Multidisciplinary Research Grants (ART)

Resolution by the Director of the Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia de la Universitat de Barcelona (IN2UB), on May 9th of 2019, by which a call of two Multidisciplinary Research Grants by the IN2UB (Call ART 2019) is launched

The goal of this program is to promote collaborations in multidisciplinary research among the members of the IN2UB, belonging to different research areas of these defined in the organization (or two different Faculties of the UB), and to support these initiatives by funding two of the resulting research projects.

The funding for each project will be 8000EUR. It will be available for use from the moment that the economic transfer to the grantees is transferred (during the third semester of the year 2019) and until December 15th of 2020. The execution of the project (which will coincide with the duration of the project) starts on the day after the resolution of allocation of the projects takes place.

Therefore, and in consideration of the prerogatives accorded to me by law:

I RESOLVE:

First.- To open the call of two Multidisciplinary Research Grants (ART), 2019 call. The regulations of the call are described in the annexed document.

Second.- That the ultimate allocation of the grants is conditioned to the existence of the adequate and sufficient funds, consisting in 8000EUR per project. Therefore, a maximum total of 16000EUR spending is expected.

Third.- To publish this resolution and its annexed regulations at the official webpage of the Faculty of Chemistry and that of the IN2UB and communicate them to the heads of the research groups of the Institute.

Dr. Guillem Aromi
Director of IN2UB

Signature on behalf of the Chancellor through the resolution of March 28th of 2008.

Barcelona, May 9th 2019

Contra aquesta resolució, que esgota la via administrativa, independentment de la seva immediata executivitat, els interessats legítsim poden interposar recurs contenciós administratiu davant del Jutjat Contenciós Administratiu de Barcelona, d’acord amb l’art. 8 de la Llei 29/1998, 13 de juliol, reguladora de la jurisdicció contenciosa administrativa. El recurs es podrà interposar en el termini de dos mesos, a comptar des de l’endemà de la notificació de la resolució, segons el que estableix l’article 46 de l’esmentada Llei.

No obstant, es podrà, potestativament, interposar recurs de reposició en el termini d’un mes, a comptar des del dia següent al de la notificació d’aquesta resolució, de conformitat amb l’article 123 i següents de la Llei 39/2015, d’1 d’octubre, del Procediment Administratiu Comú de les Administracions Públiques. Cas d’interposar aquest, els interessats legítsim no podran presentar el recurs contenciós administratiu fins que sigui resolt expressament o s’hagi produït la desestimació presumpta del recurs de reposició.

Altrament, els interessats podran interposar qualsevol altre recurs que cregui convenient en defensa dels seus drets.
ANNEX

Regulations of the Call

1. Objective of the Call.

1.1. The objective of the present call is to stimulate multidisciplinary research collaborations among the members of the IN2UB. It is sought to promote the preparation of innovative multidisciplinary research projects and thereby, to favor interactions among the groups of different research areas of the l’IN2UB. It is thus mandatory that the projects are carried out by at least two different IN2UB groups from two different research areas of these defined at the Institute (or different Faculties of the UB), with significant contribution from both groups. This call also aims at making a positive impact on the CV of the IN2UB researchers.

1.2. In this call, maximum priority shall be given to eligible proposals by applicants that have never led an ART Grant before. However, the possibility to re-apply is now given to grantees from calls previous to the 2018 one. Thus, if the number of eligible proposals from novel applicants is below two, proposals from previous grantees will be considered.

1.3. The maximum funding is 8000EUR per project, to be enjoyed from the moment when the transfer has been made effective to the beneficiaries (during the year 2018) until the 15th of December of 2020. The funding shall be spent on any small equipment, laboratory materials and up to 15% for outreach expenses (including the attendance to congresses and publications), always in relation to the project. A maximum expenditure of 16000EUR is expected, always conditioned to budgeted availability. The funding will be charged to the budget allocation 2576QU01675000 D/687000300/R2018G/G00/AR0RM002, belonging to the general allowance of the l’IN2UB for the year 2019. The period for spending the fund will be determined at the granting resolution and the expenditure will be managed at the research office or the department economic management of the project’s IP (whenever there are two IP’s, the managing will be made from only one office, as decided by the research team awarded). Permission requests for any extension approval (section 2.7) will be managed from the offices mentioned above.

