Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research

The Office of Global Engagement’s (OGE) Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research grant opportunity supports Brown University faculty to conduct individual or collaborative research abroad for a period of two to six weeks. The program seeks to strengthen existing and/or create Brown international partnerships that have the potential to be expanded and sustained over time.

Eligibility:

- Tenured/tenure track faculty and lecturers/senior lecturers who are active in research are eligible. Emeritus, adjunct, visiting, and faculty in clinical (non campus-based) departments, as well as post docs, are not eligible for support.
- As part of its strategic mission, the OGE wishes to support sustainable links with current and potential new institutional partners; therefore we encourage applications from faculty members 1) whose research activities evidence nascent or long-standing collaborations with institutions that are not currently formal partners with Brown University or 2) whose research is conducted at/with current Brown partner institutions. In both instances, grantees will serve as Global Brown Ambassadors creating visibility for Brown abroad by strengthening and expanding existing ties or developing new relationships.
- Faculty seeking funds must also demonstrate that the research aligns with one (or more) of the seven themes of integrative scholarship and education, as described in the University’s strategic plan, Building on Distinction: A New Plan for Brown, and outlined as follows:

1. Cultivating Creative Expression
2. Understanding the Human Brain
3. Sustaining Life on Earth
4. Creating Peaceful, Just, and Prosperous Societies
5. Exploring Human Experience
6. Using Science and Technology to Improve Lives
7. Deciphering Disease and Improving Population Health

Award Specifications and Conditions:

Awards support faculty research abroad for a period of two to six weeks and range between $1,800 and $8,000 depending on the region where research will be conducted and the length of in-country stay. Award funds apply to reasonable and necessary costs of conducting research abroad. Allowable expenses include: round-trip economy air travel to one international destination, visas, accommodations, and subsistence costs. Awards do not support travel to conferences or support anyone other than the grantee. Applicants are expected to demonstrate evidence of procurement of additional funds from other entities (in-kind, internal, or external) to offset costs of the project.
Selection Criteria:
Proposals will be considered and evaluated by a committee of faculty and administrators who will make award recommendations to the Associate Provost for Global Engagement. Reviewers will consider the following criteria to evaluate proposals: 1) the intellectual significance of the proposed research project, including its potential contribution to scholarship, impact on the applicant’s broader academic field of study, and adherence to the University’s defined integrative themes; 2) the clarity of proposed research questions, feasibility of the work plan, and justification for research at the proposed international site; 3) the evidence demonstrating prior or desired research activities at the proposed institution abroad or with scholar(s) at that institution; 4) the concrete plan for dissemination of research outcomes and where appropriate, the project’s previous record of success; 5) the reasonableness of the proposed budget in relation to projected results. Only current research projects of exceptional value or proposed research activity of exceptional promise will be funded. Retroactive travel grants (i.e. grants to be applied toward travel already completed or in process at the time of submission of the proposal) cannot be supported.

Application Deadline:
Applications must be submitted to the Office of Global Engagement no later than September 25, 2015. International research activities may take place in spring 2016, summer 2016, or fall 2016.

Questions?
Please direct inquiries for this grant opportunity to Global Relations Officer Christine Sprovieri.

Application Requirements:
Applicants are expected to submit the following as a single document in PDF format:

- **Cover sheet** with the applicant’s name, title, department, and contact information; title of the proposal; and a 250-word abstract describing the proposed research project;
- **Proposal narrative** (not to exceed 5 pages) that summarizes the relevant background literature and research, thereby placing the project into context, to ensure significant contribution in the faculty member’s field of study. The applicant should describe the project in terms that do not require reviewers to be experts in the area of proposed research. The description should include the goals of the research project, the activities to be carried out to achieve those goals, and an explanation of how the applicant’s project will strengthen and advance an existing Brown global partnership, or foster a new collaborative relationship with a non-Brown partner;
- **Detailed work plan** for completing the activities outlined in the project narrative, including a timeline of how/when the research will be carried out;
- **Detailed budget** outlining projected cost of transportation, per diem (for meals and incidentals only), accommodations (use hotel rates; lodging per diem not allowed), and justifying budget request. The budget request should be aligned with region and duration of project costs;
- **Formal letter or email of invitation** from the hosting institution (if not in English, please provide translation);
- **Letter of endorsement** by Brown Department/Division Head or Dean;
- **Letter of support** from foreign collaborator(s) *(only if applicable)*;
- **Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae** (maximum of 3 pages).
Sample Projects:

Sample Project A:
A post-tenured faculty member in the history department has been conducting research for the past three years on cultural identity, social memory, and transformation in the urban landscape of Seoul, Tokyo, and Beijing. She has received a commitment from Cambridge University Press to publish a book on the topic and the use of funds will enable her to conduct in-country research and finalize her last book chapter. The faculty member will conduct research at Seoul National University, Keio University, Beijing Foreign Studies University, and at the Seoul Metropolitan Government headquarters. She will remain in residence in each city for two weeks and during that time will meet with faculty in myriad pertinent disciplines, access archives, and reach out to senior administrators and academic leaders to strengthen Brown’s existing partnership with Keio University and explore potential areas of collaborations at Seoul National University. Funds from the Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research will cover travel from Providence to Seoul as well as subsistence in each city. Travel between Seoul, Tokyo, and Beijing will be supported by the grantee's personal research fund and other funding sources. Upon her return, the faculty member will share her findings with the broader Brown community by presenting a public lecture and hosting one of her colleagues from Keio to visit Brown and continue further collaboration.

