Call for Proposals 2017
McGill University – Freie Universität Berlin
Joint Research Workshops

With the goal of facilitating cutting-edge research cooperation, McGill University and Freie Universität Berlin have established a joint seed funding scheme to support biannual joint research workshops.

McGill-FUB joint research workshops allow researchers to identify complementary research strengths and facilitate the use of synergies in future research projects. The workshops should have a clearly defined research focus and serve as a catalyst for the development of new research projects to further the partnership between McGill and FUB researchers. The workshop format and duration is not pre-defined. The workshops can be held in Berlin or in Montreal; participants should include both senior and junior researchers. Researchers can submit proposals for more than one workshop provided that the proposals are not submitted for the same Call year.

The scientific motivation for holding the workshop should be clearly explained, including how the involved FUB and McGill institutes or departments can profit in the long term from this cooperation and what synergies will arise. Inclusion of German non-university research institutions such as Max Planck Institutes, Helmholtz Centers, Leibniz Institutes and others, is encouraged, however, the additional costs must be covered by these partners themselves. The call is not limited to a specific academic field; the workshops can be either focused on one discipline or be of interdisciplinary character.

Submission of proposals

Proposals can be submitted by permanent/tenured professors of Freie Universität Berlin and tenured or tenure-track faculty members of McGill University. It is required that the workshop proposals involve several FUB and McGill faculty. If appropriate, funding can also be used for PhD students and Post Docs to attend. Total workshop costs shall not exceed $10,000 CAD or the equivalent in Euros (including travel, accommodation, catering, and materials) of which FUB and McGill will cover 50% each under this call.

Selection criteria

Funding for joint research workshops is provided on a competitive basis. Projects will be selected by a joint McGill-FUB committee consisting of experienced researchers from each university. Each reviewer will mark the proposals and a joint average ranking will be calculated. Particular attention will be given to the following criteria:
- Clearly formulated goals of the workshop
- Information on envisaged synergies between the PIs/research units
- Level of concreteness of future joint research, including timeframe and information on potential external funding programs and steps for developing joint follow-up activities and proposals
- Compatibility of the FUB/McGill researchers (interdisciplinary nature, excellence of project leaders, scope of the different fields/labs represented in the proposed workshop)

Submission and deadlines

Proposals for FUB-McGill joint research workshops should be submitted in English. They should not exceed 4 pages and have the following information attached:

- Timeframe/Date for the workshop. Proposals for the February Call should hold their workshop by the end of 2017. Proposals for the September Call should hold their workshop in the first quarter of 2018.
- Budget calculation.
- Written endorsement statement of respective FUB/McGill faculty/department.
- Information on project leaders on both sides and list of other FUB/McGill participants.

Joint proposals can be submitted at the following dates:

1st of February, 2017
20th of September, 2017

Researchers should submit their joint proposal simultaneously in Berlin and in Montreal. Proposals should be sent electronically to the following addresses:

At Freie Universität Berlin:
Center for International Cooperation
Judith Winkler
Tel: +49 30 838 739 49
Email: judith.winkler@fu-berlin.de

At McGill University:
Office of the Vice-Principal (Research and Innovation)
Chelsea Cavanagh
Tel: +1-514-398-4994
Email: chelsea.cavanagh@mcgill.ca

For further information, please contact the above listed staff.