



Vice President for Research
Vice President for International Affairs
Office of Pastoral and Christian Culture

XIX RESEARCH AND CREATION COMPETITION FOR ACADEMICS

*«Let us sit around the common table, a place of shared hopes »
(Pope Francis, c.f. Querida Amazonia, n.37)*

The Office of Pastoral and Christian Culture (“Pastoral”) together with the Vice Presidency for Research (“VRI”) and International Affairs (“VRAI”) of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (“UC”), call to the XIX version of the Research and Creation Competition for Academics (“Call”).

Inspired by the encyclical Fratelli tutti and the apostolic exhortation Querida Amazonia, and summoned by the current national and Latin American context, this call invites all to look beyond our horizons, and practice « promoting the good, for ourselves and for the whole human family, and thus advance together towards an authentic and integral growth » (Fratelli tutti, n.113).

Under the emphasis «let us sit around the common table, a place of shared hopes » (c.f. Querida Amazonia, n.37), this competition will be focused on promoting cooperation in research or creation projects in relation to current Latin American problems in the light of faith, so that «... our differences, which could seem like a banner or a wall, can become a bridge» (Querida Amazonia, n.37).

1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES

The focus of this Call are the current problems of the Latin American socio-cultural reality (migration, indigenous peoples, economic model, growing violence, reality of the church, etc.¹). Making a call to join experiences and dialogue in favor of the common good, and inspired by the past and the current synodal process of our Church, we invite to search for «(...) something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditioning » (Fratelli tutti, n.55).

- 1.1. **General Objective:** Encourage UC academics to contribute to the mission² of this university, developing research and/or creation projects that lead to a dialogue between the different disciplines with Christian values.

¹ For more information, check the [Documento para el camino hacia la Asamblea Eclesial de América Latina y El Caribe](#)

² “Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile aims to obtain excellence in the creation and transfer of knowledge and in the forming of people, inspired by a Catholic concept and always at the service of the Church and society” (Mission Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile).

- 1.2. **Specific Objective:** Promote cooperation between national and/or foreign universities³, through common research or creation projects that address current Latin American problems in the light of faith.

It is expected that, from these research or creation projects, concrete opportunities for future collaboration will be generated, through applications to other internal or external funds, the participation in initiatives of a higher scope, student degrees with thesis in co-direction and joint publications, among other accomplishments.

2. REQUIREMENTS

- 2.1. **Originality:** presented projects must be original and unpublished, notwithstanding that they could be based on previous research, creations or publications.
- 2.2. **Catholic Identity:** presented projects must have a marked Catholic identity. This means they comply in their bases, objectives and/or results, with at least one of the following criteria:
 - (1) Consider the fact that human realities face a transcendental dimension, are open to the presence of God, or are more deeply understood by incorporating these dimensions from a Catholic vision.
 - (2) Help for a greater comprehension or application of the elements of Christian thinking and the teachings of the Catholic church.
 - (3) Contribute for Catholic faith to be expressed in a more current, efficient manner and culturally adequate.
- 2.3. **Applicants:** every UC academic that belongs to the ordinary, adjusted or special tier, and who counts with at least 22 contractual hours⁴ can participate as a **responsible researcher**.
- 2.4. **Team:** when forming their teams, the presented projects must consider at least one of the following categories:
 - 2.4.1. **Inclusion at a national level**, incorporating to the team one or more academics from other Chilean universities, as co-researchers.
 - 2.4.2. **Inclusion at an international level**, incorporating to the team one or more academics from foreign universities, as co-researchers.
- 2.5. **Sponsor:** the responsible researcher must count with the backing of the Dean or Director of the University/Institute through the Obligatory Declaration of the UC Researcher (“DOI”) (**see point 8.2.3**). In the case of proposals where researchers from different UC academic units participate, it is important to count with the backing of each one of them through the DOI.
- 2.6. **Commitment Letter:** academics that belong to other Chilean or foreign universities that apply as co-researchers, must sign a commitment letter regarding the development of the project where they wish to participate (**see point 8.2.4**).

³ John Paul II, Apostolic Constitution on Catholic universities *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* (August 15, 1990) n.35.

⁴ For all the categories, the requirement of contract hours is only for the responsible researcher.

2.7. Ethical approval of the project: every project presented to this Call must comply with the regulation regarding UC's Scientific Ethics Committees ("CEC"). For this the general information of the project must be initially entered into the evaluation platform: <https://evaluacionetica.uc.cl>, as is indicated in **point 8.2.5**.