Sample Project B:
A junior faculty member in the comparative literature department has been awarded a Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research grant to conduct research in Rome for two weeks during the winter break. The grantee’s previous research activities in Italy combined with his academic connections in Rome will give him the opportunity to further collaborate with colleagues at the Sapienza Università di Roma. During the grant period, he will be conducting research on representations of religiosity in the 19th Century Italian novel as part of his first book project. In addition, during the semester following his stay in Rome, he will be teaching a course on campus, which will include novels addressed in his research project. Funds from the grant cover travel and subsistence for the two-week period and the grantee has arranged for accommodations at a reasonable rate to be supported in part by the grant and other external funds.

Sample Project C:
A senior lecturer in the School of Public Health will be conducting comparative research, in five regions in Togo, on HIV/AIDS care and treatment programs in prefecture and village health clinics for a period of four weeks over the summer. During her stay, she will collaborate with colleagues in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Lomé to learn more about Togolese cultural response and practices regarding antiretroviral (ARV) therapy as well as ARV monitoring and evaluating systems that have been implemented at the village level. Funds from the Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research will support her international travel as well as lodging and per diem costs while in country. In addition, the faculty member will have secured funds from the World Health Organization to help cover costs of the research project.
Reporting requirements:
The grantee must submit a final report to the OGE within three months of returning from the research abroad trip. This report should outline the work accomplished as a result of the award, describe research activity and any resulting collaborations that may evolve from the grantee’s participation, as well as a clear plan to share outcomes of the grant with colleagues and the broader university community.

Award Disbursements:
Half of the award amount will be provided in advance of overseas travel (once receipts of travel expenses incurred are submitted). The remaining half of the award funds will be disbursed upon receipt of the final report or earlier, depending on the establishment of a mutually agreed submission date for the report (not to exceed 3 months post-return).

Frequently asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: I am planning to conduct research in multiple destinations as part of my research project. The Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research supports your international travel from your first point of departure (e.g., Providence, RI or Boston, MA) to your first international destination and a return from your final international destination back to your original point of departure. No in-country or regional flights between multiple airports will be supported by this grant.

Q: Is it possible for a grantee to apply for support for one week of faculty research rather than the minimum two weeks stipulated in the grant guidelines? The OGE only supports research projects that are for a minimum of two weeks. It is expected that while abroad, grantees will be engaged in research activities but will also serve as “Global Brown Ambassadors” thereby representing Brown’s OGE by meeting with faculty members and administrators at the institution where research will be conducted. Such representation will allow Brown to explore broader collaboration with the institution(s) or will aid in developing potential partnerships with institutions that are not linked to Brown at this time.

Q: How often can I apply for Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research if I was an award recipient of this grant opportunity in the past? Funds are limited and are awarded in accordance with set criteria, which include the intellectual merit, impact, and significance of the research project proposed. If you have received an award under this grant program and were awarded funds at the spring 2015 deadline, you are not eligible to apply to this current deadline; your next opportunity to apply for support will be at the fall 2016 deadline.

Q: Upon my return, I will organize a seminar series focused on my area of research and open to the broader campus community. Does such activity suffice to satisfy the dissemination requirement? How much detail do I need to provide in the application to demonstrate a concrete plan for dissemination of research outcomes? We are confident that this faculty research opportunity will yield many positive outcomes and we realize that details regarding a proposed seminar series will need to be refined upon your return to campus. We therefore expect the application to outline a clear set of goals which include an execution plan and provide information pertinent to themes, potential guest speakers,
departmental support (if applicable), along with any other activities that convey your commitment to disseminating research outcomes. In addition, should the research be at an advanced stage of the proposed project, plans for publications or conference presentations should be noted.

Q: I will meet with my collaborators and conduct research in Germany for a period of five weeks next summer. My estimated budget currently exceeds the maximum award amount. How will this impact the award amount under the Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research?

The proposed budget should include reasonable costs and demonstrate that the applicant has secured funds from other sources (or in-kind) to support funds that are not requested from the OGE. Anticipated expenses must be itemized as well as demonstrate that you have procured or intend to request additional funding from an outside source to offset costs of your project (please see Sample Budgets A, B and C for reference).

Q: If I apply for the Global Mobility Program: Faculty Research at this deadline, when can my research abroad take place?
   Applicants who receive funding for proposals submitted by the September 25, 2015 deadline must complete their travel either in spring 2016, summer 2016, or fall 2016.