



Connaught Global Challenge Award 2020-21 Competition

Program Objectives: *Research Excellence, New Interdisciplinary Collaboration, Knowledge Mobilization*

New Connaught Global Challenge Award

Overview	
Funding Envelope	\$1,000,000 annual program investment
Grant Value	Up to \$250,000 (per proposal; up to 4 proposals will be funded)
Grant Duration	1 year + up to 1 year no cost extension
Theme Areas	Open to all areas of scholarship; applications related to youth and student mental health, climate change and sustainability, research regarding the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the President's Three Priorities are encouraged
Application Deadline	February 3, 2020
Application Procedure	Proposals are to be submitted via MRA by the application deadline.
How to Apply	See application instructions

Purpose:

To heighten UofT's contribution to important issues facing society through the advancement of knowledge and the transfer and application of solutions. Global Challenge teams will represent **new** collaborations involving leading UofT researchers and students from multiple disciplines, along with innovators and thought leaders from other sectors. The program objective is to enhance UofT's capacity to achieve meaningful outcomes and impact, including but not limited to major new external funding to further develop solutions to the global challenge, important new partnerships, and/or new research-oriented academic programs.

Eligibility:

All full-time professorial staff (tenured or tenure-stream) at the University of Toronto are eligible to apply. It is required that teams consist of faculty members representing a minimum of two [SGS divisions](#), including junior and senior level faculty members.

Any research participants that do not hold a tenured/tenured-stream position at the University of Toronto may be included as collaborators on the proposal.



Proposals must demonstrate meaningful engagement of undergraduate and graduate students in the proposed programs. Appropriate partner organizations from the public or private sector should be involved in the planning of the proposal to ensure their engagement in knowledge exchange activities.

The program funds can be used flexibly to provide support to the development of new research collaborations. Eligible expenses include symposia, workshops, visiting scholars, and other mechanisms for bringing diverse sets of expertise to bear on important global challenges. The program is not intended to support research operating expenses such as consumables, conference travel, equipment, etc. Proposals that seek to support projects that can be funded through usual sources (eg, Tri-Councils) are not eligible.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion:

The University of Toronto recognizes that diversity is essential to the creation of a vibrant intellectual community that allows our researchers to maximize their creativity and their contributions. The Connaught Fund is therefore strongly committed to diversity in research and especially welcomes applications that engage racialized persons/persons of colour, women, Indigenous/Aboriginal Peoples of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ+ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

Applicants are asked to address how equity and diversity have been considered and addressed in the development of the project team and the proposed project.

Review Committee:

The program theme areas and adjudication will be overseen each year by a Connaught Global Challenge Committee, co-chaired by the Vice-President, Research and Innovation and the Vice-Provost, Faculty & Academic Life, and made up of leading researchers from across academic disciplines.

Application Content:

Proposals should describe, in language suitable for a non-specialist audience, the global challenge to be addressed and the plan for bringing key complementary perspectives to bear on a solution. Competitive proposals will

- Relate to a timely area of academic inquiry
- Meaningfully involve students (undergraduate and graduate)
- Demonstrate due consideration of equity, diversity and inclusion in the development of the project team and the proposed project (where applicable)
- Engage, as appropriate, external partners (community, government, private sector, and/or other academic institutions)
- Promote international partnerships such as joint programs with peer institutions
- Present reasonable achievable goals within the maximum two-year award duration
- Where possible, leverage additional internal or external resources in support of the initiative



- Have the potential to attract further major research investment to the University or other concrete outcomes (e.g. new research based academic program) in the future

Evaluation Criteria:

Equal weighting will be given to these 4 criteria

- Excellence in research and innovation, including equity, diversity and inclusion
- New cross-divisional institutional capacity
- Enhancement of UofT's global profile
- Measurable outcomes and impacts

Application Process:

Please complete the application as per the application instructions and submit via MRA by the application deadline.

Funding is to be used over a maximum two-year period and should be spent in accordance with the original approved budget.

The Committee will work with Project Leaders, providing strategic guidance on the development of the initiative.

The Award Recipient will be required to submit an interim report and a final report on the use and impact of the funding.