Joint Initiatives in Research and Education
Call for proposals 2027 within NTU-UGA-UT Trilateral Center

Aims of Cooperation and Possible Formats

Based on the MOU signed on Oct 4th, 2024 between National Taiwan University, Université Grenoble Alpes, and University of Tsukuba, each university has respectively appointed a Director (**NTU**: Prof. Cheng-Liang Liu; **UGA**: Prof. Redouane Borsali; **UT**: Prof. Shinji Kuroda) to oversee the joint research and educational initiatives, strengthening the strategic partnership for a period of five years. The funding will support seed research projects, mission travels and costs associated with the organization of workshops/events as well as mobility of students from the three institutions to deepen their understanding of complementary interests and strengths.

The present grant is a new initiative to support researchers from NTU/UGA/UT to facilitate and support collaborative projects of common interest in developing multidisciplinary cutting-edge research to create academic and societal impact.

NTU, UGA, and UT have committed to fund up to **NTD $5,000,000**, **EUR €150,000**, **JPY ¥25,000,000)/Institution/year**. Priority will be given to applications jointly submitted by the 3 Universities (NTU, UGA and UT). Bilateral applications involving 2 Universities will be considered. NTU-UGA-UT Trilateral Center will administer the program with a total budget for the tri-center of about 450K€/year for the next year.

1. Program Formats for cooperation

1.1 Cooperation Research / Student exchange (Including Co-supervising graduate students)

1.2 Research workshop

1.3 Summer or Winter school

(a) School focused on specific research topics, with the attendees limited to relevant researchers and students

(b) School on general topics, open to a wide range of participants without limitations

1.4 Other formats of common interest could be included if identified by the 3 partners

2. Research Areas

There are no restrictions on research topics, all research topics are welcome.

3. Eligibility

Each project should preferably be jointly proposed by all three Universities. Bilateral applications involving 2 Universities will also be considered.

4. Additional funding provided by each University to support (PhDs or Post-docs)

For a limited number of applications for 1.1 Cooperate Research which are estimated to be highly innovative and worthy of long-term collaborations, additional funding for the employment of postdoctoral researchers and doctoral students may be provided at the discretion of each university. (For eligible applications, the Director at each university will contact the PIs individually after the application is selected). PIs of the projects are also encouraged to apply for calls for proposals (EU Funding & Grants, French National Research Agency (ANR, France), NSTC (Taiwan), JSPS (Japan), …)

5. Funding Information

5.1 The actual amount of funding available and number of projects funded each year will be reviewed and determined annually by mutual agreement between NTU, UGA and UT.

5.2 Funding period is for one year, starting April 9th, 2027. Unless jointly approved by the coordinator, there will be no extensions beyond this timeframe.

5.3 Funding covers international travel by university faculty members and students, hosting scholars from the other university (daily stipends in principle), international events, meetings, personal expenses for students (no faculty salaries), supplies, and additional expenses that are necessary to move research forward.

5.4 Funding not spent by the end of the funding period must be returned so that unspent balances can be re-allocated.

5.5 All expenses must comply with the guidelines of the respective universities to which reimbursement is to be sought.

5.6 Co-funding of projects by the faculty/department/institute/center/college, or external bodies, is encouraged and welcomed.

5.7 As a general rule, travel expenses should be supported by the originating institution, i.e. travel expenses of NTU faculty should be applied from the part of the funding awarded by NTU, and the same applies for UGA and UT faculty.

6. Provisional Budget

(note: The final amount will be determined based on the review results)

Category		Budget for NTU (maximum budget)	Budget for UGA	Budget for UT
1.1 Cooperation Research / Student Exchange (including Co-supervising graduate students)		NTD$350,000	10 K€	¥1,800,000
1.2 Research workshops		NTD$150,000	7.5 K€	¥1,200,000
1.3 Summer / Winter school	(a) School on specific research topic	NTD$400,000	15 K€	¥2,400,000
	(b) School on general topic	NTD$500,000	20 K€	¥3,000,000

7. Application Information

7.1 All project proposals should preferably be jointly submitted by all three partners — NTU, UGA, and UT: NTU faculty member(s), UGA faculty member(s), and UT faculty member(s). (Proposals involving only two partner Universities will be considered on a secondary basis)

7.2 The PI at each university must be a full-time faculty member at that university.

7.3 To apply, please complete the proposal form and submit the form, PIs and collaborator(s) CVs via a procedure that should be confirmed by the administration of the 3 partners.

(please send the application to : tgtcenter@ntu.edu.tw)

8. Selection and Result Notification

8.1 Proposal selection will be made by a joint selection committee consisting of NTU, UGA and UT representatives.

8.2 The joint selection committee reserves the final authority over the proposal selection taking into account university and faculty strategic priorities and the availability of funding.

8.3 Priority will be given to interdisciplinary proposals with real cooperation. The inclusion of young researchers (associate/assistant professor level) in joint proposals is highly recommended.

8.4 Priority in the third year will be given to projects involving participation from all three Universities.

8.5 Funding will be provided on a competitive basis, following the below selection criteria:

Overall proposal	Holistic view of the project and its utilization of international activities, including whether the activities are reasonable to support the expected outcome
Student participation	Opportunities provided for student involvement, preferably bilateral/trilateral and regularly
Project outlook/sustainability	Whether there is a plan to further collaborate based on the conclusion of the current project.
Impact	Partnership projects with impact on the university community and the concerned institution(s), added value of this cooperative action for the strengthening of the collaboration and the partnership

9. Recipient Obligation

9.1 Recipients must mention the funding in all appropriate media, including any events arising from activities supported by this funding should include an acknowledgement of “NTU-UGA-UT joint initiatives in research and education” and any publications/presentations arising from activities supported by this funding should include acknowledgement of “This publication/presentation is supported in part by the joint initiatives in research and education from National Taiwan University/Université Grenoble Alpes/University of Tsukuba joint center.”

9.2 Recipients must submit a final report within three months of the end of the funding period, describing the results of the funding project (including actions taken, contacts made, challenges or difficulties met, and upcoming strategy and activities to materialize or strengthen the cooperation) and future projects.

10. Important Dates

Call opens	**November 9th, 2026**
Application deadline	**January 22nd,2027**
Application result notification	**April 9th 2027**
Funding period	**April 9th 2027**
End of the project	**March 31st 2028**

11. Directors of the NTU-UGA-UT Trilateral Center

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