2.7.1. At the moment of applying to this Call, the receipt certificate of documents – if it applies – must be attached (downloadable on the indicated webpage) and/or the ethical revision exemption certificate (obtainable through a direct request to the UC Ethics Unit, by sending an email to eticadeinvestigacion@uc.cl). The CEC of the UC will await the ruling of this Call to continue the ethical evaluation process itself.

2.7.2. For other general enquiries associated to the ethical evaluation, write to eticadeinvestigacion@uc.cl

2.8. Acceptance of the bases: the sole application to this Call implies the acceptance of the current bases on behalf of the applicants.

3. BENEFITS OF THE AWARDING OF THE PROJECT

3.1. Maximum financing per project is divided by category, as indicated in the following table:

Categories	Research ⁵	Creation ⁶
National	\$4,000,000	
International	\$5,000,000	

3.2. The awarded projects can choose the benefit of counting with one or more⁷ helpers financed through the IX Research Competition for Students, which the Pastoral will develop together with the VRI.

4. OTHER BUDGETARY ASPECTS

4.1. The budgetary distributions and amounts proposed by the researchers are subject to ratification on behalf of the Assessment Committee, who consider the maximum amounts for each category, together with other aspects such as viability and belonging of the assignment of said funds.

4.2. Once the project is awarded and the corresponding agreement is signed, the total of the approved budget will be transferred to the academic unit of the responsible researcher.

⁵ "Research is understood to be systematic search activities for new knowledge, that sustainably impact on the discipline, topic or area they belong to. Their results are expressed in publications or licenses." (CNA-Chile).

⁶ Creation is understood to be "academic projects that result in an artistic work, including all the creative process, from research for the creation and/or research based on practice, until the production and exhibition of the works before the public" (UC Art and Culture Board).

⁷ The maximum number of financed students will be evaluated depending on the available applicants and funds.

- 4.3. The transfer of funds to the responsible researcher and the rendering of the budget must be performed by the director or sub-director of economic and administrative matters of the corresponding unit to the responsible researcher.
- 4.4. Expense items that can be financed are the following: operating expenses, fees for research helpers and expenses for the realization of seminars.
- 4.5. Expenses associated to international and national mobility⁸ (associated trips and expenses for teachers, post doctoral and/or pre and post graduate students), as long as they are duly justified as per the budget objectives in the project.
- 4.6. The purchase of capital goods will not be financed, unless it is indispensable due to the nature of the project, in which case it will be analyzed by the assessment committee (**see point 4.1.**). In this case, the goods acquired with the budget constitute an UC asset. Nevertheless, the researcher will be able to use it during the duration of the project.
- 4.7. No fees of any kind will be financed for the responsible researchers or for the co-researchers.
- 4.8. Every budgetary change in relation to the initial project must be requested and authorized by the Pastoral, as its research coordinator, in writing to investigacion.pastoral@uc.cl.
- 4.9. The other Chilean or foreign institution(s) that participate can perform pecuniary and/or non-pecuniary contributions to back the obtaining of the project's objectives. Said contributions will be established in the commitment letter (**see 8.2.4.**) and in the budget indicated in the application form (**see 8.2.1.**), stating the source (internal UC or foreign).

5. PROPERTY OF THE PROJECTS

- 5.1. If the Pastoral's support is required for dissemination activities of the project's results or part of them, it must be informed at least a month before, by its research coordinator, writing to investigacion.pastoral@uc.cl.
- 5.2. Every product that is the result of a research project awarded as part of this competition, must grant due credit to the VRI, the VRAI and the Pastoral, incorporating the caption: «Project financed by the XIX Research and Creation Competition for Academics, organized by the Office of Pastoral and Christian Culture together with the Vice-Presidency for Research and International Affairs of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile».

⁸ Airplane trips can only take place in economy class.

6. EVALUATION AND JUDGMENT

6.1. Projects will be examined by academics as peer reviewers⁹, who will grade from 1 a 7, as per the following criteria and weightings:

Criteria	Weighting %
Quality and originality of the proposal	30
Viability of the execution	20
Catholic ¹⁰ identity and current relevance	40
Projection of team collaboration	10

6.2. An assessment committee will be formed, nominated by VRI, VRAI and the UC Pastoral as per the theme areas of the projects in competition in this Call. The Committee is led by the Vice Chancellor and the Vice President of PUC.

