



Leaders in International Higher Education

## 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*Leading Internationalization in  
a New Era: Collaborating for  
Global Solutions*

# Global Faculty Engagement through Seed Grants and Other Incentive Programs

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## TEACHERS COLLEGE

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY



**UC DAVIS**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE

# Our Perspectives



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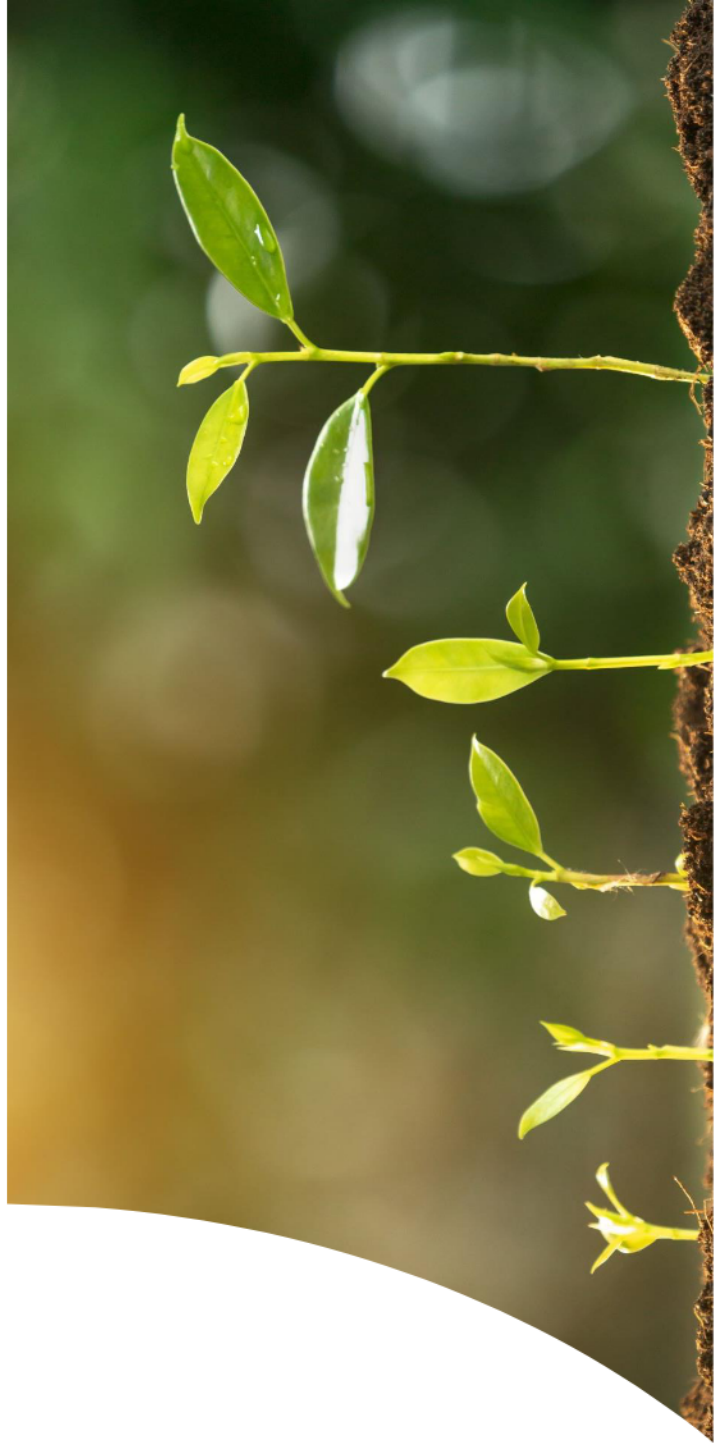
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

# Setting the Stage: overview

Institution	Award Range	Eligibility	Expectations	ROI
Teachers College Columbia	\$3,000-\$10,000 External grants – no limit	All full-time faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aligns with institutional strategies and goals</li> <li>Collaborative across faculty</li> <li>Sustainable beyond seed funds</li> </ul>	Innovation; interdisciplinary collaboration; expanded international engagement; external funding
Long Island University	\$5,000-\$15,000	All Faculty, Emphasis on early career	<p>Not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>fundable by external sources</li> <li>a past expense</li> <li>otherwise covered by department/college</li> </ul>	Research/external funding or impact made possible only with international partner
UC Davis	\$7,500-\$15,000	Full-time active faculty. Incl. tenure-track/tenured plus Federation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early stages of research</li> <li>Pursuit of external funds</li> <li>Curricular development and/or community outreach</li> </ul>	Facilitating int'l partnerships; building research capacity; supporting interdisciplinary work on campus; funding
UT Knoxville	\$5000 - \$25,000	Tenure-track or tenured faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research (not conference presentations)</li> <li>Pursuit of external funds</li> <li>Other possible outcomes (publications, workshops, student engagement, etc..)</li> </ul>	Building int'l research capacity; funding

# Strategic focus to strengthen engagement & partnerships

- True partnerships
- Institutional Strengths and Focus—  
creating depth and breadth
- Geographic focus—consider where  
you are already





# Lessons & Recommendations on Strategic Focus

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- Define what your Seed Grant is for and what it is not for
- Define your expectation of success
- Create an equitable selection process



# Strategies for getting buy-in: on campus

Who will be your best partner(s)?

