

Tel Aviv University Global Research & Training Fellowship (GRTF)

2018 Call for Applications

We are pleased to announce a call for travel fellowships for the **Tel Aviv University Global Research & Training Fellowship (GRTF)**, made possible through the generous support of The Naomi Praver Kadar Foundation (The Naomi Foundation). The deadline for applications is **February 1, 2018**.

Applications will be accepted only **in English** via email at grtf@post.tau.ac.il, as described in the GRTF Guidelines file. Applicants are requested to strictly adhere to the GRTF Guidelines when composing the proposal. Details on the GRTF and the application are provided in the attached GRTF Guidelines.

A brief summary of the GRTF's purpose, eligibility requirements and award details are provided below:

Goal: The GRTF will fund up to three months for research visits of TAU researchers to laboratories in the USA, Europe and elsewhere in the world, in order to facilitate collaborations and to allow the visiting fellows to acquire new techniques and expand their knowledge, which they will then share with colleagues in their home labs as well as with the greater TAU and scientific communities in Israel. Equally, TAU fellows are expected to share the skills and knowledge obtained during their research visits with their home labs as well as with the greater TAU and scientific communities in Israel; to this end, participation in presentation training and annual networking gatherings are a critical element of the GRTF program.

Eligibility: Applications for the GRTF are open only to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, working in research groups at the **Medical, Life Science, Exact sciences, and Engineering Faculties as well as to those in the School of Psychology**. The fellowship is **not** open to group heads (principal investigators).

Award: The maximal grant will be up to \$8,000 for 3 months. The recipients undertake to provide the committee with a report on their activity at the host lab within 60 days after returning from the trip. In addition, all GRTF recipients undertake to present their work at the semiannual GRTF seminars. The recipients must use the allocated budget within 6 months after approval.

The recipient is obliged to credit the participation and support of the TAU GRTF and The Naomi Foundation in any advertisement, publication, publicity notice or public comment resulting from or related to the project.

By submission, the applicants are undertaking to attend the yearly GRTF event and to participate in special training sessions for presentation skills, prior to giving their presentations.

— GRTF FELLOWSHIP —
Guidelines and Rules

The TAU Global Research & Training Fellowship (**GRTF**) aims to support research visits of up to three months by TAU graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to laboratories in the United States, Europe and around the world.

GRTF is made possible through a generous donation from The Naomi Prawer Kadar Foundation (The Naomi Foundation).

THE GOAL is to facilitate, encourage and strengthen true collaborations between Tel Aviv University and other prestigious international research institutions, with the aim of expediting the discovery and swift transfer of new research techniques and methods. The emphasis is on the acquisition by the visiting fellows of new techniques and methods that are not available in their home laboratories. Equally, TAU fellows are expected to share the skills and knowledge obtained during their research visits with their home labs as well as with the greater TAU and scientific communities in Israel; to this end, participation in presentation training and annual networking gatherings are a critical element of the GRTF program.

ELIGIBILITY

- The Fellowships are open to Tel Aviv University graduate students and postdoctoral fellows currently working in the Medicine, Life Sciences, Exact Sciences, and Engineering Faculties, as well as in the School of Psychology.
- Principal investigators are not eligible to apply for the program.
- Applications for international consultations, or for attending courses, workshops or symposia will not be considered.
- Fellows must return to their home laboratory for a minimum of six months upon completion of the Fellowship.

APPLICATIONS

Applications must be submitted on-line, in English. Applications should include *curriculum vitae*, including a list of the applicant's publications, synopsis of current work, statement of career plans, description of the proposed collaboration and the letter of acceptance from the receiving institute. **See Appendix 1** for the exact outlay of the proposal and word limits for each section.

A single PDF file including all of the above information should be emailed to the GRTF Scientific Committee at grtf@post.tau.ac.il prior to the deadline.

In addition to the proposal, two confidential reference letters, including one from the applicant's current supervisor, must be sent by those writing the reference letters directly to

the GRTF Scientific Committee at: grtf@post.tau.ac.il. It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure the letters arrive on time.

Applications that do not conform to these guidelines will not be considered.

REVIEW PROCESS

Every application will undergo a review by the GRTF Scientific Committee appointed and headed by the Vice President for Research and Development, based on the nature of the application received. Reviewers will establish:

- The quality of the proposal and the recommendations.
- The proven abilities and academic record of the applicant.
- The quality of research in the home and host labs.
- The potential benefits of the collaboration, including the acquisition of new research methods and techniques.

AWARD

Awards of up to \$8,000 will be given for periods of up to 3 months. This includes airfare and a maximum of \$1,500/month stipend. Each applicant will be subsidized according to need, as decided by the committee.

Those awardees who have started their visit to a host laboratory before the final decision has been made, but after the submission of the application, will be reimbursed. Reimbursement will not be provided in cases when the visit has been paid for by research grants that explicitly include budget allocations for such collaboration, such as (but not limited to) BSF or GIF.

Recipients must use the allocated budget within six months of the decision announcement.

Recipients are obliged to credit the participation and support of **THE TAU GLOBAL RESEARCH & TRAINING FELLOWSHIP** and **The Naomi Foundation** in any advertisements, publications, publicity notice or public comment resulting from or related to the project. ***See Appendix 2 for details.***

Recipients undertake to provide the GRTF with a report of their activity at the host lab within 60 days after returning from the visit. ***See Appendix 3 for report guidelines.*** In addition, all GRTF grant recipients will present their work at the semi-annual GRTF seminars.

