Objective: The College of Arts and Sciences sees global collaborations as a key element of a premier research university. The success of the College of Arts and Sciences as a world-class institute of higher education and a rapidly growing research institution is closely linked to the university’s ability to engage in collaborations all over the world.

A strategic goal of the College of Arts and Sciences is to develop or enhance international connections between faculty and their counterparts in academic research institutions abroad. Faculty members who are internationally connected will also play a crucial role in giving our students a unique opportunity and education. The College of Arts and Sciences has the following two overarching goals:

1. Promoting long lasting international collaborations with the College of Arts and Sciences faculty
2. Increasing the College of Arts and Sciences international footprint and reputation

This initiative will contribute to the internationalization of College of Arts and Sciences and elevate the visibility of the college in the international academic and research community.

Eligibility: Any grant-eligible faculty member (e.g. tenured, tenure-track, research, prof. of practice) in the College of Arts and Sciences may apply.

* Other employees of the university (e.g., Lecturer) will be eligible to apply for internal funding only if they can document all of the following:

1. Their university appointment includes research responsibilities;
2. They are eligible to be a Principal Investigator on a federally funded project in their role as a university employee;
3. They have a multi-year appointment with the university such that they will have an appointment during the period when the proposed project will be conducted with the reasonable expectation of having an appointment should they apply for and receive a federal project;
4. There is evidence that they have a long term commitment to the university;
5. Their supervising administrator writes a letter supporting their eligibility for internal funding

Non faculty applicants will be required to upload a file that includes a signed letter from the supervising administrator

Examples of ELIGIBLE REQUESTS

The following are typical costs that are eligible for support through this program.

- Research travel for conducting the proposed effort (not for conference travel to present results)
- Hosting visitors/participants
• Equipment or other research infrastructure needed for the collaboration

Examples of INELIGIBLE REQUESTS

• Programs that do not involve collaboration with faculty/researchers outside the U.S.
• Faculty summer salary
• Faculty academic year course reduction
• Projects in the final stages of completion
• Ongoing research projects funded by another sponsor

Award Size: Amount requested per application should not exceed $10,000.

Program Funding: Funding is limited and awarded on a competitive basis. Budget foreseen to support roughly 5 proposals per year. Proposals are accepted any time during the year with a deadline of April 22. Funding decisions will be communicated to applicants by May 6. Funding is valid immediately upon notification of award and will be available for one year from the notification date. Awardees should work with their department business manager to set up a cost object to fund expenses.

Mechanism and criteria: The purpose of this program is to allow faculty to build research programs and initiatives with colleagues at foreign partner research institutions in ways that promise to be sustainable beyond any one project, opening the door for future collaborations including domestic and foreign grants and fellowships. Internationally connected faculty members will be better prepared to do the following:

• Develop a strong competitive application for programs such as the Fulbright or Guggenheim Faculty Fellowships
• Develop international collaboration in areas of mutual interest in education and research/scholarly/creative works
• Create courses that have international perspectives and components
• Incorporate international issues into their existing courses
• Become a magnet for invited prestigious international professors and visiting scholars, artists or postdoctoral fellows
• Attract international graduate students to study in the College of Arts and Sciences and facilitate our domestic students to participate and study abroad as active members of the research group
• Create unique learning opportunities for our undergraduate students to study abroad and advise our College of Arts and Sciences undergraduate students about the value of international experiences abroad
• Create an international network of partnerships that can serve many purposes in the future, becoming an asset for developing university-wide partnership with foreign institutions overseas
• Educate our students in ways that leverage and exceed what can be done domestically
Outcomes like these will be important in helping the college enhance its international portfolio and reputation, and the inclusion of activities like these will be important criteria used in the evaluation of faculty applications.

This program will provide faculty members with up to $10,000 in funding to support a visit (typically two to four weeks) at an academic institution or a national research center/institute located abroad. The expectation is that the College of Arts and Science faculty member will use the visit to have a substantive exchange of ideas with another faculty member or groups of faculty (or their equivalent) at the host institution in area(s) of mutual interest in education, and/or research/scholarly/creative works.

**Application:** The International Research Collaborations award application should be completed in NUGrant by the applicant, endorsed and approved by the department chair and routed to the Associate Dean for Research and Global Engagement of the College of Arts and Sciences.

