

Call for Proposals: UniCat 01/01/16 – 31/10/17

1. Objectives for the last funding period

The central objective of the last UniCat funding period is to strengthen initiatives for the further development of UniCat's research program in different formats. The concept is described in detail in the proposal for the Einstein Center for Catalysis (EC² - <http://media.unicat.tu-berlin.de/Einsteinantrag>), which combines the further development of key topics of UniCat's research program with special emphasis on analyzing the interplay of active site structure and dynamics, the design and development of corresponding methodological approaches, and the strengthening initiatives for new research consortia as listed in the EC² proposal.

Accordingly, the final project funding of UniCat is specifically dedicated to

- a) Excellent research embedded in interdisciplinary projects (follow-up proposals of running projects)
- b) UniCat's research topics that will be further developed in the EC² or in future research consortia
- c) development of novel methods that are important for modern research in catalysis

(a) and (b) will typically refer to follow-up proposals of running projects; (c) may also include new projects.

2. Format of the proposals

Project proposals should not exceed 4 pages (Arial 11). They should include

- a) A short "introduction" including topic, assignment to the research fields, and the scientific objectives and the involved team members substantial for the specific project (ca. 0.5 page) Only this introduction should be the same for all team members of the project.

The following sections must be described by each individual team member separately:

- b) Description of the preliminary work (ca. 1.5 pages) including references (according to DFG standards; 1 key publication (PDF) should be added). For follow-up proposals for running projects, this section must document the achievements obtained so far. For new projects, the feasibility of the project and its added-value for UniCat or EC2 must be documented.
- c) Description of the working program, methods, scientific objectives, and integration into UniCat's collaboration network, and – if applicable – links to new research initiatives (1.5 pages)
- d) Requested funding for 1 year and 10 months, generally specified in terms of personnel and consumables (incl. travel). There are no funds available for equipment.

3. Evaluation of the proposals

The projects will be evaluated by the extended Executive Board (Executive board + additional experts from UniCat) on the basis of two referee reports. The applicants will be informed about the decision of the Board until the middle of July. Note that due to increased costs for personnel, the amount of money that can be allocated to projects is distinctly lower than in the current funding period. Thus, we expect that we will not be able to fund all excellent projects.

4. Deadline: Proposals must be submitted to the UniCat office until 15.05.2015, 12:00 noon