Partnership Collaboration Award
The University of Sydney and the University of Edinburgh

Purpose
The Partnership Collaboration Award provides funding to support initiatives in internationalisation. The aim is to foster international partnerships in research, teaching and learning, capacity building and other areas with high profile partners in priority regions. Applicants are encouraged to submit funding applications for innovative and sustainable programs built around collaborative research and/or learning and teaching initiatives linking the University of Sydney and the University of Edinburgh.

In 2017, five applications will be funded (each with two chief investigators; one from the University of Sydney and one from the University of Edinburgh). Each application will receive the equivalent of AUD 10,000 from each institution for a total of AUD 20,000.

Activities that will be considered for funding:
- Academic mobility
- Travel expenses (e.g. economy airfare, train, rental car, etc.)
- Partial costs for hosting a seminar/conference or workshop
- Accommodation
- Consumables
- Publications and printing costs

Activities that will not be considered for funding
Activities that will not be considered are:
- General teaching;
- an individual staff member’s research projects, unless as catalytic funding for the establishment of an international research collaboration with the prospect of external funding;
- website development;
- salaries or salary supplementation, per diems and honoraria;
- scholarships for students;
- course fees for international students;
- mobile phone cards;
- entertainment costs;
- computers, including laptops, (excluding access to high-performance computers or other specialised applications that are justified against the project) and basic computing facilities such as printers, word processing and other standard software

Guidelines for budgets that include provision for travel and related expenses
The budget for one project should not exceed the maximum amount of AUD 20,000 or its equivalent in GBP. The maximum allowable expenses for airfares, accommodation and meals are listed in the summary and table below.
- Requests for funding of per diems will not be considered;
- All travel must be consistent with the University of Sydney Travel Policy and Procedures;
- Airfares: only travel up to the value of four economy class airfares will be considered;
- Accommodation: a maximum of two weeks subsistence for up to four people;
- Publication and printing costs: not to exceed $1,000
- Consumables: must not exceed $500

*NB Applicants from each institution need to consult their respective guidelines for travel funding. All travel information is relevant to University of Sydney staff travelling from Australia and is sourced from the University of Sydney’s travel website, www.sydney.edu.au/staff/travel. Applicants from the University of Edinburgh should refer to the staff Business Travel website: www.ed.ac.uk/staff/business-travel.
Application Eligibility
Applications are welcome annually. Applications are welcome from post-doctoral fellows, academic and research staff at the University of Sydney and the University of Edinburgh in all disciplines. Chief investigators on a project must hold a salaried appointment with either the University of Sydney or the University of Edinburgh.

Duration and funding limits
Grants should be spent within 12 months of receipt of funding. The maximum amount that applicants can apply for one project is AUD 20,000 (AUD 10,000 from University of Sydney and £6,000 GBP from the University of Edinburgh). Extensions may be granted but must be requested in the first instance, in writing, to the contact at each respective institution.

Submitting an application
Applicants must submit a Application Form which can be requested and submitted via email to IP.IPDF@sydney.edu.au

After submission, Applications will be reviewed and scored by a Selection committee comprised of senior academic and non-academic staff from both the University of Sydney and the University of Edinburgh. Applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application within two months of the closing date for receipt of applications.

Ranking Criteria
Applications are assessed in the following way:
Each reviewer will assess and score the application based on the whole proposal. In the abstract applicants are expected to outline the methods, aims and results of their project. The other questions in the application require applicants to address: academic quality and impact; sustainability; relevance and; innovation. Applicants should be able to succinctly outline the benefits and impact of their research and its relevance to both the University's and their academic unit's strategic goals. Applicants should also clearly define the expected outcomes, which may also include enhanced networks, workshops, conferences and researcher mobility, though these would not necessarily be considered outcomes in and of themselves.
Based on this information, reviewers will score each proposal on 4 criteria:
- **Academic quality and impact**: the academic quality of the proposed work, the likelihood of it gaining wide recognition and/or having a high impact when published, the ability to cut across disciplines and to draw in postgraduate students and junior academics. (0 – 20 points)
- **Strategic relevance**: its contribution to realising the University’s international strategy, and its potential to provide useful outcomes to society locally and globally, such as building capacity and influencing policy. (0 – 30 points)
- **Partnership**: How will the research partnership contribute to the promotion and consolidation of the relationship between University of Sydney and University of Edinburgh University? (0 – 20 points)
- **Innovation**: the extent to which the project will contribute to novel thinking and/or new technology in its field. (0 – 10 points)
- **Sustainability**: the likelihood that the project will lead to long-term international relationships and generate significant external funding. (0-20 points)

In general, priority is given to well defined proposals that demonstrate a clear benefit to the applicant, department, faculty and the University and that align with the overall strategic goals of the applicant’s faculty or research unit.

Results Sydney investigators
If your application is successful you will receive a letter of confirmation by email. Successful recipients will be required to submit the Acceptance of Funding form and forward it to the Program Coordinator at the Office of Global Engagement (ip.IPDF@sydney.edu.au) by the due date.

Results Edinburgh investigators
If your application is successful you will receive a letter of confirmation by email. Successful recipients will be required to submit the Acceptance of Funding form and forward it to the Program Coordinator at Edinburgh Global (global.partnerships@ed.ac.uk) by the due date.
Payment
All successful applicants will receive the funds by May. The funds will be transferred into the account details (RC) provided by the recipient in the Acceptance of Funding form. It is the responsibility of the applicant to liaise directly with their finance department regarding the receipt of funds.

Successful applicants will be awarded AUD 10,000 (or £6,000 GBP) by their own institution. Each successful application (having one USyd academic and one University of Edinburgh academic) will receive a total of approximately AUD 20,000 (AUD 10,000 from USyd and £6,000 GBP from Edinburgh). Applicants will be responsible for managing the project funds and for facilitating the sharing of funds with their partner chief investigator where required.

Change of investigator/industry partner etc.
If circumstances change – for example the lead investigator or a fellow investigator leaves the project, or the industry partner withdraws – applicants should contact the Program Coordinator at each institution. Such changes will need to be approved and documented.

Extensions
Under exceptional circumstances extensions will be approved for a maximum period of 6 months. Applicants seeking an extension must submit an Amendment Request Form along with a revised budget and timeline of activities to the Program Coordinator for approval.

Forfeiture of grants
Grants not spent by the due date will be transferred back so that unspent balances can be re-allocated.

Financial and Reporting Obligations
Recipients will be required to submit a final report within three months of completion of the project. A report pro-forma is available on-line. The report should include an outline of the outcomes of the project, an indication of the project's sustainability, a summary of lessons learned in undertaking the project and a detailed acquittal of funds as required by University policy. Recipients who fail to submit a final report will not be able to submit future applications.

Supporting documents
A CV from the lead Investigator of each Institution no more than 3 pages which should include:

- Qualifications, current position and employment history
- 10 career-best publications
- Awards and relevant presentations
- Current grant income
- A letter of support from any additional collaborating University of Edinburgh outlining any collaboration activity to date

All supporting letters must be on official letterhead and in English. Complete applications, include all required attachments, must be received by the deadline. No extensions will be granted.

Further information
For further information, please contact your respective Program Coordinator:

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