



September 2020

Call for Proposals 2020

Universität Zürich – Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Joint Seed Money Funding

With the goal of facilitating cooperation in the framework of a strategic partnership, Universität Zürich (UZH) and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (HU) have established a joint seed money funding scheme. The funding shall enable UZH and FUB faculty and researchers to identify complementary strengths, facilitate the use of synergies, and promote the development of outstanding future projects in research and teaching.

The joint seed funding aims at supporting the first steps of cooperation projects, but is not meant as complete project funding. The following formats are possible:

- Intensive research workshops
- Research-oriented teaching
- Short term research stays (for established as well as young researchers)
- Mobility for the preparation of joint third-party funding

Both Universities are aware that the covid pandemic has made the usual forms of cooperation and, in particular, mobility difficult. We would therefore like to expressly support the search for creative and new forms of cooperation.

The supported activities should have a clearly defined focus and serve as a catalyst for the development of new joint projects. The motivation for holding the activity should be clearly explained, including how the involved UZH and HU institutes or departments can profit long term from this cooperation and what synergies can arise. The activities can take place in Berlin or in Zurich; applications can be handed in by senior researchers and ideally include both senior and junior faculty/researchers of HU and UZH. Third parties might join the project but are not eligible for funding under this call.

The funding scheme is open to all academic fields, the activities can be either focused on one discipline or be of interdisciplinary character. The maximum amount of seed funding per project is 10.000 €.

Proposals must be jointly submitted by faculty of UZH and HU and can be written in German or in English. Applicants must hold a Doctoral degree and be regular faculty members with employment contracts covering the entire period of the project



Selection criteria

Seed money funding for joint activities will be provided on a competitive basis. Projects will be selected by a joint UZH-HU committee, giving particular attention to the following criteria:

- Clearly formulated plan of the activity
- Scientific merit of the proposed activities and of the anticipated outcomes
- Envisaged synergies and added value for ongoing research on both sides
- Benefits of the proposed activities for the establishment of sustainable research partnerships and institutional links between UZH and FUB
- Potential for follow-up collaborative activities
- Potential for acquiring third party funding for follow up activities
- Expertise and complementarities of the involved researchers
- Feasibility of the proposed approach

Submission and deadlines

Proposals for the UZH-HU seed money funding scheme should be jointly submitted by UZH and HU faculty in English or German. They should not exceed 4 pages. Please submit the following documents for your application:

- 1) Completed application form, including:**
 - a. Description of the planned project/ activity (3 - max. 4 pages)**
 - b. Plan, how the project applied for can be used to apply for further third-party funding**
 - c. Detailed budget calculation**
- 2) Complete CVs of project leaders and a list of all prospective recipients of both sides**
- 3) Endorsement letter of respective UZH and HUB head of department**

Joint proposals can be submitted by **October 31, 2020**. The proposed activities should be conducted within 12 months of the proposal submission.

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

At Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin:
International Relations Office
Dr. Christin Bohnke
E-Mail: christin.bohnke@hu-berlin.de

At the University of Zurich:
International Relations Office
Carolin Fleck
E-Mail: carolin.fleck@uzh.ch