

GenEx Fund 2019/20
Geneva/Exeter Collaborative Research Seed Grants
Call for Projects

1. BACKGROUND

The University of Geneva (UNIGE) and the University of Exeter aspire to be sustainable Top-100 institutions by realising their aims to be global research leaders, and institutions which create graduates of distinction. Integral to this vision is a dynamic global culture and community of students, staff and alumni involved in the discovery, creation and sharing of new knowledge which has impact that reaches across the world. We aim to achieve this through international excellence in research, and by offering a world-leading student experience, bringing opportunities to all students and colleagues, and equipping graduates of distinction for success in the global workplace, as well as developing a global culture across our campuses. To read more about Exeter's Global Strategy visit the [Global Partnerships](#) website, and to read more about UNIGE's international strategic partnerships, please visit the [International Affairs](#) website.

To achieve this aim, the University of Geneva and the University of Exeter have signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to provide equal match funding for the GenEx Fund. The two universities are now launching the 2019-2020 round of Call for Projects within the frames of this funding scheme.

2. OBJECTIVES

In summary, the key aims of the GenEx Fund are:

- To increase research and education/teaching collaboration between Geneva and Exeter
- To increase student and staff mobility between Geneva and Exeter, with an increase in the volume of student and staff exchanges within a collaborative research project;
- To support the development of novel, interdisciplinary research and/or teaching and learning concepts to the point of submission of bid(s) for significant external funding;
- To support groups in developing their initiatives to the point of high academic and/or non-academic outcomes and impact, as well as achieving high impact publications ;
- To tackle research and/or education challenges that could not be as effectively carried out by one partner on its own;
- To promote the University of Exeter and the University of Geneva's international strategy;

3. FUNDING DETAILS

- i) Up to 6 grant awards of up to a maximum of **GBP 10,000 / CHF 12,700** are available to fund projects that meet the above objectives
- ii) Match funding will be provided to the nominated lead applicants at Geneva and Exeter, who will be responsible for all arrangements for any events, activities, and participation. It must be made clear on the application which partner is paying for what, and when.
- iii) Grant awards must be spent by **November 30th 2020**. Exeter's financial year-end is **July 31st 2020**. Exeter Project lead applicants should note that it is not possible to carry-over funding into the next financial year, so Exeter funds must be spent before this date.
- iv) Any project expenditure **after 31st July 2020** needs to either be invoiced and prepaid before this date **OR** paid for by Geneva (not exceeding the allocated amount) before **November 30th 2020**. It is therefore advisable that events at Exeter be planned during the first half of 2020, and activities taking place in Geneva during the second half.

Project evaluation reports will be due within 1 month of the project completion date, with a follow-up evaluation report 18 months later to assess project outcomes (publications, funding outcomes, mobility outcomes etc). The programme coordinators will contact the lead applicants in due time.

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

GenEx Grants are available to the whole academic community at Geneva & Exeter. Eligible costs under the grants includes:

- Travel and Subsistence
- Geneva Publication costs (up to 20% of total budget)
- External speakers/facilitators
- Equipment (small purchases only, justifiable in line with project deliverables)
- Research consumables
- Venue and catering costs

The following items are not eligible for funding under this scheme:

- Academic salaries
- Student fees / tuition
- Conference registration fees or conference travel costs
- Indirect costs, overheads and bench fees associated with internal research facilities
- Publication Costs (for Exeter, these can be funded [here](#)).

5. APPLICATION PROCESS

At Exeter, lead applicants should first discuss their application with their College ADID (Associate Dean for International Development), and their Head of Department/School (or equivalent), and will need the application approved by their College ADID.

At UNIGE, the proposal must include a statement of support from a full professor if the lead applicant does not have this status.

Applications need to be submitted before midnight (GMT) **Monday 20th January 2020** online via the UNIGE application portal:

<https://exeter.unige-cofunds.ch/>

Each project must have one lead applicant per university. If the project is selected for funding, the funds from each university will be transferred to its lead applicant.

Applicants should ensure that activities are planned and scheduled accordingly, so that in the event of an award, these can be undertaken rapidly. We expect projects to be completed within the stated deadlines above.

6. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed by staff at UNIGE (International Relations and Partnerships) & Exeter (Global Partnerships) to ensure criteria are met, and evaluated by relevant College/Faculty staff at each university.

They will look for:

- Evidence of a highly motivated collaborative group/relationship that is keen and immediately available to take their proposed initiative to the next level;
- Evidence that initiatives will support a longer-term trajectory towards growing research and student/staff mobility collaboration between Exeter and Geneva;
- Quality of initiative/activity as outlined in the application;
- Perceived value for money;
- Potential to produce tangible outputs and benefits of high quality / impact;
- Including the potential to leverage onward research income;
- The ability to produce the above outputs and benefits with a relevant time-frame.

Please note that this call is likely to be highly competitive and so it is important that all criteria are addressed in your application. You should aim to convince the review panel of the value for money versus potential for highly desirable outputs and impact of your project proposal.

8. KEY DATES

Open Call	Tuesday November 5 th 2019
Deadline for application	Monday 20 th January 2020
Notification of results	Friday 31 st January 2020
Initiatives must be completed by	Monday 30 th November 2020
Evaluation reports submitted by	Friday 13 th December 2020

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