2. Beneficiaries

2.1. Only IN2UB members can be beneficiaries of this call, and therefore, IP of the grant.

2.2. The projects will be led by one or two principal investigators (IPs), only if they belong two research groups from two different research areas of these defined at the IN2UB (or two different Faculties of the UB).

2.3. To apply as IP, the IN2UB researchers must hold a doctor degree at the time of the application and be listed as IN2UB members as,

- Posdoctoral researchers with non-permanent contract through the UB, the FBG OR CIBER.
- PDI professors of the UB with non-permanent contract or with permanent contract from January 1st 2014 or later (up to the time of the application)
It is required to apply for this call not to have been PI of any competitive research project for an amount equal or superior to that of the projects of the present call (with the exception of the IN2UB ART grants). The candidates need to enclose a signed document stating that they fulfill this requirement.

The project must be multidisciplinary, therefore, at least two groups from different research areas of these defined at the IN2UB (or two different Faculties of the UB) must participate.

2.4. The applicants leading the project (IPs) must hold a contract as previously specified, lasting at least 12 months from the moment of the application. If the contract expires before this period, the head of their research group will engage through a signed declaration to guarantee the pursuit of the goals of the project, by making use of the allocated funds in the terms they have been granted.

2.5. IPs having held an ART grant from the 2018 calls will not be able to apply for the present call.

2.6. The research team of the project will be specified at the application, and it will be composed of the IPs and the remainder of the researchers that will participate. The number of team members is not limited and must belong to at least two different research groups from the IN2UB (or two different Faculties of the UB).

2.7. If any of the IPs fail to comply with any of the requirements at any time during the duration of the project, he/she needs to communicate the new condition to the IN2UB Director, who shall terminate the grant immediately, unless it is advisable to maintain the grant for justified reasons. Applications to extend the project, which may be made from the moment of the award granting until the end of the grant, must be communicated to the Director, who will positively resolve the extension if the duly accredited circumstances recommend it.

3. Applications and Documents

3.1. The applications must comply to the normalized model and must be addressed to the Director of IN2UB. The normalized formed and the regulations may be downloaded from the web page of the Chemistry Department or that of the IN2UB.

3.2. The application must be accompanied by the following documents:

   a) Curriculum vitae of the IP(s), which must be 4 pages long or less, preferably using the abbreviated CV of the Spanish MINECO and produced in English. At least one IP must apply and lead the project, while the participation of 2 groups from two different research areas of the Institute (or two different Faculties of the UB) is necessary.

   b) Project. The project must be written in English and will be no more than four pages long (Font: Arial 10 pt. Interline space: multiple 1.25), featuring the following sections:

      - Title/Key Words
      - Summary (maximum of 250 words)
      - Introduction, with a state of the art description and explanation of the subject relevance.
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(The above three sections must take maximum one page)

- Originality and relevance, explaining the interest of the multidisciplinary collaboration (maximum one page)

- Objectives, working plan and chronology (maximum one page)

- Composition of the team, outlining the tasks assigned to each member. The research groups and IN2UB areas involved must be specified (at least two different areas or two different Faculties of the UB). This must take maximum 1/2page.

- Economic budget (maximum 1/2page)

c) Signed declaration stating the candidate(s) has not been IP of another competitive grant as specified above (section 2.3).

d) A copy of the current work contract and, if necessary, commitment by the research group leader to pursue the goals of the project if the contract of the applicant expires before the end of the duration of the project (as indicated in point 2.4).

e) If the proposal includes beneficiaries that are grantees of a previous ART call, a copy of the proposal presented in that call must be included.

