



Office of International Relations Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur-721302



Ref. No. 1909/2023/OIR

Date: 26.06.2023

Sub: Request to approve the proposal to match seed funding offered by University of Edinburgh on shared academic collaboration

Recently, the Institute has signed an MoU with the University of Edinburgh (UoE) on shared academic collaboration in promoting teaching, education curriculum, research and service to the community. University of Edinburgh (UK) has offered a seed fund to initiate collaborative research between them and IIT Kharagpur in some strategic areas.

Following are the details of the proposal submitted by UoE:

Purpose:

The purpose of the seed fund is to create new research partnerships, and consolidate existing research partnerships, through delivery of joint research projects and arriving at preliminary results for applying for extramural grants as well as joint supervision of research students.

Focus area:

Research within the themes of rural energy, water, food & health will be eligible.

Modality:

The research will be delivered by Ph.D. students, who will spend 1 – 3 months in the partner lab. Host labs will help the incoming students to find short-term accommodation.

Resources:

The maximum resource per project will be three months' mobility in each direction. Asymmetric projects will also be eligible, whereby mobility is different in each direction (however there should be overall balance between the two universities across the whole seed fund so these instances will need to even out.) The purpose and value of the mobility needs to be justified in the proposal. Mobility of academic project leaders will not be supported by this fund, and they are encouraged to seek other funding sources and/or make use of online tools for project development and student supervision.

Participation:

In UoE, all projects will be led from the College of Science & Engineering, with mobile students to be from that College. However, collaborative co-investigators from College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences, and from College of Medicine and Vet Medicine are welcome. Similar participation will apply from IIT Kharagpur.

Timeline:

Two-weeks post closure of the application deadline; the outcomes will be announced. The Projects can commence two weeks post declaration of the acceptance of the proposal, and the reports on the seed grant phase of the work will be due in March, 2024.

Financial coverage:

Each university will cover

- (i) the cost of international travel for their own students, plus
- (ii) the cost of accommodation, living expenses and consumables for the incoming students.

This means that no funds need to be transferred internationally.

Specific financial support:

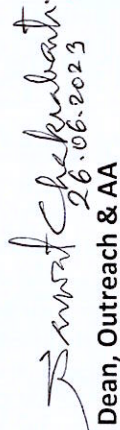
- IITKgp students visiting UoE would be eligible for a stipend of £1400 per month/per student.
- IITKgp will provide free-of-cost furnished accommodation to all the visiting participants from the UoE, as well as subsistence-allowance for their on-campus living as per the rates of the stipends of our regular JRF/ SRF.
- The seed fund will not cover staff salary that needs to be managed from complementary internal resources.
- Consumables or contingency expenses of research for each Visiting student will be completely taken care of by the host research group, which may be partly supported from this seed fund.
- IITKgp and UoE will take the responsibilities of covering the International travel expenses of their respective students.

It is proposed that the funding to bear the travel cost of outbound KGP student and to host the inbound guest student may be sourced through IoE scheme.

Submitted for the consideration and approval please.



Associate Dean, IR & Ranking


26.06.2023

Dean, Outreach & AA

Deputy Director

*provide an estimate.
please funding required
26/6/23*