CALL FOR PROPOSALS ‘Shaping a World-class University - Seed funding for Digitalization & Innovation’

YEAR 2021

AIMS
In line with the Strategic Guidelines 2016-20, the University of Padua keeps encouraging and renewing an internationalisation strategy worldwide both to turn its degree programmes into open, innovative, and international learning environments - Internationalisation at home and to boost its visibility, attractiveness and reputation for an increasingly better international ranking.

Given the uncertainty caused by the global pandemic, the University aims to continue its internationalisation activities in this new framework, by supporting initiatives designed to innovate and digitalise curricular activities, promote the University itself and recruit international students.

TYPE OF PROJECTS AND FUNDING
For these action areas, the University provides total funding of €100,000.00 to support the following specific initiatives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project type / specific initiative</th>
<th>Budget/Project (max)</th>
<th>Total budget (max)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE CURRICULUM</td>
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<td>1.1. Short-term Visiting professors (virtual activity)</td>
<td>2,500.00 €</td>
<td>100,000.00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2. Virtual &amp; Collaborative programmes (teaching initiatives)</td>
<td>5,000.00 €</td>
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<td>1.3. Virtual Summer &amp; Winter Schools for students</td>
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The funded activities may be carried out from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Funding will be provided in two tranches:
- a 75% advance of the allocated budget at the beginning of the project
- a 25% settlement at the end of the project subject to submission of a final report, within 30 days of the end of the activities and in any case not later than 30/04/2022, including a description of the activities carried out and the results achieved, a plan for dissemination and exploitation of results, a longer-term outlook for the development of the activities. Failing to submit the final report by 30/04/2022 will result in the repayment of the entire amount of the funding provided by the International Relations Division.

Co-funding of projects is allowed through either the University Department/ Centre or external bodies funds. The tranches of funding provided by the International Relations Division will be made available to the relevant School/Department, which will be responsible for the administrative and accounting management of it.

The aims, detailed information and specific requirements of each type of projects eligible for funding are outlined in the related factsheets of the macro-areas of actions, attached to this call for proposals (Anxs. 1-2-3).
SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS
Applications must be submitted by 1.00 pm on 19 February 2021, exclusively through the online form available at https://www.unipd.it/shaping-world-class-university, with the following documents to be attached in PDF format:

1. Project proposal
2. Estimated budget
3. Council resolution or Decree by the Head of Department/Centre of the proposing/relevant University approving the proposal and explicitly accepting the administrative and accounting management of the project; in case of more than one application, the priority must be indicated so to facilitate the selection by the dedicated Committee.
4. Any other document required for the relevant type of project, as laid down in the attached factsheets.

In the event of co-funding, a letter of commitment, either by the Department/Centre of the proposing/relevant University (Council resolution or Decree by the Head of Department/Centre) or by the external funding institution (dated and signed letter of commitment), must be enclosed to the application.

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA
A Selection Committee appointed by the Rector will analyse the proposals and decide on funds allocation according to the following criteria:

- Project consistency with the internationalisation goals of the University and the Department/Centre
- Quality of the project proposal
- Quality of the partner(s) involved and international relevance of the proposal
- Impact and dissemination of results

Specific requirements, where applicable, and priority criteria for selection are laid down in the factsheets attached to this call for proposals.

Co-funding, if any, by the proposing/relevant Department and/or by external bodies shall be considered added value to the project as a sign of commitment of the parties involved and of the feasibility and practical nature of the project.

The Committee reserves the right to allocate less funds than the amount applied for.

Selection shall comply with a criterion of diversification of projects subject-area and type, to encourage the widest possible range of activities.

PERSON APPOINTED TO OVERSEE THE PROCEDURE AND INFORMATION
The person appointed to oversee the administrative procedure is Dr Dora Maria Cornelia Longoni, Head of International Relations Division.

This call for proposals, annexes and selection results included, will be available on the University’s web page https://www.unipd.it/shaping-world-class-university.

For further information, please contact the Projects and Mobility Office
e-mail: international.projects@unipd.it   Tel. no.+39 049 827 7403
Padua,

The Rector
Prof. Rosario Rizzuto
CALL FOR PROPOSALS «Seed funding» for Digitalization & Innovation- ANNEX 1
YEAR 2021

Macro-area of action: 1. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE CURRICULUM
Type of project: Virtual Summer & Winter Schools

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
Supporting innovative short-term projects aimed at boosting training opportunities, in both research training and teaching, in virtual mode through new technologies and tools. The project must be internationally relevant and open to any geographical area.

