SPECIAL RESEARCH FUND ANNOUNCEMENT 2012
COFUNDING FOR CHINESE PhD CANDIDATES
HOLDING A CSC-GRANT

Announcement and application information

Each year the Flemish Government allocates research funds to Ghent University so as to implement the Flemish Government’s Resolution of 8 September 2000. In accordance with this resolution, Ghent University has drawn up rules and regulations regarding the funds of the Special Research Fund (BOF, Bijzonder Onderzoeksfonds)¹. Each year the Research Council invites research proposals for the different initiatives.

At least 3.5% of the financial means of the Special Research Fund has to be used to support bilateral scientific collaboration initiatives. One of these initiatives is the cofunding of Chinese doctoral students who obtained a PhD-scholarship of the Chinese Scholarship Council.

This invitation concerns:

Cofunding for Chinese PhD candidates holding a CSC grant

starting in 2012
Deadline: 10 November 2011, at 5 p.m.

Please send also an electronic version to BOFapplication@UGent.be

¹ Board of Directors, 17 Dec. 1999
Cofunding for Chinese candidates: definitions of terms

During its meeting of 2 July 2007, the Research Council of Ghent University decided to set up a particular initiative to support PhD-grant holders from China. This initiative was made possible by the fact that, depending on research domain in which the candidate is interested, the Chinese Scholarship Council already supports, for a period of maximum 4 years, young researchers who want to go abroad to obtain a PhD-degree.

The Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC) supports yearly up to 5000 Chinese candidates who want to study outside China. A number of candidates who apply for a PhD-grant by the CSC may decide to come over to Ghent University to start up doctoral studies based on a PhD-research programme. However, not every research domain is covered by the CSC. A list of CSC Favorably-Sponsored Areas & Majors is available on the UGent-website.

Ghent University Cofunding for Chinese PhD candidates holding a CSC-grant

This call is open for both Chinese candidates who will apply for a PhD-grant by the CSC in 2012 to do a PhD at Ghent University and for candidates who are already working on their PhD at Ghent University with a CSC grant but without cofunding. Candidates can apply maximum two times for this cofunding programme; the cofunding can only be granted once per candidate.

For candidates who yet have to start their PhD at Ghent University, the cofunding starts when they arrive at Ghent University and has the same duration as the CSC-grant.

For the candidates who are already working on their PhD at Ghent University with a CSC-grant, the cofunding is not retroactive. The cofunding starts in March 2012 and ends when the CSC-grant stops.

The cofunding consists of financing for living and accommodation (about €5.400/year), insurance (about €500/year) and a bench fee for the promoter (€3.720/year).

Important notice for candidates who apply for the CSC PhD-grant in 2012: as the decision on the granting of the cofunding by Ghent University takes place before the decision on the CSC PhD-grants, this cofunding is conditional. The cofunding will only be paid in case the candidate is successful in obtaining a CSC PhD-grant.

It is also important to know that this cofunding is intended for students who either want to obtain a PhD degree at Ghent University or who want to take a joint PhD at both Ghent University and their Chinese home university. Students who want to obtain a PhD degree at their Chinese home university only, are not eligible for this cofunding initiative.

Chinese candidates who do not obtain or are not eligible for a CSC-grant but who want to do a PhD at Ghent University, can apply for a doctoral grant for candidates from developing countries (see: http://www.ugent.be/en/research/opportunities/phd/docos.htm), issued by Ghent University. This is a different programme.

Language

The applications for grants for Chinese candidates are to be submitted in English.

Evaluation of applications and granting of the cofunding

The Research Council makes a selection of the applications based on the evaluation of the doctoral project, the qualifications of the applicant for the doctoral cofunding and the scientific/scholarly potential of the Ghent University promoter’s research group(s) and formulates well-founded recommendations for the Executive Committee of Ghent University.

The cofunding for Chinese candidates with a CSC-grant will be awarded by the University Executive Committee on the basis of an informed recommendation by the Research Council. This will take place in January 2012.

No restrictions will be imposed relating to the fields of research.
**Scientific/scholarly report**

**Final report**
Within one year following upon the end of the cofunding a final scientific/scholarly report must be submitted, signed by the promoter. This report will relate to the full period of the cofunding that was granted and will present the results of the research project. The scientific/scholarly report must be made on the required forms, which are available on the University website [http://www.ugent.be/nl/onderzoek/financiering/bof/bof.htm](http://www.ugent.be/nl/onderzoek/financiering/bof/bof.htm).

The report has to be sent electronically to [BOF@UGent.be](mailto:BOF@UGent.be).

