The Queensland Emory Development Alliance (QED) – Funding Opportunities

The QED Alliance is a partnership between Emory University (Emory), the University of Queensland (UQ) and the QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute (QIMRB), committed to developing meaningful partnerships in research. The Alliance is developing new research collaborations that harness the skills, platforms and infrastructures of the three institutions in the areas of Cancer, Infectious Diseases and Brain Health research. The program offers faculty three vehicles to establish synergistic partnerships.

The three funding opportunities include:
- Major Collaborative Projects-two to three awards ($100,000-$250,000 each)
- Travel Bursaries (up to $5,000 each)
- Graduate Student Exchange

Collaborative Projects
The immediate focus of the Alliance is on research that has reached a stage where additional experiments would add significant value to the on-going research or facilitate the acquisition of data necessary for a joint federal grant submission or other significant funding source. Funding for the QED collaborative projects comes from Emory University ($250,000) the University of Queensland ($125,000) and QIMR Berghofer ($125,000). As a guiding principle, the funds from each institution will be used to support the researchers from that institution when working in this collaborative context.

Funds up to $250,000 will be awarded to fund each collaborative project for research in the areas of Cancer, Infectious Diseases and Neurosciences research. It is envisaged that at least two to three awards will be made but the outcome will depend on the quality of the team and research project, and the justification for funding provided.

Notice of Intent (N.O.I)
to: oramire@emory.edu, Emory University BEFORE 1 JUNE 2015 with the Subject line “QED Collaborative Projects.” Also include:
- The names of the lead and the collaborating groups at the other two institutions
- The title of the proposal
- A brief abstract outlining the proposed application
- A short version CV of each of the partner investigators

It is acknowledged that it may be challenging to identify appropriate partners for the research in all three institutions. The N.O.I. may be used to seek advice on other potential partner investigators but bipartite proposals, e.g. Emory-QIMR or Emory-UQ are acceptable if well justified, however it should be noted that Emory University must be one of the partners.

**Full proposals**
Will be due by **15 June 2015** The decision on the awards will be made by the Steering Committee. The collaborative research projects should be ready to commence without delay and – in all cases – **before August 15th**.

**Travel Bursaries**
In addition, to develop further collaborations between researchers in the three Institutes in the areas of Brain Health, Cancer and Infectious Disease research, the partners may support travel bursaries of up to $5,000 for travel and expenses for travel between Brisbane and Atlanta. Preference will be given to applicants who receive additional travel support from their organizations, or where the bursary is used to extend existing international travel to enable a collaborative visit. Bursaries may also be requested in support of an awarded Collaborative Project, to enable research teams to meet in person to encourage and support the collaboration.

**Proposals for these bursaries will open on June 15th.** They should be sent to: oramire@emory.edu with the Subject line “**QED Travel Bursaries**”

**Applications should include:**
- The name of the applicant and of the researcher who will host the visit
- A short title
- An abstract that outlines the purpose of the visit
- A description (maximum 2 pages) of the area of research, the basis of the possible collaboration, and an outline of the work to be performed during the visit, and the reason why this visit could be beneficial (e.g. access to special equipment)
- Information on the proposed dates of the visit
- Information on previous interactions/collaborations (if any)
- Justification of the budget.
Applications may be made at any time after the opening date. Decisions on the applications for travel bursaries will be made quarterly by the Steering Committee.

**Additional Support for PhD Students to travel to establish collaborations**

Graduate Student Exchanges (GSEs) provide valuable international opportunities for collaborative research. The QED provides opportunities for Emory graduate students and for graduate students from UQ. As part of the proposal process, faculty will include the graduate student(s) as part of the research exchanges and identify the appropriate host institution laboratories. The Emory Laney Graduate School will work with students and their mentors on matters of visa preparation, enrollment and course credit for these exchanges. The Laney Graduate School will assist graduate students from QED Alliance Institutes participating in research exchanges at Emory on issues of enrollment and access to professional development programming appropriate to their stage of study.

Students enrolled through the UQ Graduate School are eligible to apply for a Graduate School International Travel Award (GSITA). Up to AUD$5000 is available for travel to the USA. UQ-enrolled students travelling to Emory would be able to apply for a GSITA (in one of UQ’s fixed rounds) and be considered under the criteria ‘Contribute stronger research linkages between UQ and a key partner’.  
http://scholarships.uq.edu.au/scholarship/graduate-school-international-travel-award-gsita