INTELLECTUAL THEMES INITIATIVE
Academic year 2016/17

Call for Proposals
25.05.2016

CEU academic staff members are invited to submit project proposals for new teaching, research, outreach or community engagement activities under the University-Wide Intellectual Themes Initiative (ITI).

A full description of the Initiative, its motivations and goals, as well as the presentation of individual themes and ongoing projects, is available at https://www.ceu.edu/iti

1. Deadlines and application form
The deadlines for submitting proposals in the academic year 2016/17 are:

- 26 October 2016 - for projects starting in AY 16/17; and
- 28 April 2016 - for projects starting in AY 17/18

The application form can be downloaded from the ITI website at: https://www.ceu.edu/iti/calls-proposals

2. Who can apply?
It is required that each application be submitted by at least three resident academic staff members from at least two different academic units of the University or by two resident academic staff members and one visiting/non-CEU academic staff. Involvement of students, especially PhD student and post-doctoral fellows is strongly encouraged. Participation of visiting and non-CEU faculty is welcome.

3. What types of projects are eligible?
All types of projects are eligible if they correspond with the objectives of the Initiative and address one of the themes. Only innovative interdisciplinary, cross-disciplinary, or trans-disciplinary proposals will be considered, as outlined in the description of the Initiative. Projects can encompass activities in the area of
teaching and learning, research, outreach and civic engagement. Innovative projects aligned with the objectives of the Initiative are encouraged, even when they do not correspond strictly with any single traditional type of area of activity of universities. There will be no quota for research, teaching, or outreach activities.

ITI is envisioned primarily to support standalone projects that will strengthen CEU’s academic profile and interdisciplinary and cross-unit collaboration. When projects are linked to other ongoing or future projects, this can be clearly indicated in the application. However, ITI projects should not be conceived only as bridges to other activities or preparatory phases of other projects.

4. How will project proposals be evaluated?

Submitted applications will be evaluated by a selection committee appointed by the Rector in consultation with the Provost and chaired by an external academic. The committee is comprised of faculty members from CEU who are not submitting proposals themselves.

The following criteria will be taken into account when evaluating the submitted proposals:

a. **Relevance** of the project to the objectives of the Initiative and a clearly articulated connection to the individual theme under which it is submitted (as outlined in Annex 1). Proposals must provide clear indication about how they would contribute towards the overall goals of the initiative including:
   - help to bring together various parts of the University;
   - promote innovative work, along the lines of the four theme descriptions;
   - promote interdisciplinary, cross-disciplinary, or trans-disciplinary work;
   - build on existing strengths of the University while making possible significant new contributions and added value;
   - help to better project CEU externally

b. **Impact** - Priority will be given to projects with high **impact** potential that are expected to have a significant influence of intellectual, professional, educational, or social nature, going beyond activities with only ephemeral expected results.

c. **Feasibility** - The submitted proposals will be assessed for their **feasibility**. This criterion includes the selected method for the realization of the project, a reasonable work plan, and appropriate budget.
4. What is the available amount of funding?
An initial budget of EUR 100,000 per year and per theme (a total of EUR 400,000 per year) has been allocated to the Initiative. There is no limitation of the amount that could be requested for individual projects. However, the submitted projects budget should be realistic and in line with their expected results. Projects with matching funding or co-funding are also welcome.

All expenses directly related to the projects are eligible. This excludes items that are normally paid by CEU (e.g. salaries covering regular teaching or research duties).

5. What is the eligible duration of individual projects?
The Initiative is envisaged to provide flexibility in all respects, including with regard to the duration of the projects.

Projects can be short-term, featuring a one-off event (like conferences and workshops) as long as they are truly collaborative and meet all the criteria set by the Initiative. Longer-term projects (such as development of new courses or joint research projects or other initiatives) can run up to four years - with a possibility of continuation depending on the institutional evaluation of the entire Initiative.

6. Application process
All applicants should use the application form attached as Annex 2 and available online at: https://www.ceu.edu/iti/calls-proposals. Applications need to be submitted electronically to iti@ceu.edu before the set deadlines (see first heading).

Colleagues who are considering to submit a project proposal are welcome to attend the upcoming info session. The event will take place on:

20 June 2016 in Monument Building 203 starting from 1pm.

In order to facilitate the development of projects, applicants are also encouraged to contact the Office of the Provost at any time. To inquire about the consultation process, please send an email to: iti@ceu.edu