**Bordeaux International Support BIS**
Helpdesk for internationalization projects with Université McGill

**Objectives**

The aim of the Bordeaux International Support (BIS) Helpdesk is to encourage the emergence and strengthening of projects with high added-value.

The BIS Helpdesk is a tool of IdEx Bordeaux, with the following objectives:

- To support the setting up and strengthening of research and academic partnerships and networks involving Canadian partners,
- To strengthen the positioning of Bordeaux as a major HE and research institution on an international level,
- To enable students to enjoy an international environment early-on in their academic path,
- To participate in the internationalization of the institution through best practice exchange.

**Context**

McGill University (McGill) and the University of Bordeaux (UBx) and its partners in the frame of the IdEx Bordeaux Campus of Excellence program have recently engaged a strategic partnership that encompasses all dimensions of higher education: training, research and institutional cooperation. The first step in the collaboration between the two institutions was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding, a framework cooperation agreement, at the end of July 2015. Several and varied joint projects had already been developed before the formalization of the agreement. The two institutions have also a long experience of successful joint supervision of doctoral thesis.

Both institutions wish to strengthen their already existing collaborations and extend them to new fields, to encourage the emergence of projects with high added-value, through the **setting up of a joint support program**, whose principles are described in this document.

Following this objective, McGill University and the University of Bordeaux have identified the following common areas of scientific excellence as main disciplines for future cooperation:

- Neuroscience
The aim of this McGill-Bordeaux joint support program is to support stakeholders in their joint initiatives of collaboration.

**Operating rules**

**Type of actions supported**

McGill-Bordeaux joint support program is intended to provide support for the launch of significant international endeavors and/or seed money for projects and pilots that should become self-sustaining. It can involve the following actions (up to a limit of 2 months per stay, if applicable):

1. Networking activity (research, education, exchange of good practice) and first steps for project building.

For these actions, the following topics are considered priorities:

- Support to the internationalization of research (such as setting-up of common projects, development of co-supervision of theses, preparation of joint applications to international call for proposals, summer schools, etc.)
- Support to the internationalization of training (such as development of a joint training offer in a specific topic, study visits for students, preparation of joint application to international call for proposals, organization of joint seminars, etc.), with a particular focus on the development of partnerships at graduate level
- Support to best practice exchange (participation in workshops, study visit, etc.)

**Type of support**

Based on the nature and the needs of the project submitted, the support proposed within the frame of Bordeaux International Support program may take the following forms:

- Advice on building an international collaboration project
- Project engineering for applications to national, European or international grants
- Linking with relevant contacts and networks in targeted foreign institutions,
- Seed-funding: financial support for internationalization projects that should become self-sustaining (up to 10000€ per project - see Appendix 1 on the BIS webpage).

**Beneficiaries**

Beneficiaries may be staff and students of the following institutions:

- University of Bordeaux
- Bordeaux Montaigne University
- The Bordeaux Institute of Technology (IPB)
- Sciences Po Bordeaux (IEP)
- Bordeaux Sciences Agro
- National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS)
• National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM)
• National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control (INRIA)
• Scientific Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA)
• Commissioner for Atomic Energy and Alternative Energies (CEA)
• Research Institute for Engineering Agriculture and the Environment (IRSTEA)
• French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER)
• Optical Science Institute - Graduate School Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes (School of Higher Studies)

* Other actors of higher education and research in Aquitaine can also be involved, according to the project, this participation is subject to previous consultation of the governing board.
** Staff from foreign partner universities may be involved in the program but the coordinator should clearly explain in the application the reasons for this request and why no other option is possible.

Submission of projects
- Project proposals (in English or in French) will be completed from the application form available on the program webpage and sent via the program webpage.
- Project proposals should be submitted by research or academic staff from one of the above-mentioned Bordeaux institutions. Applications must be sent before submission to the International Relations Office of the stakeholder’s home institution in order to check its eligibility for the program.
- For each application, applicants should indicate the beneficiaries of the action (CV of the people involved), the objective of the action, expected results and impact, and budget (total costs of the project and co-funding sources if relevant).

