THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

CHINA STUDIES CENTRE

CSC RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM
RAPID FUNDING ROUND SEPTEMBER 2020 GUIDELINES
Application deadline: 20 September 2020

PURPOSE OF THE RAPID FUNDING ROUND

Many members' research activities have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This Rapid Funding Round aims to support the CSC members to complete and share research publications, and initiate new research or collaboration activities, in accordance with the University's savings measures and current government health/travel advice. The project must be related to Greater China (including mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau) or overseas Chinese communities. Funds available under each category range from $2,000-$7,500.

GRANT CATEGORIES

- Small Project
- Publishing Support
- Graduate Research Student Support

Note: Academic members may submit one application in both Small Project and Publishing Support grant categories.

ELIGIBILITY

For 'Small Project' and 'Publishing Support' grants, applicants must:
- Be a current academic member of the CSC (excluding members of the CSC Research Committee)
- Hold a continuing salaried or fixed term position, which is expected to continue for 12 months after the date of the funded activity. Academics on recurring annual research contracts will need to provide a letter of intent of employment, signed by the head of their academic unit.

For 'Graduate Research Student Support' grants, applicants must:
- Be a current CSC student member, currently enrolled in postgraduate research degrees and up to date with milestones.

REQUIREMENTS

The applicant must:
- Provide a proposal outlining the research purpose, theme, output, budget and overall timeline.
- Provide brief CV for all proposed participants.
- Provide copies of Completion Reports for any previous CSC funding.
- **Ensure that funding can be spent as specified by the university 2020 finance deadline (early December).**
- Formally acknowledge the support received from the CSC in any presentations, publications or activities that arise from the funded activity.
- Provide a Completion Report by January 2021.
- Contribute to the CSC by presenting the outcomes of the funded activity in a seminar, article or other piece of work, if required.
- Provide the CSC with one copy of any research output.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- Quality, originality, potential and feasibility of the research proposal and presentation plan.
- Relevance of the activity to University and CSC objectives.

Preference will be given to applications that:
- Involve early career researchers.
- Take a genuine, multidisciplinary research approach.
- Are submitted by applicants who are, or have shown an intention of, actively participating in CSC activities and academic life (e.g. by contributing seminar or website content, or representing CSC in the media).

BUDGET STIPULATIONS

Small Project
Up to **$7,500** can be requested under the Small Project category which may be used for the following or other expenses which are not restricted by the university savings measures:
- Purchase access to data that the University does not already have rights to.
- Enhance skills using existing courses offered by the University of Sydney Continuing Education Program or, if one is not available, an external course that meets stringent value of money guidelines.

Publishing Support
Up to **$3,000** can be requested under the Publishing Support category to facilitate the procedural aspects of publication (e.g. editing, indexing, images) or open access expenses. Applicants must provide a copy of the publishing contract or similar.

Graduate Research Student Support
This grant aims to integrate with, not replace, other forms of funding available through different sources. The grant cannot be used for fieldwork. Up to **$2,000** can be requested to support individual projects or collaborations.

Your budget must:
- Clearly specify why a particular amount is sought.
- Include supporting evidence, such as quotations for significant costs.

The university savings measures apply to all CSC grants. Items not funded include but are not limited to:
- Travel
- Research assistance
- External contractors
- Items of recurrent funding (continuing positions, PhD scholarships)
- Per diem allowances
- Equipment

The CSC Research Committee reserves the right to specify how funding may be used, and to query amounts of funding requested.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. The applications are open until midnight Sunday 20 September 2020.
2. Complete the application form on the CSC research grants website and submit by due date.
3. Applications are then assessed by the CSC Research Committee. Application outcomes are expected to be available in three weeks.

For further information, please contact: chinastudies.centre@sydney.edu.au.