By submission, the applicants are undertaking to attend the yearly GRTF event and to participate in special training sessions for presentation skills, as detailed in Appendix 4, prior to the presentations.

THE TAU GLOBAL RESEARCH & TRAINING FUND

APPENDIX 1:

Application Guidelines

Please submit applications single-spaced, in 12-point type, Times New Roman, Arial or Calibri font.

Applications must include the following elements:

Title Page:

- Project title
- Applicant's name
- Applicant's department
- Applicant's laboratory and/or group, including name of Principal Investigator
- Host laboratory
- Intended length of visit and tentative dates

CV (not exceeding 2 pages)

- Name
- Address
- Email
- Telephone
- Current position (e.g. Ph.D. student, lab manager, etc.)
- Name of Principal Investigator or supervisor
- Academic background (years, where studied, academic degrees)
- Awards /society memberships
- List of publications, separated into: peer-reviewed papers; reviews and book chapters; presentations at meetings
- Do not include: high school, army service, volunteer activities, languages or hobbies.

Current & Future Work

- Abstract of current work (not exceeding 600 words)
- Statement of career plans (not exceeding 200 words)

Project Description

- Brief description of proposed collaboration (not exceeding 150 words)

- Detailed description of the collaboration (not exceeding 1500 words, excluding references).

Receiving Institution's Acceptance Letter

- May be included as a part of the proposal or attached separately.

APPENDIX 2:

Crediting the GRTF and The Naomi Foundation

- The Recipient agrees to appropriately credit the GRTF and The Naomi Foundation in all publications and announcements, as follows: "This research has been supported by the Naomi Foundation through the Tel Aviv University GRTF Program"; or: "Funding: The Naomi Foundation through the Tel Aviv University GRTF Program".
- Following publication, all printed or on-line scientific publications should be sent to the GRTF Scientific Committee at grtf@post.tau.ac.il.
- Advertisements, public comments and press releases related to the project will be subject to prior written approval by The Naomi Foundation.

Any questions about crediting the GRTF or The Naomi Foundation should be directed to Sharon Paz, Project Director, Office of VP for R&D, Tel Aviv University at sharonp4@tauex.tau.ac.il or the GRTF Scientific Committee at grtf@post.tau.ac.il.

APPENDIX 3:

Guidelines for Scientific Reporting

Recipients must provide the Fund with a report of their activity at the host lab within 60 days after returning from the visit, as outlined below:

Title page:

Project title.

Recipient: name, position (e.g. Ph.D. Student), supervisor, affiliation (e.g. Department of Zoology, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences).

Host: name, affiliation (university, country)

Visit period: XX days (or weeks).

Abstract

- An abstract of the performed work in lay terms not exceeding 200 words, including project goals, duration, the host lab and the scientific or training outcome.

Additional pages:

- A report not exceeding 1000 words describing how the GRTF award was used and what outcomes were achieved. When possible, the report should reference and compare the original project proposal and include the following:
 - (i) How the proposed project was actualized and the activities undertaken as a result of funding.
 - (ii) The impact or outcome of the project and the extent to which the Fellow achieved his/her proposed objectives.
 - (iii) How the Fellow plans to use this research in the future (e.g. future collaboration, articles, etc.) and future funding needs, if any.
 - (iv) Appendix containing any other supporting material that demonstrates the nature of the project and its results (e.g. press clippings, photographs, advertisements, programs, abstracts presented at meetings, etc.).

APPENDIX 4: GRTF Presentation Skills Training course and Semi-Annual Seminars

GRTF will conduct a Presentation Skills Training Course for GRTF applicants **who have received the grant** and GRTF alumni who have already completed their GRTF projects abroad.

The course will be composed of two sessions: The first one is a 4-hour frontal session which is open to the wider audience of all former and new GRTF applicants, to any person considering a session will take place once a year.

The frontal session will be followed by practical "messaging" workshops, which will take place twice a year. The workshops are open only to GRTF grant recipients who have either finished or are planning their travel abroad. Attending the frontal session will normally be considered a pre-requisite for being admitted to the practical workshop. Two workshops will take place per year, each one about a week before the semi-annual GRTF gatherings.

Finally, the GRTF alumni who have completed their travel abroad, will present their work during the second part of each GRTF seminar. This part is open to the public and is also attended by the representatives of The Naomi Foundation, the GRTF Scientific Committee, and the GRTF applicants and alumni. It is highly recommended that all presenters take the above Presentation Skills Course, and in particular, the workshop that precedes the GRTF seminar.

Brief syllabus of the training sessions:

SESSION 1 (4 hours) Presentation Skills & Messaging

Introduction, Goals & Objectives

- Verbal and non-verbal components of presentations: What you say and how you say it (including body language, use of voice, etc.)
- Customizing a presentation to audience needs: What creates impact and Influence?
- Use and abuse of visual aids: When, if and how
 - Beyond PowerPoint: Other types of visual aids
 - Building effective slides: Image, text & graph slides
- Crafting messages: verbalization and evaluation of participants messages
- Putting the pieces of the presentation together

SESSION 2 & 3 (4 hours) Presentation Practice

- 6-8 participants per session will present their 10 minute presentations with playback of videos & feedback from trainers and peers.