2. PROJECTS TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS
a. Contents: short, high-quality intensive courses, organised and delivered in virtual mode. Activities may cover specific subject areas or ‘soft skills’ (e.g. intercultural, interpersonal and cooperation skills, teamwork, project management and creative thinking, problem-solving, etc.) Educational credits, defined by the relevant degree programmes of the University, may be given for it.
b. Duration of the project: at least 1 week
c. Target participants: students of the first, second, and third cycle, young researchers, practitioners, and civil servants or private employees, both Italian and international

3. APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
a. Proposing party: professor acting as contact person
b. Application submission: only 1 application per proposing party, including the letter of endorsement by the relevant Department

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITY
a. Specific requirements:
   - Presence of professors from institutions abroad
   - Minimum number of participants: 20
b. Priority:
   - Initiatives compliant with the virtual exchange approach, which fosters constructive and structured interactions among individuals or groups, with the support of digital technology, are encouraged
   - Participation of professional partners is added value to the project

5. OTHER ANNEXES TO THE APPLICATION
Any other documents deemed useful to prove the quality of the project: letter of endorsement from partner institution(s); invitation/acceptance letter from professors or professional partners from abroad, etc.
CALL FOR PROPOSALS «Seed funding» for Digitalization & Innovation- ANNEX 2
YEAR 2021

Macro-area of action: 1. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE CURRICULUM
Type of project: Short-term Visiting Professors

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
   Enriching and internationalising the University educational and training offer thanks to professors/experts from abroad with high scientific/professional qualifications for virtual and innovative seminars.

2. PROJECTS TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS
   a. Contents: adding virtual seminars, concerning either innovative or cutting-edge topics, to the educational and training offer of Bachelor’s, Master’s and Single-cycle degree programmes or PhD programmes
   b. Duration of the activity: minimum 4 - maximum 8 hours
   c. Target participants: professors, researchers, or experts with proven scientific/professional qualifications, from a University, Institution, Body, or enterprise abroad, who, in the three years before the closing date of the call for proposals, have not resided or carried out their main activity in Italy for more than twelve months, even not consecutive
   d. The flat-rate funding is before tax, and social security taxes where applicable, set forth by the existing national regulation

3. APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
   a. Proposing party: professor acting as contact person
   b. Application submission: only 1 application per proposing party, including the letter of endorsement of the host Department

4. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITY
   a. Priority:
   - Professors/experts from partner institutions within networks/alliances highly relevant to the University: ARQUUS, UNIMED, T.I.M.E., VIU, COIMBRA, etc.
   - Relevance of seminars to the degree programme

5. OTHER ANNEXES TO THE APPLICATION
   a. Acceptance letter by the Visiting Professor;
   b. Curriculum Vitae of the Visiting Professor, bibliometric indicators included;
   c. Description of the seminars to carry out;
CALL FOR PROPOSALS «Seed funding» for Digitalization & Innovation- ANNEX 3
YEAR 2021

Macro-area of action: 1. INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE CURRICULUM
Type of project: Virtual & Collaborative programmes

1. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
Enriching, internationalising and making the University’s educational and training offer more accessible and inclusive through innovative activities, organised and delivered in virtual mode and in a synergistic and creative way, towards quality learning environments.

2. PROJECTS TYPE AND CHARACTERISTICS
   a. Contents: virtual initiatives, organised and offered as new separate activities/units to be added to existing teaching activities or aimed at enhancing quality of degree programmes (Bachelor’s, Master’s, Single-cycle degree programmes and PhD programmes). The activities proposed should be highly collaboration-centred and encourage active participation. Such initiatives may be carried out during different stages of the study path and serve different purposes:
      - INDUCTION: (i) implementing introduction unit to the programmes or other ways of supporting students in adapting their educational background and the initial skills required to be successful in the degree programme; (ii) orientation initiatives, familiarisation with the learning environment, welcoming, intercultural, and networking activities aimed at the integration of students at the beginning of their study path;
      - CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT: (i) Development of joint thematic units with international partners; (ii) initiatives to enhance students’ soft skills (project management, creativity, critical thinking, teamwork, leadership, entrepreneurship and personal development, etc.); (iii) initiatives aimed at virtual laboratory activities;
      - NETWORKING & PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT: creating networking between the Alumni and the economic and social, and research fabric to support the degree programme in order to foster links with the labour market (practitioners/businesses/Alumni testimonials) and graduates’ involvement and entry into the labour market.
      - QUALITY & MANAGEMENT: any other initiative aimed at improving the organisation, efficiency, and quality of the activities of the degree programmes, involving teaching and technical-administrative staff: exchange of good practices and implementation of joint activities within double/joint degree programmes also looking ahead to physical mobility activity (Staff Exchange).

   b. Duration of the project: minimum 5 days, on a continuous basis or spread throughout the academic year.

   c. Target participants: professors, students (Bachelor’s, Master’s, Single-cycle degree programmes, PhD programmes), teaching and technical-administrative staff

   d. Other specific requirements:
      - Organisation of activities for groups of students of different nationalities, scientific and cultural backgrounds,
      - involvement of at least one international partner in the project
3. **APPLICATION SUBMISSION:**
   a. Proposing party: Professor acting as contact person, Programme Coordinator, or Representative of Double/Joint Degree Programme
   b. Application submission: only 1 application per proposing party, including the letter of endorsement of the host Department

6. **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION PRIORITY**
The following are added-value requirements to the project:
   - Using the virtual exchange approach ([https://www.unipd.it/erasmus-virtual-exchange](https://www.unipd.it/erasmus-virtual-exchange))
   - Granting free access to the teaching units to the whole academic community

4. **OTHER ANNEXES TO THE APPLICATION**
Any other documents deemed useful to prove the quality of the project: letters of intent from partners, if any; CVs of the professors/practitioners involved in the project, etc.