CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Research scholar exchange program

2012

The State University of Campinas, Unicamp, through its Offices of the Dean of Research and the Dean of Graduate Studies makes public this call for proposals for cooperative exchanges between distinguished professors from foreign institutions and their groups and their counterparts at Unicamp. The aim of this program is to foster mobility and international collaboration. The scholar from abroad is expected to engage both in research as well as in graduate school activities, such as lectures, courses, mini-courses, etc. This call also seeks to encourage local research groups without a prior record of international collaborations to build long-term cooperation with counterparts from abroad. Priority will be given to international researchers with highly distinguished careers and who will be able to enhance the internationalization of the graduate school programs.

In case of approval, the grant will also cover air transportation, health insurance and daily maintenance of a faculty member, researcher or PhD student from Unicamp to spend an equal period of time at the university or research institution of the foreign visitor, conditioned on the approval of the activity report of the latter and of the plan of activities to be undertaken abroad.

Researchers from Brazilian institutions will be supported only in exceptional cases. The proposals will be selected on a competitive basis, based on its scientific merit and on the qualifications of the foreign scholar. They should be submitted to FAEPEX (Unicamp’s Fund for the Support of Research, Teaching and Outreach Activities) and will be subjected to the usual rules and regulations of that Fund.

1. Objectives

This call has the following objectives:

a) Contribute to a better education of Unicamp graduate students, especially in the areas at the frontiers of knowledge and research.
b) Enhance the internationalization of the graduate school programs at Unicamp.
c) Increase the quality of the research and graduate school activities at Unicamp.
d) Foster the establishment of long-term international collaborations involving Unicamp faculty members and researchers.

2. The proposals

The proposals should contemplate the following points:

a) The foreign scholars should have a distinguished career in their areas of expertise, as evidenced by a significant record of high-profile publications, the leadership of important collaboration projects, participation in scientific committees, the awarding of prizes, and other such indicators.
b) The planned stay should last from 15 to 60 days, during which time the visitor should engage in activities such as:
   a. Teach courses or mini-courses at the graduate level, which should appear in the list of graduate courses and in the students’ transcripts;
   b. Give lectures and colloquia;
   c. Give training courses in specific research techniques;
   d. Perform collaborative research with faculty members;
   e. Plan future collaborations;
   f. Other teaching or collaborative activities which will contribute to improve the graduate school programs.

c) The proposals should have a justification for the specific choice of visiting researcher, the schedule of planned activities and the expected impact on the graduate program.

d) A minimum stay of 30 days is desirable. Stays shorter than 15 days will not be supported. In case the visiting scholar should not be able to stay for the whole period, a member of his/her group (a researcher or a senior post-doc) can perform part of the plan activities. The proper qualification of this group member should be demonstrated in the proposal.

e) The proposals should be submitted by a faculty member belonging to the graduate school program who will act as its coordinator.

f) The proposal should contain a statement from the graduate program coordinator declaring the institutional support for the planned activities. The statement should also describe the scope and expected impact of the activities.

g) The proposal coordinator should list in the final report of the activities the emails of the students who took part in the activities. The Offices of the Deans may ask these students to fill out a questionnaire about their experiences.

h) Priority will be given to proposals who envisage a stay of a Unicamp faculty member, researcher or PhD student at the group of the visiting scholar for an equal time period. In that case, matching funds will be awarded to support air transportation, health insurance and maintenance for this Unicamp scholar.

3. Important dates:
   - Period for submission of proposals: from April 02 until May 31, 2012.
   - Deadline for publication of the selected proposals: July 02, 2012.
   - Period of the visits: from August 01, 2012 until July 31, 2013.

4. Financial support

   a) Round trip air tickets for the foreign scholar and a member of his/her group, if applicable.
   b) Health insurance for the foreign visitor and a member of his/her group, if applicable.
   c) Accommodation expenses for the foreign visitor and a member of his/her group, if applicable.
d) An additional sum for the foreign scholar and a member of his/her group, if applicable, calculated on the basis of a salary of a Unicamp professor according to the stage of his/her career (MS-3, MS-5 or MS-6) and the duration of the stay. The value for a 30-day period is the corresponding salary of a full-time professor, after taxes. Fractions thereof will be calculated proportionally. The academic stage will be assigned by the Offices of the Deans, but the proposal coordinator is encouraged to submit a suggested one.

e) Round-trip air tickets, health insurance costs and maintenance funds for a visit by the Unicamp faculty member, researcher or PhD student to the foreign scholar’s group for an equal period of time.

5. **Obligations of the proposal coordinator**

   If the proposal is selected, its coordinator must abide by its rules and regulations. In particular, he will be hold financially accountable for the funds spent and must also present a scientific report of the activities actually undertaken. Furthermore, the coordinator must not have unmet prior obligations with FAEPEX.

6. **Documentation required**

   a) Completed and signed form for this call (obtainable at the FAEPEX web site);
   b) Curriculum vitae of the proposal coordinator;
   c) Statement of support by the graduate program coordinator, in which he/she declares that he/she will be able to come up with the necessary institutional facilities and capabilities for the successful completion of the planned activities and with a description of their scope and expected impact;
   d) Curriculum vitae of the scholar from the foreign institution and the group member, if applicable;
   e) Letter or email by the visiting scholar, confirming that he/she agrees to take part in the activities as planned.

7. **Criteria to used in the analysis of the proposal**

   The following criteria will guide the analysis by the Offices of the Deans, which will be made on a competitive basis:

   a) The qualifications of the visiting scholar and the member of his/her group, if applicable.
   b) Impact and scope of the planned research and teaching activities, especially in regard to the potential for an increase of the internationalization of the graduate program.
   c) Potential for the generation of future collaborations between the visiting scholar and faculty members and researchers at Unicamp. In particular, proposals which envisage a matching visit for an equal time period by a Unicamp faculty member, researcher or PhD student to the foreign group will be considered with a higher priority.
   d) The qualifications of the proposal coordinator.

8. **Scientific report**
The scientific report must describe the activities actually carried out and compare the expected and the realized objectives. Moreover, a list of emails of the graduate students involved in the activities should be provided. They may later be asked to fill out a questionnaire about their experiences.

9. **Financial accountability**

All expenses should be accounted for according to the rules and regulations of FAEPEX.