**Submission**

The applications for cofunding for Chinese candidates with a CSC-grant must be submitted on the forms provided for this purpose: [https://www.ugent.be/en/research/opportunities/phd/dosChina.htm](https://www.ugent.be/en/research/opportunities/phd/dosChina.htm)

The **DEADLINE for submitting the proposal is 10 November 2011, at 5 p.m.**

The application, drawn up on the required forms, should be delivered to the address below in 19 copies. The deadline for submission will be strictly respected. Late, incomplete or incorrectly drawn up applications will not be taken into consideration.

The proposals must be drawn up in **English**.

Only one copy needs to be enclosed of a completed IWETO form (see link: [http://www.ugent.be/nl/onderzoek/activiteiten/iwetoformulier.doc](http://www.ugent.be/nl/onderzoek/activiteiten/iwetoformulier.doc)), the copies of the diplomas accompanied by transcripts of records, any parallel applications, favourable ethical recommendations or evidence of a bio-safety dossier. If possible, please make recto-verso copies of the proposals (i.e. copy/print on both sides of the paper).

**Admission at Ghent University as a student taking a Ghent University PhD or joint PhD**

Please note that all students who want to enrol as a PhD student at Ghent University, need to get prior permission by the Rector of Ghent University to do so, regardless of the financial means for carrying out the PhD research. To obtain this permission, a specific procedure needs to be followed. This admission procedure will be started after the result of the cofunding call is known, and will be initiated by the promoter.

Students wanting to do a **joint PhD** at Ghent University and their Chinese home university, have to follow a specific procedure. Contact Ms. Lien Bertrem for more information: [Lien.Bertrem@ugent.be](mailto:Lien.Bertrem@ugent.be)

**More information**

For further general information, please contact the Research Co-ordination Office, Mrs. Doreen Rogier – tel. + 32 9 264 30 27 (e-mail: [doreen.rogier@ugent.be](mailto:doreen.rogier@ugent.be)), Mrs. An Moors – tel 32 9 264 95 61 (e-mail: [an.moors@ugent.be](mailto:an.moors@ugent.be)) or Dr. Dirk De Craemer, head of the office.

The application form is to be delivered at

**President of the Research Council**
**c/o Research Co-ordination Office, sixth floor**
**Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 25, 9000 Gent, Belgium**
APPLICATION INFORMATION

PART I – DATA OF THE APPLICANT

1. Administrative data
   (must be filled out completely and accurately, using arial font size 10pt.)

1.1 The candidate

1.2 Promoter (only one allowed)
The proposals must be submitted by a promoter who is, at the moment of the deadline of this call, associated with Ghent University either as
   • a member of the tenured academic staff (Zelfstandig Academisch Personeel),
   • a visiting professor with at least a research assignment
   • a tenured senior research associate (onderzoeksleider) or a research director (onderzoeksdirecteur) of the FWO-Vlaanderen (the Research Foundation - Flanders)
This promoter acts as sole functionary of the granted budget (WBS-element) and as spokesman. The promoter carries the responsibility for the proper implementation of and reporting on the project. In the capacity as promoter, the promoter attests to the qualifications and capability of the candidate to successfully complete the doctorate.

If the promoter's current appointment terminates before the end date of the grant, it is required that, in addition to the name of the promoter, a replacing co-promoter is mentioned. This co-promoter must meet the requirements for promotership at the time of submitting the proposal until the end date of the proposed research project.

The promoter is required to date and sign the application in the space provided for this purpose.

1.3 Co-promoter (only one allowed)
The co-promoter has no access to the budget (WBS-element) for this project. As is evident in the project description and the plan of work, the co-promoter must make a real contribution to the doctoral project. The co-promoter must belong either to:
   a) the categories that apply to the promoter;
   b) the category of university faculty members holding a PhD who are employed at Ghent University through an appointment at Ghent University (including “FWO postdoctorale onderzoekers” and “IWT onderzoeksmandaten”), the University Hospital, VIB, IMEC, IBBT and/or Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School;
   c) the category of staff holding a PhD who are employed at one of the “hogescholen” from the Ghent University Association, and who are appointed to carry out thematic scientific research.

Please, fill in one of the above categories (including the nature and duration of the appointment and the institutions of one of the “hogescholen” from the Ghent University Association) on the form.

The co-promoter must date and sign the application in the space provided for this purpose.

1.4 Title of the PhD research
Concise title of the PhD research.

1.5 University where the student wants to obtain the PhD degree
There are two possibilities: either the PhD student takes the PhD degree at Ghent University or the student takes a joint PhD degree at both Ghent University and the Chinese home university. Indicate what is applicable.

If you are already working on your PhD at Ghent University with a CSC-grant, you have to mention this here.

