**Call for Proposals 2017**

**Round1 (2018/2019)**

**Tel Aviv University - Swinburne University of Technology**

**Research Collaboration Awards**

This call for proposals aims to support collaborations between academic staff at Tel Aviv University (**'TAU'**) and Swinburne University of Technology (**Swinburne**). The funds will be awarded to selected academics committed to the establishment or furthering of joint research programs.

The fund provides support for at least four promising research projects each year, each for a period of one year. These should be joint projects between researchers at TAU and at Swinburne.

The fund aims to facilitate a prestigious seed fund program for researchers who identify complementary research strengths and facilitate the use of synergies in both institutions.

The call is not limited to specific academic fields. Proposals can be focused either on one discipline or be of an interdisciplinary character; preference will be given to interdisciplinary projects.

**Submission of proposals**

**Selection criteria**

Funding for joint research proposals is provided on a competitive basis. Projects will be selected by a joint TAU-Swinburne committee, giving particular attention to the following criteria:

* Clearly formulated goals and defined research focus.
* Information on envisaged synergies at both Swinburne and TAU.
* Academic excellence.
* Interdisciplinary nature, broad scope of different fields/labs represented in the proposed project.
* The scientific motivation for the collaborative research and expected long term outcomes.
* The need for the funding as a seed funding for future collaboration.

The grants will be provided for a period of one year. A progress report will be required within two months after completion of the grant.

Each individual grant will be up to a maximum of AUD 10,000.

TAU and Swinburne will both have equal rights in any joint results or inventions conceived in the course of the mutual research. For any such joint results or inventions, the parties will negotiate in good faith and enter into an inter-institutional agreement relating to their protection, use and commercialization.

**Submission Instructions and deadlines**

* Principal investigators should be faculty members (at all levels of tenure track) at TAU and Swinburne. In addition, academics/ researchers at Swinburne need to have been with employed for at least one year before being eligible to apply for the awards. For academics on fixed term contracts at Swinburne, they need to have at least one year of employment contract left following the completion of the award.
* Researchers cannot submit more than one proposal per cycle.
* Proposals should be submitted in English.
* An abstract is required which clearly outlines the overarching goals of the research proposal (not exceeding 250 words).
* The research project description should not exceed 5 pages (1.5 line spacing, 12-point characters), excluding references, CVs (2 pages max each), budget, and budget justification.
* Budget items may include consumables, student fellowships, data analysis costs, and travel related specifically to the research program; workshop support is also possible.
* Please clearly specify which portion of the budget will be administered at TAU and which portion will be administered at Swinburne.
* For each cooperating PI, endorsement by the Dean or Department Head or equivalent should be attached.

The deadline for submission of the proposals is 30 March 2018. The awarded grants will start on 1 June 2018.

Researchers should submit the joint proposal electronically as PDF or Word files to Sharon Paz (sharonp4@post.tau.ac.il) at TAU and to Pankaj Arora (parora@swin.edu.au) at Swinburne.

For further information please contact:

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| **Tel Aviv University** | **Swinburne University of Technology** |
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