

Genome Innovation Hub

Assessment of external applications

About Genome Innovation Hub

Genome Innovation Hub (GIH) is a University of Queensland initiative and part of UQ Research Infrastructure. GIH aims to develop innovative approaches to advance technologies in structural and functional analysis of genomes. The Innovation Hub will act as a collaborative research centre, working with UQ clinicians and scientists to implement novel and promising methodologies in projects focussed on the key areas of health, agriculture and the environment. Once implemented by GIH, these innovations (methods, protocols, software, expertise, etc.) will be made available through UQ Research Infrastructure Services, other UQ Service Providers, or through research groups willing to collaborate and/or train research staff in the newly developed approaches.

GIH Call for External Collaborative Projects

Beginning mid-2019, GIH will engage in collaborative projects in partnership with research groups across UQ. An anticipated 3-5 projects will be supported per year. For successful applications, GIH staff and direct funding of up to \$50,000 toward GIH consumables will support each project to develop cutting-edge technology breakthroughs (methods and pipelines). Proposals can be entirely wet-lab-based, entirely bioinformatics-based or a combination of the two, and will vary in requirements for GIH budget and/or GIH staff support.

Collaborating research groups will work closely with GIH in the design and development of projects and actively contribute to projects, including co-investment in funding and personnel expertise. Projects will be prioritized on the basis of novelty and transformative impact in advancing genomic applications and/or those that significantly drive down the costs of these applications. Proposals will also be evaluated on the basis of feasibility, broad impact, and clearly outlined paths for future access and uptake. The number of projects accepted will depend on feasibility, budget and timelines.

For selection criteria, timelines and submission process please refer to the application guidelines overleaf.

Application guidelines

Project Selection Criteria and Ranking

1. Genomic Innovation (40%)	Is this a major new capability that will help UQ to establish or maintain a competitive position nationally and internationally?
2. Broad Applicability/Uptake (20%)	Has wide-ranging potential for uptake at UQ based on research interest and expertise in this space been illustrated? Has a clear path for future application of techniques been outlined? https://research.uq.edu.au/about/equipment-infrastructure https://imb.uq.edu.au/facilities
3. Feasibility (20%)	Does rationale/preliminary experiments convincingly demonstrate feasibility of project and fit with GIH wet-lab and bioinformatic expertise in the areas of CRISPR gene editing, single cell and long read (Nanopore, PacBio Sequel) sequencing?
4. Team Quality (10%)	Does the collaborating team have track record/capability in the proposed area?
5. Co-contribution (10%)	Does the proposal contain inclusion of leveraged support or in-kind contribution (from UQ researchers/from industry)?

Timelines for evaluation

Applications will open early April and will close Wednesday, 22 May 2019. Following the closing date, projects for possible funding will be ranked by the GIH Management and Steering Committees, with the list of recommended projects forwarded to PVC Research Infrastructure for final approval. We anticipate being able to inform applicants of their success (or otherwise) by mid-June.

Submission

Email completed GIH External Project Applications to GIHapplications@uq.edu.au

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