1.6 Research council committees
In order to evaluate the applications, the Research Council relies on its own committees. The committees consist of members representing the following faculties:
Committee for the Humanities and Social and Behavioural Sciences ('Alpha' Working Group): Faculty of Arts and Philosophy, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Faculty of Political and Social Sciences
Committee for the Sciences and Engineering ('Beta' Working Group): Faculty of Science, Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, Faculty of Bioscience engineering.

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1.7 Possible ethical and/or bio-safety implications
Here one needs to indicate whether one’s project proposal may possibly have ethical and/or bio-safety implications. More in particular, the candidate needs to indicate whether:
- the research will involve experiments on human beings?
- the research will involve experiments on vertebrates?
- personal data will be processed (privacy legislation)?
- the research will involve working with genetically modified organisms?
- the research will involve working with biological agents or with plant or animal pathogens?

If, after being examined, the candidate’s research is approved, the candidate will be requested to submit a positive recommendation from the competent ethics committee in the relevant field of study and/or evidence of a bio-safety dossier before the project can begin.

If the committee for ethics gives the project a negative evaluation, as a rule this project cannot be set up. Only if the project proposal is changed and the ethical and/or bio-safety implications are no longer relevant - without altering the project's feasibility and innovation - the modified project can be carried out.

For the bio-safety dossier, please mention the code (Txx-xxxx) and the number of the activity as registered at the Office of the Environmental Coordinator. It is not necessary then to enclose the bio-safety dossier as an annexe. More information about the bio-safety dossier is to be found on this link: http://www.ugent.be/nl/univgent/bestuur/welzijnmilieu/milieu/bioveiligheid or at the department of environmental affairs: 09/264 89 49 (contact person Koen.Houthoofd@UGent.be).

1.8 Parallel applications

1.8.1 CSC application for PhD-grants
Here you must give the requested information about your CSC-grant.

1.8.2 Other parallel applications
Here you must indicate whether your PhD research proposal as a whole – or some part of it – has also been submitted elsewhere. If that is the case, then give the requested information and enclose a single copy of this parallel application.

As soon as the outcome of one (or more) application(s) is known, you must notify the Research Co-ordination Office of the result of your application (see address on p.3).

2. The candidate

2.1 Studies
Mention the global title of your studies (bachelor and master level) per year (not the titles of the individual courses) and the result for each year (marks or GPA). Add copies of all diplomas and certificates and the transcripts of records (in English). If possible, also mention your ranking among fellow students, providing a piece of evidence. If you are currently in the final year of your Master degree studies, add the transcript of records of the Master courses you have completed so far.

2.2 If you have already had any grant or position during or after your university studies, you need to mention them here, (including any current position, stating whether this position is renewable and whether you have already applied to have it renewed).
Mention the start and end date of each grant and position.

2.3 Thesis
If you have a Master’s degree, please also give the title of the Master’s thesis (dissertation) and the requested information, as well as a brief description of the research topic.
2.4 Scientific/scholarly studies and/or experience outside China (other than those mentioned in the diplomas)
If you have pursued scientific/scholarly studies/training outside China, you should note it here.

2.5 Scholarly/scientific publications by the candidate

GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF ALL PUBLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CATEGORIES MENTIONED BELOW

If you have already published scholarly/scientific articles, please list them with complete bibliographical information in accordance with the following categories. Only mention publications that are published, in press or accepted for publication. For each category, order the publications chronologically and number them. To give equal opportunities to all candidates, no bibliographic updates will be accepted after the deadline.

Articles
A1 articles published in journals listed in the ISI Web of Science (Science Citation Index, Social Science Citation Index, Arts and Humanities Citation Index) - restricted to contributions listed as: “article, review, letter, note, proceedings paper” and including publications that are in press or accepted for publication. Also mention the impact factor of the journal (if available) – preferably the impact factor of the year of publication (see http://apps.isiknowledge.com).
A2 articles published in widely circulated scholarly or scientific journals not included under (A1), with international peer review.
A3 articles published in national journals not included in (A1) or (A2) with peer review.

Books
B1 author or co-author of books. (Books limited to books published by a scientific publishing company, no syllabi, no thesis.).
B2 author or co-author of chapters in books (no proceedings of conferences).
B3 editor of books (inclusive editor of proceedings).

Conference Proceedings
P1 Articles in proceedings listed in the ISI Web of Science (‘Conference Proceedings Citation Index – Science’ of ‘Conference Proceedings Citation Index – Social Science and Humanities’) - restricted to contributions listed as: “article, review, letter, note, proceedings paper”, not included in (A1), including publications that are in press or accepted for publication. Full articles, no abstracts. Please mention the first and last page number.
C1 Articles published in proceedings of scientific conferences, not included in the categories mentioned above -(A1) - (A2) - (A3) or (P1) - Full articles, no abstracts. Please mention the first and last page number.

