

Call for proposals:

ELGRA 40th Anniversary “Gravity Spotlight Team” Grant

The **European Low Gravity Research Association (ELGRA)** is a non-profit, international society devoted to the promotion of scientific research under various gravity conditions. It provides a networking platform for all scientists interested in life and physical sciences as well as in technology either in space or on ground.

In 2019 we will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the association and to mark the occasion we will be commissioning a thematic grant.

Introduction

The gravity research community gathers stakeholders from a large variety of disciplines, which belong to different institution types (university, governmental institutions, industry), and are geographically spread. This diversity is a strength but can also constitute an obstacle to the conception and launch of new collaborative projects that would benefit and/or promote the gravity research community.

With the “Gravity Spotlight Team” grant, ELGRA aims to foster multi- and interdisciplinary projects by providing opportunities including workshops, working groups or forums.

Purpose of the “Gravity Spotlight Team” grant

The ELGRA financial contribution is foreseen to cover travel expenses of the grant beneficiaries, to gather at a designated place and to work together as an “Gravity Spotlight Team”. Here they would discuss how gravity-related projects can be initiated, promoted, or already existing projects further continued for example. The output of a “Gravity Spotlight Team” could facilitate research grant applications submitted to space agencies or international funding entities.

The ELGRA funding is not limited to scientific topics only. Projects from “Gravity Spotlight Teams” proposing to work on measures promoting space educational programs or for bringing application that exploit gravity-related phenomenon to the market are accepted as well. The building of new collaborations is encouraged.

Target groups interested in this call are:

- Scientists and engineers from universities or non-educational research organisations working on research topics related to hypo- as well as hypergravity effects
- Students at master or PhD level interested in space activities
- Engineers, technicians and business developers of the industries
- Educators.

Proposals submitted by early career and established professionals are equally welcome but will be evaluated separately.

Participation requirements:

A team of at least 3 members from different institutions, originating from minimal two countries, are encouraged to submit proposals designed to work together as a “Gravity Spotlight Team” on a defined gravity-related topic. All of the team members, however, have to be ELGRA members or have to become member after positive evaluation.

The proposals have to state a clear goal or measure of the activities that can be evaluated and judged afterwards. One mid-term and one final project reports are requested by ELGRA and are prerequisite for receiving the retrospective ELGRA grant payment. The final project report has to be submitted within 2 years after the announcement of the positive evaluation. The grant recipients are obligated in addition to present their activities during a special session at the ELGRA symposium.

The financial support by ELGRA has to be mentioned in any kind of publication that evolves from the activities of the “Gravity Spotlight Team”. Copies of printed communications, articles, book chapters need to be provided to the ELGRA Management Committee as well.

How to submit a proposal

The ELGRA Management Committee is accepting proposals (single pdf file) until February 10, 2019, submitted to the email address “communication@elgra.org”.

Documents required

The proposal is limited to **maximum** 10 pages (double sided, size 12 Arial, 1.5 spacing) and has to include:

- 1) Title page detailing name of the project, main point of contact (coordinator) and partners contact details (name, address, email, phone number)
- 2) Abstract (250 words)
- 3) Covering letter (about 1 page) detailing why the team wants to undertake this work and how this relates to their expertise
- 4) Detailed description of the proposed activities (suggested no more than 4 pages)
- 5) Main outcomes of the activity including how information gathered in the framework of the project is used further i.e. to write a subsequent grant application, papers etc.)
- 6) Time line (Gant chart is acceptable)
- 7) Budgetary information (cost breakdown etc.)
- 8) Any additional information to be included i.e. supporting information

At the end of the document, a brief academic CV of each participating member is required. This is NOT included in the 10-page limitation.

Evaluation procedure and financial contribution

Submitted proposals are evaluated by the members of the ELGRA Management Committee. The results will be communicated by email to the coordinators of the proposals, within 2 months after the submission deadline.

There is up to **€ 5,000** financial contribution foreseen per project for an “Gravity Spotlight Team” and depending on the financial situation, several “Gravity Spotlight Teams” could be financed.

The call can be found also on the ELGRA web page.

The ELGRA Management Committee