

## Research Excellence Chairs Program 2021

### Description

Ontario Tech University has established a Research Excellence Chairs Program to recognize and reward the high-quality research and scholarly achievements of Ontario Tech faculty members. The program is designed to enable accomplished scholars to complete a major research program or project. Further, the program is meant to emphasize the importance of research at Ontario Tech in strategic areas, while highlighting and promoting the outstanding achievements of our scholars and the university's commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). The Research Excellence Chairs Program will support the retention and excellence of Tenured and Tenure-Track (TTT) faculty members at Ontario Tech University. Current Research Excellence Chair Holders (including Canada Research Chairs and Industrial Research Chairs) and those who have been awarded a Research Excellence Chair in the previous round (2018) are not eligible to apply.

### Value of Award

Up to \$25,000 per year for two years (non-renewable). The award will be funded by the VPRI (\$15,000) and the sponsoring Faculty (\$10,000 – cash or in-kind).

### Number of Awards and Criteria

The Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI) will support up to four Chairs in this internal competition. The program is open to researchers from all disciplines. Two of the four Chairs in this round will be housed in the Brilliant Energy Institute (BEI) and awarded to researchers who align their applications with the strategic priority areas of energy and clean tech. One of the successful applicants for a BEI Chairs may be designated the Richard Marceau Chair in Energy Systems. The criteria for awarding the Chairs is research excellence. Principles of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion will guide the application and adjudication process.

### Recognition

The Ontario Tech University Research Excellence Chairs Program recipients will be honored at an appreciation ceremony highlighting the scholarly accomplishments of the recipient.

### Use of Funds

Funds may be used to support the following eligible expenditures:

- Teaching release
  - Up to 2 courses (or 50%) of normal teaching load in their home Faculty.
  - Requires Dean's approval.
- Salary support for trainees
- Travel and subsistence
- Equipment and research supplies
- Dissemination of research results

Note: Funds are to be used in accordance with the Ontario Tech University internal use of funds policy. Extensions will not be approved unless under exceptional circumstances.

## Deadlines

The deadline for the Notice of Intent is: October 15, 2021.

The deadline for the Full Application is: November 15, 2021.

## How to Apply

### **Step 1: Submission Requirements for Notice of Intent (October 15, 2021)**

1. Complete the Notice of Intent Form and submit to the Office of Vice-President, Research and Innovation (research@ontariotechu.ca).

### **Step 2: Submission Requirements for Full Application (November 15, 2021)**

Prepare the following for submission to the Office of Research Services:

1. **Statement of Nomination (2 pages):** Statement of nomination from the Dean, clearly demonstrating that the nominee is an excellent researcher of world-class calibre and has demonstrated particular research creativity and impact relevant to their respective discipline.
2. **Research Chair Title and Research Project Summary (250 words):**
  - Chair title and research project summary:
    - Provide a 250-word summary, written in lay language, describing the uniqueness and importance of the proposed research program. The summary will be used for publicity purposes.
3. **Research Program (2 - 4 pages):** Proposed research program written by the nominee.
4. **Fit with Strategic Research Plan (1 page):**
  - Proposed fit of the Research Chair with the institution's and faculty's strategic research priorities.
  - Specifically address:
    - the importance of the Chair to the institution's strategic research development;
    - how the proposed Chair will contribute to the attainment of the institution's/faculty's objectives, as outlined in its Strategic Research Plan;
    - how the nominee has helped build relationships with other research initiatives in Canada and abroad; and
    - if applying for a Chair position housed in the BEI, also address how the research will advance the strategic priority areas of the BEI - Energy and/or Clean Tech.
5. **Equity, Diversity and Inclusiveness Priorities (1-2 pages; written by the nominee)**
  - How the nominee supports and builds equity, diversity and inclusion within Ontario Tech University, the Faculty and within their research program.
6. **Budget (1 page):** Budget plan and justification.
7. **Curriculum Vitae (no page limit):** Current Curriculum Vitae (Tri-Agency format). The CV should include a list of the nominee's five most significant research contributions made during their career, explaining their significance and impact.
8. **Reference Letters:** Two external letters of reference with at least one arm's length. For clarity, arm's-length reviewers are individuals who do not have a significant personal relationship with the candidate. For clarity, they are not former students, family members, thesis advisors, former or present colleagues, co-authors, or collaborators.

**Prepare your documents following the requirements below:**

- i. Explain any acronyms and abbreviations fully;
- ii. Pages must be 8 ½" x 11";
- iii. Pages must be single-spaced, with no more than six lines of type per inch;
- iv. All text must be in 12 pt. font;
- v. Margins must be set at a minimum of ¾";
- vi. Pages must be numbered sequentially.

Submit one complete electronic copy containing all requirements (one PDF file) to:  
[research@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:research@ontariotechu.ca)

**Evaluation Criteria**

- The selection committee will follow the Canada Research Chairs Program's requirements for recruiting and nominating Chairs.
- The level of research excellence and productivity of the applicant relative to stage of career;
- The level of impact and recognition in their field;
- The ability to have successfully attracted and retained excellent students, trainees and future researchers; and plans for future training;
- The relevance of the proposed research program to the university strategic priorities and the priority areas (energy and clean tech);
- The originality and quality of the proposed research program, and the efforts to promote and embed equity, diversity and inclusion in research; and,
- A strong commitment to EDI principles included in the research program and training of HQP.

**Selection Committee**

A multidisciplinary selection committee will be drawn from the Ontario Tech University Research Board membership to adjudicate the nominations. Committee members will be selected by the Vice-President Research and Innovation. External ad hoc reviewers will be added as required.

Notification of results will be sent to all applicants once decisions have been finalized. The Selection Committee will make funding recommendations to the Vice-President, Research and Innovation who will make the final decision. All decisions are final.

**Funding Requirements**

Selected Chairs will be required to:

- Give a public lecture during the tenure of the award; and,
- Provide a short annual report, to the Vice-President, Research and Innovation, outlining the major accomplishments. Reports are due January 15 of each year.

**Questions**

Questions about the program can be directed to: [research@ontariotechu.ca](mailto:research@ontariotechu.ca)