Other publications
C2 Patents

3. The PhD research

3.1 Explain the proposed doctoral research and, insofar as possible, indicate the work plan and time schedule (with detailed bibliography of all cited articles).
On maximum 3 pages (detailed bibliography of all cited articles not included). Concise scholarly/scientific explanation, with a description of the objective of your doctoral project and the progress which it would represent in relation to the current state of research in the field. The work plan will include a scholarly/scientific and technical description of the planned activities aimed at achieving the established objective and, if possible, the planning and time schedule. Please add a bibliography of all cited articles, books and other publications.
3.2 Added value of the proposal in relation to the co-operation between Ghent University and the partner institution of the candidate (if applicable)

Indicate the importance or added value of the research proposal in terms of established or planned co-operation with the partner institution.
PART II – QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED RESEARCH GROUP (TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE (CO-) PROMOTER)

1. Context and strategy of the research group(s) relating to the PhD research

In this part, the proposed research work must be situated within the framework of the different research topics that are relevant to the application and that the research group(s) are currently studying or plan to study in the future. Other possible research topics of the research group(s) can be indicated. When this relates to a totally new topic of the research group(s), then it must be briefly explained and justified. If necessary, this part can be filled out separately both by the promoter and the co-promoter.

2. Publications

GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF ALL PUBLICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CATEGORIES MENTIONED BELOW

List the publications of the researchers, divided into the categories mentioned below and mentioning all authors of each publication. To be listed separately for the promoter and co-promoter. For each category, order the publications chronologically and number them. Only mention publications that are published, in press or accepted for publication. To give equal opportunities to all applicants, no bibliographic updates will be accepted after the deadline.

If due to a long absence the past five years your publication output is lower than expected, please mention this and explain.

2.1 Articles

A1 Articles published in journals listed in the ISI Web of Science (Science Citation Index, Social Science Citation Index, Arts and Humanities Citation Index) - restricted to contributions listed as: “article, review, letter, note, proceedings paper” and including publications that are in press or accepted for publication since January 2007 up till the deadline. Also mention the impact factor of the journal (if available) – preferably the impact factor of the year of publication (see http://apps.isiknowledge.com).

A2 Articles published in widely circulated scholarly or scientific journals with international peer review, not included under (A1), since January 2007 up till the deadline

A3 Articles published in national journals with peer review, not included in (A1) or (A2) since January 2007 up till the deadline.

2.2 Books

B1 Author or co-author of books (restricted to books published by academic/scholarly publishers - no syllabi, no theses.) No restriction in time

B2 Author or co-author of chapters in books (no proceedings of conferences) since January 2007 up till the deadline

B3 Editorships (including the edition of proceedings) since January 2007 up till the deadline

2.3 Conference Proceedings

P1 Articles in proceedings listed in the ISI Web of Science (‘Conference Proceedings Citation Index – Science’ of ‘Conference Proceedings Citation Index – Social Science and Humanities’) - restricted to contributions listed as: “article, review, letter, note, proceedings paper”, not included in (A1), including publications that are in press or accepted for publication since January 2007 up till the deadline. Full articles, no abstracts. Please mention the first and last page number.

C1 Articles published in proceedings of scientific conferences, not included in the categories mentioned above -(A1) - (A2) - (A3) or (P1) - since January 2007 up till the deadline. Full articles, no abstracts. Please mention the first and last page number.

2.4 Other publications

C2 Patents – no restriction in time
3. Defended PhDs supervised by the (co)-promoter of this application since January 2007 up till the deadline

List with complete references: date, name of doctoral candidate, title, promoter.

4. Defended PhDs supervised (without being the official PhD promoter) by the (co)-promoter of this application since January 2007 up till the deadline

List with complete references: date, name of doctoral candidate, title, promoter and nature of the supervising activity (member of the doctoral guidance committee or informal supervision on a regular basis).

5. Current and recently concluded research financing (projects, grants and equipment) as well as new financing, since January 2007 up till the deadline

The internally/externally financed research projects of the (co)promoter in the past five years shall be included, with mention of their nature (FWO project, Special Research Fund, FWO predoctoral grant, projects on BOF-funds, projects on VIB- and/or IMEC-funds, etc.), the names of the researchers who collaborated in them, their duration and the amounts awarded. Do not list projects without financial input. In case of co-operation with other organisations, only mention the part in which funding for the UGent is foreseen.

New grants for research projects shall be indicated in an analogous manner.