To route a new application:
Access NUGrant at [https://nugrant.unl.edu/system/login](https://nugrant.unl.edu/system/login)
- Select Internal Competitions
- Select Create New Application
- Select the College of Arts and Sciences International Research Collaborations competition
- Prepare your proposed budget and any other supporting material in the NUGrant application page

Applicants should be aware that if their proposed research involves the use of animals, human subjects, radioactive materials, or activities covered by federal regulations on recombinant DNA technology, appropriate UNL clearance must be obtained before an approved proposal will be funded. Applicable policies and clearance procedures are available from the following offices: Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, Institutional Biosafety Committee and Institutional Review Board.

Please review export control: [http://research.unl.edu/researchresponsibility/export-control/](http://research.unl.edu/researchresponsibility/export-control/)

Please review allowable/unallowable Expenses: [http://travel.unl.edu/QuickLinks/AllowableExp.shtml](http://travel.unl.edu/QuickLinks/AllowableExp.shtml)

**Each Application Should Include:** Write your proposal in clear, non-technical language as the committee may or may not contain reviewers with expertise in your specific area so it is essential to craft your proposal for a general audience while including enough detail to judge the merits within your field.

Each proposal must include the following items in the order listed:

1. **PI Name, co-PI name(s) if appropriate, key personnel if appropriate, department/center/institute affiliation, phone, email, and proposal title**
2. **Abstract** of the proposed project (one paragraph)
3. **Description** of the proposed project (3 page maximum)
   a. The objective of the project
b. Background, previous work and/or motivation as appropriate. Nature of interaction: provide a narrative outlining substance of the interaction at the host institution and the arrangements

c. The anticipated outcomes: short-term and long-term

d. The anticipated time schedule

e. Name(s) of the foreign academic institution(s) or the research center/institute, and the name(s) of one or two faculty members (or equivalent) in these institutions

4. **Budget and Budget Justification**

a. Supply detailed budget identifying and explaining all anticipated expenditures. A proposed budget for travel and in-country costs (in U.S. dollars) and proposed dates of trip. Please provide estimates that are as accurate and reasonable as possible for all individual items in the proposed budget, as the accuracy of this information can impact the evaluation committee’s recommendations.

b. Fully justify any proposed travel

5. **Curriculum Vitae** (2 page maximum, current) for each faculty member listed on the cover sheet as an investigator. CVs for external collaborators may be included if integral to the proposal. If postdocs, graduate students and/or undergraduates are included in the project as collaborators, describe their qualifications.

6. **Letter from Chair** stating that the department is supportive of the proposal and have approved its impact on staffing, resources, etc.

7. **Letter of Commitment from Partner Institution(s)** indicating willingness and ability to participate in collaborative initiative. This can come from a colleague or administrator.

**Evaluation:** International Research Collaborations Award will be made upon recommendation of the College of Arts and Sciences Research Advisory Committee (CASRAC). Recognizing the differences that exist among the various departments of the College of Arts and Sciences, latitude is given to the department in setting additional criteria for application and award of International Research Collaboration awards within their individual unit. Faculty members may, therefore, expect to receive from their department chair a statement concerning eligibility and criteria for award from the International Research Collaborations funding. In the case of multiple applications from a department, the chair may provide a rank order of the applications based on highest to lowest impact in terms of the activity to the faculty member, the department or research group, and the research field. Proposals will be ranked first by intellectual merit, and then preference will be given to junior faculty. Broad evaluation criteria by the CASRAC would include:

- Clarity and soundness of objectives and rationale for the project
- Viability and benefits of international partnership
- Potential importance of the project to the visibility and reputation of the university
- Prestige of the project compared to others in the field of scholarship and research
- Type of project
- Potential contribution to the state of the art
- Potential contribution to the applicant’s professional development at as a researcher/scholar
• Support of department chair and international colleague

**Final Report:** The product of this exchange should be a written five page, three year plan with milestones that include:

• specific research activities and products
• specific extramural grant/fellowship applications by the college’s faculty and the foreign partner
• a plan of work for the postdoc, graduate or advanced undergraduate students
• and a mentorship plan for the postdocs and students

The report is due four weeks after the end of the funding period and is required for the reimbursement of expenses.

**Email the report to:**

Associate Dean for Research Aaron Dominguez  
- aarond@unl.edu  
Budget Analyst Stephanie Welch  
- swelch3@unl.edu