



FIG FOUNDATION ACADEMIC RESEARCH GRANTS

OUTLINE

The FIG Foundation will be providing research grants of up to 20,000 euros spread over two years.

Applicants should:

1. be based in a surveying/geomatics academic or research programme in a country listed by the World Bank as a low-income, lower-middle or upper-middle income economy,
2. have an established record of published research - at least two articles in good quality internationally recognised peer reviewed journals serves as a useful guideline, and
3. have experience in managing postgraduate students.

The grant holder is expected to conduct the bulk of the research themselves (it is not a research manager's grant), but at the same time the development of highly qualified personnel (HQP) should be a major component of the project. Postgraduate students should be full time students, and this grant should provide financial support for their degree studies. However, the principal investigator should be intimately involved in the work.

There are two rounds to the competition. In the first round, applicants will provide the documents listed below. Second round applicants will provide a detailed application in a format similar to the Canadian NSERC or SSHRC requirements.

Applications will be judged on the quality of the application and need. In the event that two excellent applications are judged to be of equal quality, applications from low-income and lower-middle income countries will be preferred.

FIRST ROUND DOCUMENTATION

Deadline 15 January 2012.

Applicants should submit the following set of documents in English as a single file in PDF format:

1. A cover sheet showing the candidate's personal details and those of his/her institution.
2. A 200 word abstract. This should be written in terms understandable to the lay person; similar to a press release and which the FIG Foundation could actually use as a press release in the event of a successful application.

3. A one page research proposal as per the template below. Note that the one page limit will be strictly enforced; material that extends beyond one page will be deleted.
4. A list of peer reviewed journal publications over the last 6 years using the International Journal of GIS reference list format. See Notes for Authors on the IJGIS website.
5. A list of research funding obtained over the past 5 years, indicating which grants are peer reviewed or not.
6. A list of highly qualified personnel that the applicant has supervised over the last 6 years, Postdoctoral, PhD, Masters, senior undergraduate.
7. A description of research compliance, the research account and activity auditing structures and processes in their institution. For example, if a scientist spends money inappropriately, are there structures in place to refund the granting agency?
8. A description of the structures and processes in their institution that pertain to research ethics, in particular ethics relating to research involving human subjects, if that is relevant to the grant application.
9. A preliminary budget and a one page justification of the budget. Note that as a general rule, equipment will not be funded. Travel to FIG Conferences to present results may be included in the budget. Per diems for field work will not be funded, but reasonable actual costs of field work are refundable.

SECOND ROUND DOCUMENTATION

Applications will follow (roughly) the requirements of the Canadian National Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Discovery Grant application or Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant application requirements. Applicants should ensure that they choose one of these formats to match the nature of the proposed research project. The FIG foundation may instruct an applicant to use a particular format.

GOVERNANCE

Funding will be released quarterly. Grant holders are expected to file quarterly progress reports in the stipulated format. Continued funding will be dependent on satisfactory progress. In the event of unsatisfactory performance, the grant holder will be expected to return all unspent funds.

Grant holders' institutions should submit annual certification that the due compliance with normally accepted practice has been demonstrated in the use of grant funds.

FIG Foundation grants do not pay University overhead. Successful applicants will have to seek exemption if their institution requires a portion of research grants for overhead.



PROPOSAL TEMPLATE

Provide the following documentation in a single PDF file.

COVER SHEET – one page.

ABSTRACT – new page - maximum 200 words on a separate sheet

Section 1 below, should be a maximum of one A4 page, typed in single spaced Times New Roman 12 point font using the stipulated headings. Any additional pages will be deleted from the proposal. Use layman's language; evaluators are unlikely to be familiar with jargon.

1. RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE – new page - (maximum one line Times New Roman 12 point capitals)

Research Objective: State in a sentence or two the central objective of the research.

Significance of the Research / Problem:

Why is this research worth doing? What problem or situation does it address? What are the practical applications of the research? What does it contribute to knowledge?

Current State of Knowledge / Room for Improvement/Gaps:

What is the existing theory in the particular field? What aspects of existing theory are open to challenge or further development?

Research Methodology and Methods:

Describe the theoretical foundation of your work, the primary strategy of inquiry, and the methods of data collection and analysis.

Key Contribution: Describe the key contribution(s) of this research project, both practical (i.e. to society at large) and theoretical.

References – new page - in IJGIS format.

2. PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

3. RESEARCH FUNDING OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS

4. HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL SUPERVISED OVER THE LAST 6 YEARS

5. DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH COMPLIANCE

6. RESEARCH ETHICS

7. BUDGET – one page.

8. JUSTIFICATION FOR BUDGET

ABOUT THE FIG FOUNDATION

The FIG Foundation is established under the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) which is registered under Danish legislation in Denmark. The purpose of the Foundation is the funding of educational and capacity building projects and scholarships. The objects are:

1. To give grants and scholarships to projects, for instance to develop curricula for surveying education, training and capacity building, especially in developing countries;
2. To encourage research into all disciplines of surveying and to disseminate the results of that research; To promote high standards of education and training for surveyors and to facilitate continuing professional development;
3. To educate people in the disciplines of surveying, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition;
4. To promote the use of distance learning, networking, eLearning and knowledge management in surveying education and continuing professional development;
5. To promote the exchange of surveying personnel for greater understanding of all facets of the profession of surveying;
6. To support by seed funding conferences, meetings of young surveyors and similar events in co-operation with international agencies such as the United Nations.
7. The Foundation is administered by the FIG Office in Copenhagen directed by a Board of Directors. Further information is available from the FIG Foundation statutes (<http://www.fig.net/pub/figpub/pub40/figpub40.htm#THE%20FIG%20FOUNDATION>). The Board meets at least once a year and grants are ordinarily announced after the meetings to the FIG members.

THE FIG STATUTES PERTAINING TO THE FOUNDATION

Adopted by the FIG Council 25 January 2008.

1. The name of the Foundation is The FIG Foundation ("the Foundation").
2. The Foundation is established under the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG) which is registered under Danish legislation in Denmark with a permanent office in Copenhagen.
3. The purpose of the Foundation is the funding of educational and capacity building projects and scholarships.

The objects for which the Foundation is established are:

- i. To give grants and scholarships to projects, for instance to develop curricula for surveying education, training and capacity building, especially in developing countries;
 - ii. To encourage research into all disciplines of surveying and to disseminate the results of that research;
 - iii. To promote high standards of education and training for surveyors and to facilitate continuing professional development;
 - iv. To educate people in the disciplines of surveying, particularly in developing countries and countries in transition;
 - v. To promote the use of distance learning, networking, eLearning and knowledge management in surveying education and continuing professional development;
 - vi. To promote the exchange of surveying personnel for greater understanding of all facets of the profession of surveying;
 - vii. To support by seed funding conferences, meetings of young surveyors and similar events in co-operation with international agencies such as the United Nations.
4. The Foundation is administered by the FIG Office and directed by a Board of Directors. The five (5) Directors are appointed by the FIG Council. The majority of the Directors shall have expertise in education in surveying disciplines and be familiar with FIG. One of the Directors shall be one of the Vice Presidents of FIG. The remaining Directors shall not be members of the FIG Council. The FIG Council appoints one of the Directors to be the President of the Foundation.
 5. The Foundation may use fifty (50) per cent of its annual income for projects implementing its aims. This amount can be exceeded for special circumstances.
 6. The funds of the Foundation shall not be used to support the normal activities of FIG, for instance to support travel to conferences or visits to member associations.
 7. The Directors shall announce to FIG members once a year the scholarships and grants available from the Foundation. These announcements will be distributed through normal FIG information channels.
 8. If there are insufficient applications meeting the criteria set by the Directors submitted in any year to use all of the funds available for distribution in that year, the Directors will decide whether the unused funds will be carried forward for use in the following year, or used for increasing the Foundation's assets, or a mixture of these two options.
 9. The accounting year of the Foundation is the calendar year. Accounts shall be prepared in conjunction with the FIG accounts and shall be audited together with the FIG accounts. The accounts and annual report of the Foundation shall be submitted to the General Assembly of FIG for its information. The annual report will include information on fundraising activities undertaken and grants given.
 10. If the Foundation is closed for any reason, any remaining Foundation funds shall be used for the purposes expressed in the objects of the Foundation on decision of the FIG General Assembly.
 11. Changes to these statutes may be made by the FIG Council.

-
5. The Foundation may use fifty (50) per cent of its annual income for projects implementing its aims. This amount can be exceeded for special circumstances.
 6. The funds of the Foundation shall not be used to support the normal activities of FIG, for instance to support travel to conferences or visits to member associations.
 7. The Directors shall announce to FIG members once a year the scholarships and grants available from the Foundation. These announcements will be distributed through normal FIG information channels.
 8. If there are insufficient applications meeting the criteria set by the Directors submitted in any year to use all of the funds available for distribution in that year, the Directors will decide whether the unused funds will be carried forward for use in the following year, or used for increasing the Foundation's assets, or a mixture of these two options.
 9. The accounting year of the Foundation is the calendar year. Accounts shall be prepared in conjunction with the FIG accounts and shall be audited together with the FIG accounts. The accounts and annual report of the Foundation shall be submitted to the General Assembly of FIG for its information. The annual report will include information on fundraising activities undertaken and grants given.
 10. If the Foundation is closed for any reason, any remaining Foundation funds shall be used for the purposes expressed in the objects of the Foundation on decision of the FIG General Assembly.
 11. Changes to these statutes may be made by the FIG Council.