FRANCE-STANFORD CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
2019-2020 COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS CALL FOR PROPOSALS
(September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020)

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: MARCH 1, 2019
http://francestanford.stanford.edu

Program overview
The France-Stanford Center for Interdisciplinary Studies aims to bridge the disciplines of the humanities, social sciences, sciences, engineering, business and law, addressing historical and contemporary issues of significance for France and the United States from a broad range of perspectives. Its programs bring faculty members, researchers and students from across Stanford’s departments and schools into contact with colleagues in France, to explore issues of common intellectual concern, to advance collaborative research, and to foster interdisciplinary inquiry. The France-Stanford Center sponsors high quality collaborative research projects likely to foster new linkages and deepen existing connections between French scholars and students and their counterparts at Stanford University. Applications are invited from scholars working in all fields of learning and collaboration does not require co-authorship.

Paris Sciences et Lettres – PSL Research University
PSL and the Center have agreed jointly to fund a number of collaborative research projects, subject to the same competitive review process that applies to all funding proposals. Researchers affiliated with PSL are thus especially encouraged to apply. To learn more about PSL, please see here.

Collaborative Research in the Humanities and/or Social Sciences
Collaborative research does not necessarily require co-authorship. The Center recognizes that much humanistic research and some social science research takes the form of individually authored publications but that the research process leading to such publications may be greatly benefited by the availability of meaningful opportunities to engage at length with other scholars. The Center seeks to promote precisely such opportunities by funding short-term visits, during which scholars can embed themselves in another institution and participate in that institution’s intellectual life by, inter alia, giving lectures, participating in workshops, and engaging in more informal exchange. There is, moreover, no requirement that the research address issues particular to France, the United States, or any specific country or region (francophone, anglophone or otherwise).

Eligibility
The France-Stanford Center seeks to fund research projects across all disciplines. Priority will be given to projects with the potential to develop new collaborations involving junior researchers, and to those leading to collaborative work on interdisciplinary issues. Applications must be submitted jointly by researchers affiliated with a French institution and researchers in any Stanford department, as long as they are eligible to serve as principal investigators. The phrase “French institution” is intended to be interpreted broadly, encompassing public and private universities, public technical universities, institutes of technologies and autonomous scientific higher education institutes, Grandes Ecoles, government agencies and organizations, and non-governmental organizations. Please note, moreover, that applicants based at a French institution and seeking to do research at Stanford need not possess French citizenship. Likewise, applicants based at Stanford and seeking to do research in France need not possess U.S. citizenship. Please note that applicants seeking funding for a conference or a workshop should not submit an application for collaborative research, but instead one for Conferences/Workshops. Details can be found here.

Lead Teams
Each collaborative project must be led by program coordinators in France and at Stanford. The program coordinators will be responsible for planning, coordinating the partnership and submitting the application.
In the case of humanists and social scientists seeking funding for a short-term visit, the application must identify the individual who will undertake the visit, as well as the individual who will serve as the official sponsor at the host institution.

Proposal
The application should include a description of the nature of the proposed project, its implications for further research, and potential for fostering long-term relationships between researchers from France and Stanford. Proposal must clearly state
the aims, activities, and anticipated outcomes for the project. The most successful applications tend to be concise. So please be sure to follow the instructions for submission detailed here. These include, inter alia, page and word limits for various parts of the proposal, as well as limits on the list of references to prior scholarship in the field.

Budget
For AY 2019-2020, projects will be funded to a maximum of USD 15,000.

Note on Infrastructure charges
The France-Stanford Center is required by Stanford University to pay infrastructure charges (at the rate of 8%) on all funds that it awards pursuant to the call for Collaborative Projects. Thus, for every $15,000 in funding awarded, the Center will pay infrastructure charges of $1,200. The Center itself will pay these charges on the applicant’s behalf at the time the funds are transferred. Applicants need not themselves budget for the payment of infrastructure charges.

Method of payment
The totality of the funds will be transferred to a Stanford University Research Award account and will be managed by the appropriate department manager.

Duration of financial support and project monitoring
The France-Stanford Center allocates annual grants, whose commencement and completion track the academic calendar--i.e. September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020. A research and financial report must be sent to the Center’s program coordinator by December 31 of the year that the grant ends (namely, by December 31, 2020). For good cause, projects can be extended beyond the original date shown on the Notice of Award. A Request for a No Cost Extension should be submitted to osr_intake@stanford.edu. Details can be found at here.

Allowable and Unallowable Expenses
Grants awarded by the France-Stanford Center may be used only for expenses required specifically for this collaboration, rather than to pay for infrastructure required generally for research. More particularly, the grant may be used for travel, lodging, and living costs associated with research or training, as well as for research-related services (e.g. duplication costs, purchases of microfilm, digitization of documents, production of questionnaires/surveys, human subject costs, data entry, transcriptions of interviews, running focus groups, etc.).

The grant may not be used for the purchase of equipment (e.g. computers, recording equipment, etc.), supplies, or software. It may not be used to pay for tuition fees; the costs of book translations and book publishing; or to cover conference registration fees. So too, it may not be used to provide salary payments in any form (e.g., to fund coordinators or principal investigators for their work in setting up collaborations, to fund administrative staff, or to provide stipends for post-docs involved in collaborations).

Please note as well that the Center sets strict limits on the price per ticket that it will reimburse for flights from the San Francisco Bay Area to France and vice versa. These vary depending on the direction of travel and time of year. Please see the “Financial Annex” for details.

Evaluation and non-technical summary of project
The France-Stanford Center Executive Committee will review and evaluate the proposals. The Committee consists of Stanford and France-based academics working across a very broad range of disciplines, including the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, engineering, and medicine. Given the broadly interdisciplinary background of the committee, it is unlikely that more than one reviewer will have meaningful familiarity with the nature of your research. It is thus vital that you describe the project such that it will be easily comprehended by all members of the committee. Towards this end, the application asks you to draft a short (no more than 200 words) non-technical summary of the project. This summary must (1) clearly identify the project’s significance and (2) avoid disciplinary jargon. For an example of a good non-technical summary written by past recipients of collaborative research funds, please see here.

Statement of compliance with ethical and environmental norms
All research proposals will be evaluated not only for their scientific merit, but also for their compliance with ethical rules of research and their respect for environmental integrity. All applications must therefore include a statement (1) confirming compliance with ethical and environmental norms and (2) providing a summary account of how such compliance is to be attained.
Option to apply for a separate fellowship grant
Applicants for collaborative research projects are strongly encouraged to involve researchers who are currently graduate students, postdocs or junior scholars (no more than three years from completion of the Ph.D.). Those who do are invited to apply for a fellowship. For details on the fellowships programs and how to apply, please visit: Visiting Student Researcher Fellowship and Visiting Junior Scholar Fellowship.

Questions
Questions can be directed to the Center’s Director, Jessica Riskin (jriskin@stanford.edu) or the Program Manager, Isabelle Collignon (francestanford@stanford.edu).