indigenous Initiatives; divisional partnership supports);

- May be interdisciplinary, involving faculty and students from across academic disciplines and divisions;
- Is a new activity, not currently the focus of divisional resources or external funding; and
- Clearly articulated research question, goals/objectives, methodology/approach and outcomes/impacts.

Eligible Applicants

University of Toronto faculty members who are eligible to hold research funding are eligible to submit proposals in response to this call. This Project Leader, providing oversight and acting as signing authority for expenses, will lead an organizing team* comprising:

- Representatives of a lead community partner, including a co-leader for the initiative;
- Representatives of additional stakeholder groups;
- Other UofT faculty members and or postdoctoral fellows, as appropriate;
- Graduate and/or undergraduate students, as appropriate; and
- Other participants deemed essential to the success of the initiative.

* Team composition should take account of equity, diversity and inclusion considerations.

Eligible Community Partners

Eligible partners include organizations from the not-for-profit or public sector, including but not limited to government departments and agencies, Band/Tribal Councils, foundations, para-public institutions, community groups and other non-governmental organizations. This initiative supports the President's priority of "leveraging our location(s)" and is intended to advance engagement on issues with local stakeholder groups in the GTA. However, there may be related national or international organizations that could be linked through representation on the organizing team.

Eligible Costs

Expenses deemed necessary to the successful development of the collaboration, including but not limited to:

- Personnel costs to support the collaboration, which may include student support and temporary administrative support;
- Travel and hospitality costs associated with research and collaboration (reasonable costs consistent with relevant institutional policies);
- Costs associated with community-building events (e.g., event facilitation, interpretation, accommodations for persons with disabilities); and
- Funds for the community partner organization to support engagement in the initiative.

The administrative home of the initiative and other participating academic units are encouraged, but not required, to contribute to the costs of the initiative, and are expected to enable the initiative through the provision of meeting space and other in-kind supports (e.g., administration, website).

Desired Outcomes

- Strengthened bonds between the University and community groups
- Implementable solutions to pressing social issues
- Enhanced student skills/experience conducive to future career development
- Creation of new information/resources available to the public/other interest groups
- Foundation for leveraging external funding for further research and training activity
- Events to showcase the initiative, its progress, outcomes and impacts

Application Process

Please complete the application per the application instructions. Completed applications must be submitted via MRA (My Research Applications). The submission deadline is **October 31, 2018.**

Adjudication

Applications will be subject to peer review by a panel of UofT faculty members and representatives of community-based organizations, assembled under the auspices of the Connaught Committee. Results will be communicated approximately 6-8 weeks following the deadline. Funded projects commence in early 2019.

Reporting

Each project will be required to provide an annual report on progress toward identified goals, unforeseen challenges and opportunities and on use of funds (from the CPRP program and other sources).

For program queries, contact Steven Hermans, Partnership Development Officer, Agency and Foundation Funding, at 416-946-5502, or steven.hermans@utoronto.ca.