2019-2020 Graduate Research Project Grants
between
The University of Melbourne (UoM)
and
The Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)

Research Opportunity

Structure of Program and Scientific Areas

The CNRS and UoM are calling for proposals to establish up to 10 graduate research projects across five separate pairs of investigators (PIs). Each of these five PI pairs will receive one PhD scholarship from UoM (allocated to the UoM PI) and one PhD fellowship from CNRS (allocated to the CNRS PI). Each Melbourne scholarship will enable the UoM PI to recruit and enroll a PhD candidate in Melbourne. Each CNRS Fellowship will enable the CNRS PI to recruit and enroll a PhD candidate through their affiliated French University. Both the Melbourne and CNRS-based candidates must meet the requirements to successfully enroll at their respective host university in France or Melbourne. Typically this last step is done under agreement between UoM and the French university nominated by the CNRS PI.

These awards will also include travel and establishment support.

This call is open to all areas of research.

Melbourne-based candidates must accept their scholarship by 11 December 2019 while CNRS-based candidates will commence by September 2020.

Eligibility

Primary Investigators:

- Assistant, Associate or Full Professors
- CNRS-based PIs must hold accreditation to supervise PhD candidates while UoM PIs must be salaried UoM employees and have available supervisory load.
- A PI cannot submit more than one application in the framework of this call.
- There must be one PI from UoM and one PI from CNRS; and
- Both of these PIs must supervise each of the PhD candidates from UoM and CNRS.
PhD Candidates:

Those PhD candidates participating in the awarded Graduate Research Grants must meet the entry requirements to jointly enroll at both the UoM PI’s Faculty as well as that of the CNRS PI’s affiliated French university.

**France:** PhD candidates seeking to undertake a joint research project funded by the CNRS PI, must commence the first year of their PhD at a host French University in 2020. All candidates must meet the enrolment criteria of the French University where their candidature is managed.

**Melbourne:** PhD candidates seeking to undertake a joint research project funded by UoM must be eligible to commence the first year of their PhD by **11 December 2019**.

**Conditions**

Each graduate research project must be designed to provide a research stay at each candidate’s respective host institutions.

**Amount**

Each PhD candidate will be expected to be supported financially by their home institution, at the equivalent level of a PhD scholarship/fellowship in the specific program at their host institution. Additional funds will also be provided to cover mobility costs for visits to France and Melbourne for the PhD candidates and the supervising PIs (up to 5 000 € or AUD$ equivalent, per institution, per year).

**Support period**

Up to 3 years

**Number of awards**

There will be five awards to pairs of Melbourne and French supervisors with each supervisor to recruit one candidate each (2 per pair). In total five PhD scholarships will be provided by the University of Melbourne and five CNRS PhD fellowships will be provided by the CNRS.

**Notification date**

October 18th, 2019

**Submission date**

September 30th, 2019

**Call date**

September 6th, 2019
**Evaluation**

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by a UoM-CNRS committee comprising 2 to 3 scholars from each country, according to the following criteria:

- Scientific quality & originality of the project
- Scientific merit of the teams
- Complementarity of the two teams

The proposals must also include an outlined plan for raising external competitive funding (e.g. EU collaborative grants, national research agency grants, etc.).

**Mode of application**

UoM and CNRS applicants should submit the one single application via the dedicated CNRS Web site: [https://www.cooperation.cnrs.fr](https://www.cooperation.cnrs.fr)

The proposal must consist of the following parts, one single file (up to 6 pages, not including references or the CVs of the CNRS and Melbourne PI’s participants).
PART A: Title Page
Title of the proposal, names of the principal investigators and their laboratories, their addresses, telephone, websites and e-mail. The names of the PhD students can be provided if they are already known (but this is not essential). Please specify on the Title Page of the application "This application is submitted for consideration within the 2019-2020 Graduate Research Project Grants".

PART B: Description of the scientific project (2 pages)
State of the art for the research area, description of the scientific project and domains of interest, historical context of application (if applicable), quality and originality of the project, objectives, scientific methodology, expected results and their relevance, future perspectives. Explain how each PhD candidate will be supervised and mentored by both the UoM and CNRS PI’s, and any other co-supervisors (if relevant), and how the joint supervision will enable and enhance each candidate’s project. Explain the relation between each project and the research themes of both laboratories.

PART C: Added-value of the international cooperation
Describe the added-value of the international cooperation in fulfilling the aims of each PhD project (explain why both projects cannot be carried out to the same level at a national level only). Describe the expected benefits for the French and UoM teams. Describe the balance between the contributions of the French and Melbourne teams. If any additional industrial, or governmental collaboration are involved in either of the proposed projects, please describe their role.

PART D: Planned activities
Describe the planned activities in the framework of each project and provide a timetable for both the Melbourne and French PhD projects. Explain how these activities will help achieve the aims of each.

PART E: Budget
Proposed budget including a breakdown of the division of funds, separated into distinct budgets for UoM and CNRS. The budget section regarding travel should contain explicit line items for travel for each of the PhDs and, where appropriate, each of the Melbourne and French PIs.

PART F: Perspectives & external funding
Outline any proposed plans for raising external competitive funding (e.g. EU collaborative grants, US collaborative grants, national research agency grants, etc.)

PART G: Scientific quality of the teams
Please attach in the Annex a list of up to ten detailed (complete) citations for publications related to the project for each team. This list does not count against the page limit. Authors from the respective laboratories must be clearly indicated in the author lists, with superscript or
parenthesized letters corresponding to the respective countries, for example Dupont JP (FR), or Smith FD (AUS).

PART H: Short (maximum two-page) curriculum vitae of all PIs

PART I: Ethics
Does the project raise ethical questions? If yes, please describe them and how they will be addressed.

Mode of submission and selection process

PIs from France and University of Melbourne are expected to submit a single proposal in electronic format, in English, via the dedicated CNRS Website: https://www.cooperation.cnrs.fr

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked by a UoM-CNRS selection committee based on the scientific quality & originality of the project, scientific merit of the teams, synergy between the teams, and alignment with the strategic areas of mutual interest.

Successful recipients will be formally notified of the award and informed of funding conditions.

Reporting

During or at the conclusion of the project, grant recipients may be asked to report on progress or outcomes achieved to relevant stakeholder groups.

Awardees must submit a brief, plain language report (1-page) to their respective institutions within eighteen months of the award. This report should detail the outcomes of the collaboration and the ways in which the grant has enhanced, or will enhance, their research activities and/or leverage larger opportunities.

Enquiries

UoM enquiries should be directed to maria.roitman@unimelb.edu.au

CNRS enquiries should be directed to jean.theves@cnrs-dir.fr