6.3. Once the evaluation process has been concluded, the judgment committee will check and select the projects, as per the score obtained in the evaluation and the available budget.

7. COMMITMENT AND RESULTS¹¹

7.1. Presentation at the dissemination event

7.1.1. During March of the year after the awarding and signing of the agreement, each researcher will expose their project together with other researchers in a dissemination event, where relevance and relationship of the topic with the objective of this Call are prioritized, as well as dialogue with other people interested in the projects.

7.2. Providing of progress report

7.2.1. **Six months** after the signing of the agreement, the responsible researcher must provide a progress report, whose format will be sent after the signing of the agreement.

7.2.2. Once the progress report has been received, the format of the article will be sent to [Revista Diálogos](#), which must be handed in together with the final report.

7.3. Closing of the project

7.3.1. **Twelve months** after the signing of the agreement, the responsible researcher must provide the final report of the realized work, whose format will be sent after the

⁹ An academic that is related to or has experience with the topic. If the responsible researcher considers it has conflicts of interest with one or more people who could eventually be designated as peer reviewers of the proposal, it can be stated in the document "Letter of Conflicts of Interest" available in Annex II of the application form (see note 8.2.1.). Said information is strictly confidential and duly guarded by the Pastoral, VRI and VRAI teams.

¹⁰ See point 2.2

¹¹ The projects awarded in this Call must be available to participate in seminars or others forms of communication and extension in the UC.

signing.

7.3.2. At least one representative per team must participate in a **final meeting**, which has as its objective to share the experience of the projects, gathering the conclusions of each one of them around a faith-reason dialogue.

7.4. Dissemination of results

7.4.1. At the end of the project, a dissemination article will be requested to be published in [Revista Diálogos](#), in any of its versions (printed and/or web). The format of said article will be sent by email after receipt of the progress report (**see point 7.2.2.**).

7.4.2. For **creation projects**, photograph records, recordings and/or videos of the audition/exhibition/setting up of the project, among others, will be requested, as declared in the application to show the final result of the work.

8. APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications to the Call must be realized via the following steps:

8.1. Inscription to the application process [HERE](#).

8.1.1. After the inscription, an e-mail will be sent to the responsible researcher, where the next steps for the application will be explained.

8.2. Gathering of Documents: the following will be requested:

8.2.1. Application Formula¹²: download as per category applied to:

- **Research**: National and International, can be downloaded [HERE](#)
- **Creation**: National and International, can be downloaded [HERE](#)

8.2.2. Updated **curriculum vitae** of all the participating academics (UC and external, a maximum of 5 pages each, in free format).

8.2.3. **DOI** signed by the University or Institute Dean or Director (**see point 2.5.**), as per format that can be downloaded [HERE](#)

8.2.4. **Letter(s) of Commitment (see point 2.6.)** for co-researchers that belong to other universities, national or foreign, as per format that can be downloaded [HERE](#)

8.2.5. **Certificate of Receipt of Documents** of UC Ethics and Safety and/or the ethical revision exemption certificate, as is explained in **point 2.7.** of these bases.

8.2.6. **Other** relevant annex **documents** for the application, as per the project.

8.3. Online Application: once the documents have been gathered, an online application form must be attached, where information regarding the project and team will be requested. The

¹² The application form must be completed and sent in Spanish.

link to this form will be sent via e-mail after the inscription in the Call (**see point 8.1.1.**).

9. RELEVANT DATES

- Opening of enrollment/application period	:	Monday, November 22, 2021
- Closing of enrollment period	:	Friday, January 14, 2022
- Closing of application period	:	Friday, January 21, 2022
- Evaluation process	:	January – April 2022
- Presenting of results of the competition	:	May – June 2022
- Signing of agreements	:	May – June 2022
- Awards ceremony	:	June 2022
- Start of the project	:	June 2022
- Providing of progress report	:	November 2022
- Presentation at dissemination event	:	March 2023
- Submission of final report	:	June 2023
- Submission of article	:	June 2023
- Final meeting	:	July 2023

10. CONTACT

Catalina Salazar Moreno
Research Coordinator
(+56) 2 2354 7553
Office of Pastoral and Christian Culture
investigacion.pastoral@uc.cl
pastoral.uc.cl/investigacion