

SANTANDER - TOP USA MASSACHUSETSS

PROGRAM

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2011-2012

1. OBJECTIVES

This call for proposals aims to promote academic exchange of faculty, researchers, post-doctoral and graduate students between a group of Brazilian and North American Universities with the financial cooperation of the Santander Bank.

This program is open to proposals in any research area.

The program is intended to fund research stays to be developed at the labs of the participating institutions and is not intended to fund the enrollment in graduate courses or on any disciplines.

2. PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

Participating North American Universities:

- Boston University
- Brown University
- Harvard University
- MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
- Northeastern University
- University of Massachusetts

Participating Brazilian Universities:

- UFMG (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais)
- UFPE (Universidade Federal de Pernambuco)
- UFRGS (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul)
- UFRJ (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro)
- USP (Universidade de São Paulo)
- UNESP (Universidade Estadual Paulista)
- UNICAMP (Universidade Estadual de Campinas)

3. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This TOP USA MASSACHUSETSS 2011-2012 program provides one package of financial support to every participating Brazilian University to build an academic exchange program with one of the participating North American Universities.

A fundamental principle of this program is that every University, Brazilian or North American, should have at least one project (package) approved and funded.

The typical support package contains round-trip airline tickets, travel insurances and daily allowances for 1 (one) faculty member and 1 (one) graduate student or postdoctoral student or researcher from one of the participating Brazilian Universities to spend a research period in one of the North American Universities. Conversely, the program also funds 1(one) faculty and 1 (one) graduate student or postdoctoral student or researcher from a North American University to spend a research period in a participating Brazilian University.

The faculty members from Brazilian and American Universities can stay at the chosen partner University for a period up to 15 (fifteen) days. The graduate student, postdoctoral student or researcher may join the partner institutions for a period up to 2(two) months.

4. ORGANIZATION

Every participating University, Brazilian or North American, should appoint a program coordinator who will be the program contact person within his University. The program, as a whole, will be coordinated by the office of the Dean of Graduate Studies at the University of Campinas.

5. PROPOSALS

In the present program, the proposals should be submitted by the coordinators of the Brazilian Universities to the program coordinator at Unicamp. Every Brazilian University may submit up to 6 (six) proposals, one for every partner North American University. The Brazilian coordinators are expected to launch a call for proposals within their Universities. The program coordinators at the North American Universities should advertise this TOP USA MASSACHUSETTS program within its community. The proposals to be submitted to this program are to be constructed by two faculties from the partners, Brazilian and North American Universities. The Brazilian and North American coordinators should make efforts to facilitate contact between faculties of their respective Universities.

6. EVALUATION COMMITTEE AND PROCEDURE

The submitted proposals will be evaluated by a joint committee, an Evaluation Committee. This committee will be composed by 2 (two) representatives of the North American Universities, 2 (two) representatives of the Brazilian Universities, a representative of the Santander Bank and by the program coordinator at Unicamp. The representatives of the North American Universities will be appointed jointly (or elected) by the program coordinators of these Universities. Analogously, the Brazilian coordinators will appoint (or elect) the 2 (two) members of the Evaluation Committee. The Santander Bank will indicate a representative.

The evaluation is based on standard academic criteria but will also take into consideration that every Brazilian and North American University must participate with at least one approved project.

The Evaluation Committee may, initially, make an online pre-evaluation of the proposals, ranking them according to academic merit and the inclusion criteria, according to which, every university must participate in at least one project.

The final evaluation will take place in São Paulo, at the Santander Bank Headquarters. The physical presence of the Evaluation Committee is expected. Funding for the travel expenses of North American members will be provided by Santander Bank.

The Evaluation Committee will chose 7 (seven) proposals to be supported by the program.

7. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

- a) A Plan of Activities describing the international mobility and research tasks to be developed by participants at partner universities;
- b) Curriculum Vitae of the participating faculties and researchers;
- c) A letter or statement from faculties of the partner universities stating their agreement in participating in the planned activities
- d) A schedule for the planned activities and travels

8. FINANCIAL SUPPORT

For faculty, the present program will fund a round-trip airline ticket, travel insurance and a daily allowance equivalent to USD 250.00 for the duration of the stay abroad, limited to 15 (fifteen) days.

For graduate students or postdoctoral students or researchers, the program will fund a round-trip ticket, travel insurance and an allowance equivalent of US\$ 2000.00 (two thousand US dollars) for each month of the stay or a proportional value corresponding to the duration of the stay, for periods of less than 1 (one) month. The total duration of the stay is limited to 2 (two) months.

9. EXPECTED RESULTS

- exchange of experiences between Brazilian and American graduate students and faculty members;
- Future projects to be carried out jointly by partners from the participating institutions.

10. TIMETABLE FOR THE PROGRAM

The deadline for submitting proposals is May 15, 2012. The final acceptance of the proposals will be communicated on June 15, 2012. The management of implementation of this TOP USA MASSACHUSETTS program will be provided by Unicamp.

All the activities foreseen in every approved proposal must take place within the year after its beginning.

Schedule

May 15, 2012	Deadline for submission of proposals
June 15, 2012	Deadline for announcement of approved proposals

11. SCIENTIFIC REPORT

The proposing Brazilian faculty will be responsible for presenting to the Brazilian University coordinator a technical report describing the activities actually carried out, the objectives achieved and the impacts on the development of the activities of the research group involved. The report should be submitted to the Brazilian University coordinator no later than 30 days after activities have been completed. The Brazilian coordinator must send the technical report to the coordinator at Unicamp, no later than 30 days after having received the report.