

## **Faculty of Science Research Chairs Program Call for Nominations (January 19, 2021)**

### **Background**

In 2018, the Faculty of Science created the Faculty of Science Research Chairs program to honour faculty members deserving of public recognition. We acknowledge that the Faculty has many more outstanding researchers than we have Canada Research Chairs (CRCs) potential nominations. The Faculty currently has over 200 faculty members and we have a CRC allocation that currently includes 8 Tier 1 CRC and 11 Tier 2 CRC. Our CRC allocation is based on our total Tri-Council funding and may fluctuate every two years, accordingly.

*The Science Research Chairs designation recognizes excellence in research among our colleagues and provides a small research stipend to help support the Chairs' research programs.* We want to honour the research excellence of many faculty members. The creation of this program is a small step in this direction.

### **Terms**

An awarded Science Research Chair can hold a Chair for an initial 3-year term. In addition to holding the title as Science Research Chair, each Chair will receive \$15,000 each year for 3 years in the form of a research stipend, and one term of teaching release (3 units) once during the first term of the Chair. A Research Chair can be renewed for an additional 3-year term, but no research stipend or teaching release will be provided in the second term.

The Faculty ran its first competition in 2018. This is our third call. At the end of this cycle, the Faculty will have a total of 9 Science Research Chairs receiving funding. At full implementation, the Faculty will have a potential complement of 18 named Science Research Chairs, with 9 receiving research funding as described above.

People who hold a CRC or an endowed chair are not eligible to hold a Science Research Chair.

### **Nomination and Evaluation**

Candidates can be nominated by a colleague or be self-nominated. The Acting Associate Dean, Research & External Relations will strike a committee to evaluate candidates. Three Chairs will be named annually, up to a maximum of 9 funded chairs. Renewals of Chairs will be determined using the same process.

Nominees and proposals will be reviewed for research excellence, excellence in research training, and alignment with the Faculty's strategic research priorities, criteria similar to those used to nominate CRCs. Active faculty members of all ranks can be nominated. Excellence will be determined relative to their stage of career. Contributions to advancing EDI will be

considered. Note that Department or School affiliation will not necessarily be a consideration in the awarding of Chairs.

Nominees should:

- be outstanding and innovative world-class researchers whose accomplishments have made a major impact in their fields or are emerging as world class researchers in an early stage of career;
- be recognized internationally as leaders in their fields;
- have a track record of attracting and supervising graduate students and postdoctoral fellows (taking into account different practices in the relevant field or discipline), and as chair holders, be expected to attract, develop and retain excellent trainees, students and future researchers;
- be running an original, innovative research program of the highest quality; and
- be making a contribution to advancing EDI goals of the Faculty and the University.

All nominations will be assessed for alignment of the proposed research program with the Faculty's Strategic Research Plan and are expected to clearly articulate and demonstrate how their research programs fit with these plans.

### **Process for Selection**

Nominations from potential candidates or colleagues nominating potential candidates will be accepted. To be considered, the Faculty must receive a completed copy of the Nomination Form; and an up-to-date CV (any standard format) and a one-page statement of the conventions in the field of the potential nominee. Links to the University's and Faculty's Strategic Research Plans, referenced on the form, can be found on the Faculty's [website](#).

Electronic copies of the required documents, pdf preferred, need to be received by 4 pm on February 23, 2021. They should be sent to Katelyn McKay, [mckayk16@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mckayk16@mcmaster.ca).

The Acting Associate Dean (Research & External Relations) will strike and chair a broadly based Nomination Review Committee. At least one current Tier 1 CRC, one Tier 2 CRC, and one Science Research Chair will sit on the Committee. Applications and evaluation criteria will be provided to the Nomination Review Committee for consideration. The Committee will review the nominations received and will provide recommendations to the Dean of Science, who will make the final decisions.

### **Submission Deadline**

*To be considered, a nomination package, including a completed nomination form and up-to-date CV of the nominee (electronic copies, pdfs preferred), must be received by 4 pm on Wednesday, February 23, 2021. Nomination packages should be sent to Katelyn McKay, [mckayk16@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mckayk16@mcmaster.ca). Questions about submissions can be directed to Seanna-Lin Brodie-Keys, [brodies@mcmaster.ca](mailto:brodies@mcmaster.ca).*