



University of Jordan -WTO Chairs Research Grant

Call for Research Proposal

The WTO Chair at the University of Jordan (UJ) opens a call for Research Proposal for the University of Jordan WTO Chair Awards, 2011 Edition.

About WTO Chairs Programme

The WTO Chairs Programme (WCP) seeks to enhance knowledge and understanding of the trading system among academics, citizens and policy makers in developing countries by stimulating teaching, research and public debate on international trade and trade cooperation at the level of tertiary education and research institutions.

The WCP provides financial support for a period of four years to academic institutions, and facilitates continuous interaction between institutions and individuals associated with the WCP, including through an internet-based platform of services and products. It also supports academic institutions and associated individual scholars from developing countries in the following areas: course preparation, teaching, research and information dissemination.

The ultimate objective of the WCP is to strengthen the human and institutional capacities of universities from developing countries to support governments in the formulation of sound trade policies. The programme also seeks, through the Chairs, to support and facilitate the involvement in the process of other relevant stakeholders, such as the private sector, non-state actors and civil society. Policies that are understood and supported by the public at large are far more likely to succeed than those which are simply imposed, whether by internal or external decision-makers.

One of the main objectives of WCP is to promote research focused on extending specialized knowledge and explaining the policy relevance of existing research. Institutions can support academic cooperation with other institutions of the WCP, in respect of possible joint research, cooperation arrangements on lecturing and visit exchanges.

About the University of Jordan -WTO Chair Programme

The WTO is providing annual financial support to the UJ for a period of four years to facilitate continuous interaction between the University and other national and international think-tanks. It provides financial support to the UJ and associated individual scholars towards their course preparation, teaching, research and outreach activities. This programme is part of the technical assistance and training programme that the WTO delivers, with a view to enhancing the quality and level of participation of developing countries in the multilateral trading system. As part of its research agenda, the WCP-UJ organizes international conferences on trade related aspects, encourages and facilitates networking for Arab researchers, engages in capacity building and also funds research.

The UJ-WTO Chair program is managed by a professional committee whose members are all Professors and Doctors in the Faculty of Business and specialized in areas related to the field of International Economics; the committee is composed as following:

Prof. Taleb Awad Warrad-Chair Holder and Program Coordinator: t.awad@ju.edu.jo

Prof. Hani H. Al-Dmour: dr_dmourh@ju.edu.jo

Dr. Buthaina Muhtaseb: b.muhtaseb@ju.edu.jo

Dr. Khawlah Spetan: khawlah.spetan@ju.edu.jo

Dr. Nahil Saqfalhait: nahil.saqfalhait@ju.edu.jo

Call for Research Proposal

Proposals for research projects are hereby solicited from Jordanian researchers on subject areas in line with the WTO mandates and objectives.

In particular, for the 2011 round, we welcome proposals addressing, but not limited to the following themes:

- **Contemporary trade issues in energy, natural resources, and food security**
- **WTO, economic integration and regional trade agreements**
- **WTO, trade and economic crises**
- **Governance, trade and Economic Development**
- **Binding Constraints to Trade Expansion**
- **NTMs : Obstacles to Trade and Growth**
- **Competition Policy and Trade Liberalization**
- **WTO, and trade in services**
- **Trade and the role of international shipping and transportation cost**

Awards

Awards for Research Grants are up to US\$4,000. Research Grants will be awarded after the review by a panel of experts. In this round of research priority will be given to team –work projects that deal with regional trade related issues (including Jordan) compared to single country studies.

Submission of Proposals

Proposals designed along the guidelines specified below should be submitted electronically to the secretariat (wtochair.jordan@ju.edu.jo, copied to Prof. Taleb Awad (t.awad@ju.edu.jo) or (talibawad@yahoo.com))

Important Dates

The deadline for submitting proposals is September 4th 2011. Selected researchers will be notified by September 30th 2011 .The first draft of the study is due on 30th December 2011 and the final on 30th January 2012.

Requirements

It is expected that each proposal will include the following:

- Background: The policy context of the proposed research.
- Objective(s): A statement of the specific research objectives, the issues to be addressed, and the questions that would be answered
- Existing knowledge: A brief review of the relevant literature, and previous research on the given topic.
- Proposed Methodology: a description of the proposed research methodology – surveys, interviews, econometrics, including a discussion of data requirement and availability (and, where necessary, sampling method and data collection strategy)
- Results, value added, and policy relevance: Anticipated results and how they might contribute to knowledge, future research and especially public policy
- Format: proposals should not exceed 10 pages and full papers should not exceed 40 pages. All manuscripts should be prepared in English language using Microsoft Word, Time Roman 12' size fonts –single apace format.

Interested Researchers should also submit the application form that can be downloaded from the following website: <http://wtochair.ju.edu.jo/pages/home.aspx>

Technical Queries

Technical questions and further information regarding the call for proposal can be directed to the secretariat at: wtochair.jordan@ju.edu.jo and copied to the co-coordinator at : t.awad@ju.edu.jo.