3.3. The application form, together with all the accompanying documents must be handled as hard copies at the Faculty of Chemistry and Physics Official Registrar, located at its General Affairs Office, during office hours (Monday to Friday from 9h to 14h) within the time deadline described in section 4. The documents must be sent by e-mail as pdf files to the address isaborit@ub.edu, within the above mentioned deadline.

4. Application Deadline

4.1. Applications may be submitted from the day following the publication of the call until June the 7th of 2019 at the Faculty of Chemistry and Physics Official Registrar (Monday to Friday from 9h to 14h).

4.2. After the submission’s deadline, and within a period of five working days, a list of preliminary admitted and excluded proposals will be posted at the official web pages of the Chemistry Department and of the IN2UB, indicating the reasons of exclusion. The reference code of the applications will be the Registry number.

4.3. In case that a proposal presents a form defect, is not complete or lacks any of the required documents (with the exception of the Curriculum Vitae, which cannot be amended and failure to present it entails direct exclusion), the affected proposers will be requested to provide explanations, amendments or missing documents within a period of ten working days. If this request is not satisfied, it will be understood that the application has been waived. The amendments must be at the Faculty of Chemistry and Physics Official Registrar (Monday to Friday from 9h to 14h) and sent by e-mail as pdf files to the address isaborit@ub.edu, within the requested deadline.

5. Evaluation
5.1. The proposals will be evaluated by Scientific Evaluation Committee named by the IN2UB. The threshold for a proposal to be eligible is 60% of the maximum marks. The best two proposals will be retained.

5.2. Evaluation Criteria:

   a) Each PI’s CV will be marked with a maximum of 10 points. The following merits will be considered: peer reviewed publications, books, communications to congresses, participation in competitive and non-competitive projects, research stays at other institutions, thesis and master supervisions and patents (other relevant merits may be considered). In case that there are 2 PI’s, an average of both CVs will be made.

   b) The project will be marked with a maximum of 10 points:

      b.1) The quality of the project will be valued; in particular, multidisciplinarity, originality, innovation character, a proportionate distribution of tasks among the participating groups. The following items may be considered for the evaluation (up to a total of 9 points):

         • Introduction; state of the art and interest of the subject
         • Originality and relevance
         • Multidisciplinarity
         • Objectives; the working plan and chronology

      b.2) The participation of two PIs will be rewarded with 1 point.

      b.3) Maximum priority will be given to these applications from PIs that have never been granted an ART project (point 1.2).

6. Resolution and Grant Allocation

6.1. The evaluation performed by Scientific Evaluation Committee will be communicated to the Director de l’IN2UB.

6.2. The resolution of the call corresponds to the Director. It will be published on the web page of the IN2UB, on the web page of the Chemistry Department and it will be communicated to the beneficiaries, who will receive a certificate of the grant award.

6.3. The maximum delay for the resolution of the call will be one month from the day after the submission deadline or (if it is the case, the deadline of amendments submission). If a resolution has not been posted or communicated after this deadline, the call will be considered void.

7. Final Report

7.1. Three months after the end of the project, the beneficiaries will submit a report to the Director of IN2UB explaining the activities and the expenditures made. This report must include an evaluation of collaboration facilitated by this project.
7.2. The beneficiaries engage in stating explicitly in the communications or publications derived from the project the support received by the Multidisciplinary Research Grants Program of the IN2UB 2018.

7.3. The beneficiaries accept the engagement to give an oral presentation based on the project the day of the annual meeting of the IN2UB of 2020.

Notes

1. The research team may have as many members as are necessary to reach the proposed goals.

2. The conditions established in section 2 (Beneficiaries) concern the project’s PI(s). Therefore, the team may be composed of collaborators that do not fulfill the requirements of the PIs.

Any questions may be addressed to Ifigènia Saborit (isaborit@ub.edu).

Dr. Guillem Aromí Bedmar

Director of the l’Institut de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia de la Universitat de Barcelona,

Delegated by the Chancellor on 28/3/2008.