Time schedule
Applications may be sent continuously. They will be examined on a fixed date three times a year according to the following schedule for calls:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call deadline</th>
<th>18/11/2018</th>
<th>24/03/2019</th>
<th>26/05/2019</th>
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</thead>
</table>

Upon closure of the call for proposals, projects will be evaluated by the Evaluation Committee and presented to the relevant IdEx Bordeaux board for final validation. The process takes between one and two months before the final notification is sent to the applicant. It can take up to 3 months between the deadline for submitting applications and the payment of the funds allocated.

Award criteria
Evaluators will consider the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Stakeholders are from a Bordeaux institution partner of IdEx Bordeaux (listed in the call for proposals)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The project involves one of more of the priority universities for IdEx Bordeaux : universities listed in the call for proposals OR one of the top 200 of the Shanghai ranking (ARWU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooperation project</td>
<td>Objectives of the project: Is it the beginning of a new cooperation project or a new development in an already established</td>
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</table>
cooperation?
Added value of this cooperative action for the strengthening of the collaboration and the partnership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project organization (Methodology and presentation of commitments)</th>
<th>Description of the context and objectives of the project</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Description of the mobility / event program. Description and planning of the activities to be carried out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Project outlook: anticipating next steps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Project impact | Sustainability of the project and long-term vision |
|               | Collective impact of the project |

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<tr>
<th>Construction of the financial model</th>
<th>Clarity of the budget and accordance with the planned actions</th>
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<td>Existing other sources of financial support (partner, lab, etc.) or intention to apply to other support</td>
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<td>Seek funding for next steps / project sustainability</td>
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**Useful contacts**

Prior to submitting your project application, please liaise with the relevant contact person at the UBx international office. He/she will be able to guide you through your collaboration project and the setting up of your application to this program:

**BIS Helpdesk McGill:** Anne Blassiau: Anne.blassiau@u-bordeaux.fr

**Obligations of beneficiaries**

- Communicate about the funding on all appropriate media
- **Within 2 months after the funded mobility or action:** provide a short report describing the actions taken, contacts made, challenges or difficulties met, and upcoming strategy and activities to materialize or strengthen the cooperation.
- **One year after funding eligibility:**
  - Provide a final report describing the results of the action and future projects related thereto
  - Provide a cost statement covering the entirety of their project-related expenses.
- **Two years after funding eligibility:**
  - Fill out a follow-up form

**Internal rules**

**Evaluation Committee**

The project proposals will be reviewed by a committee composed of members from the International Office of the University of Bordeaux as well representatives of the IdEx Bordeaux participating institutions. Additional expertise may be needed for specific projects.

The Evaluation Committee is sovereign to decide the acceptance of a project under this programme and freely allocates resources to selected projects. The validation of the Board of Management of the IdEx Bordeaux is required.
The University of Bordeaux is leading the “Initiative of Excellence” program in association with the National Research Council (CNRS), the National Institute for Health and Medicine (Inserm), the University Bordeaux Montaigne, Sciences-Po Bordeaux, Bordeaux Sciences Agro and the Bordeaux Institute of Technology. Other partnering organizations contributing to the Excellence Initiative are: INRA, INRIA, CEA, IRSTEA, IFREMER and Bordeaux CHU.

Scientific priorities of IdEx Bordeaux are developed by thematic clusters: AMADEus (Materials sciences), BRAIN (Neurosciences), COTE (Environment and Ecosystem), CPU (Numerical Certification and Reliability), LaScArBx (Archaeology), LAPHIA (Lasers and Photonics), HEADS (Global Health), TRAIL (Translational Imaging), and an applied research institute LIRYC (Cardiology). Please visit http://www.labex.u-bordeaux.fr/en/ for details.