



Connaught Global Challenge Research Program 2021-22 Competition

Program Objectives: *Research excellence, New interdisciplinary collaboration, International partnership development, Knowledge mobilization, Training excellence*

Stream 1: Connaught Global Challenge Award (CGCA)

NEW - Stream 2: Connaught Global Research Impact Program (C-GRIP)

Overview	
Funding Envelope	\$1,000,000 from the Connaught Fund; \$300K from the Office of the Vice-President, International
Grant Value	CGCA: For proposals without C-GRIP component, up to \$250,000 per proposal; up to 4 proposals are normally funded C-GRIP: For proposals with an international partner and an international training component, an additional \$150,000 may be requested
Grant Duration	CGCA: 1 year + up to 1 year no cost extension C-GRIP: 4 years (CGCA + additional 3 years for training component)
Theme Areas	Open to all areas of scholarship; applications related to youth and student mental, the sustainable development goals (SDGs), research regarding the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the President's Three Priorities are encouraged. C-GRIP applicants are encouraged to work with an international institution from the list of current and potential Global Research Alliance partners, which can be found in appendix 1, for the international training component
Application Deadline	April 19, 2021
Application Procedure	Proposals are to be submitted via MRA by the application deadline.
How to Apply	See application instructions



Purpose:

The **Connaught Global Challenge Award (CGCA)** is to heighten U of T'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 U of T researchers and students from multiple disciplines, along with new international collaborators, innovators and thought leaders from other sectors. The program objective is to enhance U of T'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.

CGCAs are intended to jump-start new research collaborations and are for one year. Requests for a one-year no cost extension may be entertained under exceptional circumstances. CGCA recipients will be required to submit an interim report and a final report on the use and impact of the funding.

The **Connaught Global Research Impact Program (C-GRIP)** provides additional funding for Global Challenge teams who wish to partner internationally to achieve the goals of the CGCA. The additional funding will provide graduate students and postdoctoral fellows with unique global opportunities by supporting global mobility and exchange over an additional three years, in alignment with the Office of the Vice President's International Doctoral Program (IDC). The Office of the Vice President International also aims to develop robust partnerships with a set of universities around the globe which are built on strong collaborations in multiple disciplines, where, by working together, we can have a greater impact. Some of these institution-to-institution partnerships will become Global Research Alliances (GRAs), to which greater resources will be committed. C-GRIP will contribute to developing and strengthening international partnerships with potential GRA partners (see appendix 1).

C-GRIP awards are for a maximum of four years including the one year CGCA and an additional 3 years for the training component. The Office of the Vice President International will work with C-GRIP Project Leaders as needed, providing strategic guidance on the development of the funded initiative. C-GRIP recipients will be required to submit a yearly report and a final report on the use and impact of the funding at the end of the funding cycle.

Eligibility:

Project team: 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. Individuals that do not hold tenured/tenured-stream positions at the University of Toronto may be included as collaborators on the proposal.



Proposals must demonstrate meaningful engagement of undergraduate and graduate students. 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.

Project Expenses: The program funds for CGCA 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 (e.g, Tri-Councils) are not eligible.

In addition to CGCA eligible costs, **C-GRIP** eligible costs include: costs associated with a well defined three-year training pathway, including travel costs for graduate students and PDFs for economy class flights, accommodation, meals, local transportation; costs for faculty travel in alignment with training pathway goals; costs related to running/hosting workshops (in-person and/or virtually). Funds cannot be used for graduate student stipends or PDF salaries. Mobility costs related to personnel from partnering institutions are to be covered by their home institution.

International Partners (C-GRIP): It is recommended that C-GRIP applicants select an international partner from the list of current and potential Global Research Alliance partners, which can be found in appendix 1. However, applicants may select a partner not on the list, with justification provided in the application. For the purposes of this grant, a new international collaborator is defined as: a) a partner with whom the applicants have not yet collaborated or, b) a partner with whom, at most, the applicants have co-organized a workshop to explore collaborative opportunities or a received a modest (<\$15K) seed grant from the Office of the Vice-President International.

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. Those applicants to the C-GRIP stream will be adjudicated by the same committee, which will also include the Associate Vice-President, International Partnerships.

Evaluation Criteria:

For the CGCA, equal weighting will be given to these 4 criteria for the research component of the project:

- Excellence in research and innovation, including equity, diversity and inclusion
- New cross-divisional institutional capacity
- Enhancement of U of T's global profile
- Measurable outcomes and impacts

C-GRIP applications will be evaluated on the above criteria plus the strength of the training (i.e. IDC) partnership proposed.

Application Content:

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

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:

CGCA:

- 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)
- Present reasonable achievable goals
- 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

C-GRIP:

All criteria related to CGCA plus:



- Promote new international partnerships with institutions who have the potential to become Global Research Alliance partners
- Demonstrate strong potential for partnerships with peer institutions to grow towards additional activities and funding opportunities
- Demonstrate area(s) of complementary research strength and training
- Demonstrate a robust masters, doctoral and/or post-doctoral training pathway that engages both U of T and partner institution students in the research proposed as part of the overall program



Appendix 1 – International partners eligible for C-GRIP funding

These are universities with which the Office of the Vice President International (OVPI) has been in ongoing partnership discussions, and has begun to develop a set of deeper collaborative partnerships across multiple disciplines. This list will continue to evolve over time. It is recommended that C-GRIP applicants select an international partner from this list of current and potential Global Research Alliance partners; however, applicants may select a partner not on the list, with justification provided in the application. To further discuss, please reach out to the Office of the Vice President International at international@utoronto.ca

Asia	UK & Europe	Africa	India	Australia	The Middle East	USA and Mexico
National University of Singapore (NUS)	Cambridge University	Addis Ababa University	IIT-Bombay	University of Melbourne	Boğaziçi University	Harvard University
Peking University	ETH-Zurich	KNUST	IIT-Delhi	University of Sydney	American University of Beirut	Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM)
Tsinghua University	LMU-Munich	Moi University			Hebrew University	Tec de Monterrey
The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology	Max Planck Institute (MPI)	University of Cape Town				UC – Berkeley
University of Hong Kong (HKU)	Oxford University	University of Western Cape				University of Illinois System
University of Tokyo	Sciences Po					University of Michigan



University of Kyoto	University College London					University of Washington
Zhejiang University	University of Edinburgh					
	University of Manchester					