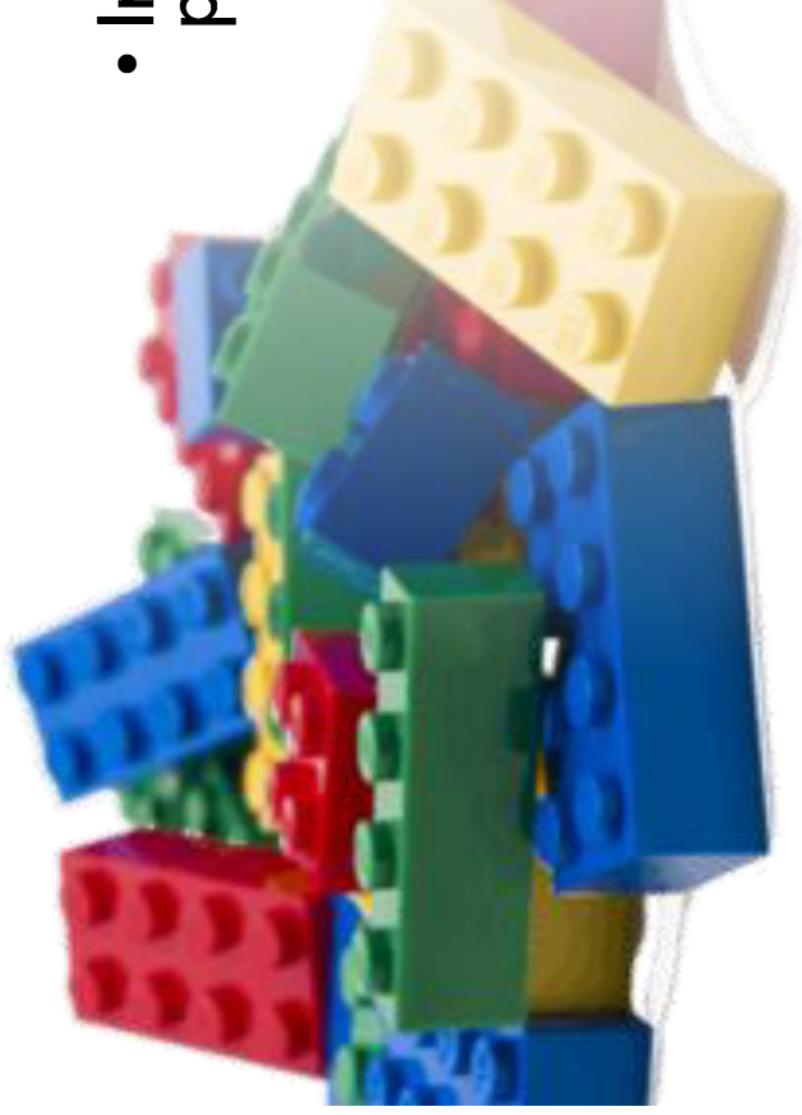
- UC Davis: Deans of Schools & Colleges; Offices of Research; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Sustainability
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville: Office of Research & Engagement and the international agriculture office
- Long Island University: one office - Research & International
- Teachers College (Columbia Univ) - Provost's Office offers supplemental support on a competitive basis.

# Strategies for getting buy-in: On Campus

- Financial Contributions/Matches
- International Office manages the competition
- Panel review includes campus stakeholders



# Strategies for getting buy-in: Off Campus



- International Partners: finding the best partnering institutions
  - Broad Thematic Connections (SDGs / Global Challenges)
  - Faculty as champions / drivers
  - Embassies / Ministries of Education
  - Consortia



# Lessons & Recommendations on Partnering

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- Consider current international partners
- Leverage university partners
- Align common goals and shared commitments
- Build on successes of the first round
- Allow flexibility with awardees and partners
- Align applications and expectations with award amount



# Expanding Seed Grants Through External Funding

- U.S. – Iraq Higher Education Partnership Program (HEPP) through IREX
- Central Asia University Partnerships Program (UniCEN)
- Institute of Higher Education (IIE)

# Benefits of External Seed Grants

More investment, fewer risks

Additional support for internal awards

Expanded partnership opportunities

ROI for International Office

# Potential Challenges with External Seed Grants

1

Limited internal capacity

2

Different administrative processes

3

Meeting external, not internal goals

# Institutional Collaboration

Grants office or sponsored programs

Export control

Legal office

Student liability and risk management

Academic departments

# Lessons & Recommendations on Institutional Needs

- Cast a wide net
- Match strategic goals and existing strengths
- Ensure faculty AND staff capacity
- Develop plan and processes to track data

# Post-Covid Questions & Recommendations



- What has changed?
- What travel we consider necessary
- Data on and perceptions of equity and inclusivity
- What we expect for foundational work
- Group dynamics — what is ready for funding

# Q&A

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