Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Public Health ‘Omics for Heart and Lung Innovation

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Simon Fraser University is Canada’s leading comprehensive university. The Centre for Heart and Lung Innovation (HLI) at St. Paul’s Hospital is an interdisciplinary, translational clinical research centre that uses basic molecular and cellular research discoveries to develop innovative approaches to prevent and treat human disease. In collaboration, SFU and the HLI seek a Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Public Health ‘Omics for Heart and Lung Innovation. This CRC appointment opportunity is intended for emerging scholars at the rank of assistant or associate professor (or those who possess the necessary qualifications to be appointed to these levels).

The Canada Research Chairs Program supports outstanding researchers in areas that will further their institution’s strategic research priorities. To meet the criteria of the CRC program, Tier 2 CRC applicants must be excellent, emerging, world-class researchers who have demonstrated particular research creativity and the potential to achieve international recognition in their fields in the next five to ten years. They should have the potential to attract, develop and retain excellent trainees, students and future researchers; and should propose an original, innovative, high quality research program.

The Position

The successful applicant will be expected to build a research program in public health-relevant ‘omics that will enable identification of causal genetic, environmental, gene-disease, and gene-environmental pathways, which in turn will lead to new preventive and/or therapeutic strategies for populations at risk for heart, lung and/or blood vessel diseases. They will provide leadership in ‘omics-related research of lung, heart and/or blood vessel diseases that will be recognized worldwide for innovation and population/public health impact. They will have a PhD or equivalent in fields related to ‘omics, bioinformatics, computational biology, systems biology, biostatistics, applied mathematics, or experimental medicine.

The successful applicant’s research program will foster interdisciplinary research at the HLI and SFU and promote active collaborations within and across the heart, lung and blood vessel communities. The research program may involve wet lab, dry lab or a combination of both. It should be relevant to one or more of the research challenge areas in the Faculty of Health Sciences, including Developmental Trajectories; Big Data and Social and Technological Innovation; and Planetary Change.

1 Tier 2 Chairs are intended for exceptional emerging scholars, i.e. candidate must have been an active researcher in their field for fewer than 10 years at the time of nomination. Applicants who are more than 10 years from their highest degree (and where career breaks exist, including parental leave, extended sick leave, clinical training, etc.) may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 CRC assessed through the program’s Tier 2 justification process; please see the CRC website for eligibility details or contact the office for Institutional Strategic Awards.
The Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS)
FHS was created in 2004 with a mission to improve the health of individuals and populations and to reduce health inequities through excellence in interdisciplinary research and education, in partnership with local, national and global communities and with a commitment to social justice. The successful candidate will join a diverse and dynamic team of more than 50 multi-disciplinary faculty members and will have the opportunity to engage with and teach outstanding students in the PhD, MSc, MPH, and BA/BSc programs. FHS maintains collaborative agreements and partnerships with the BC government, regional health authorities, research centres, and provincial, national and international agencies. Our community engaged work is exciting and at the cutting edge of interdisciplinary work in health. The faculty includes three Canada Research Chairs, five Endowed Chairs, and nine additional faculty members with external salary awards.

The Centre for Heart and Lung Innovation (HLI)
HLI is a leading translational research centre in heart, lung and blood vessel diseases. It was recently ranked as the #1 research unit for COPD and #2 in sepsis research in Canada (http://www.expertscape.com/ex/copd (sepsis)). HLI is dedicated to bringing novel solutions to prevent and treat cardiopulmonary and critical illnesses. HLI is located within St. Paul’s Hospital, Vancouver and has over 50,000 square feet of space for both wet and dry laboratories. The successful applicant will join 40 other Principal Investigators (of whom ~50% are clinician-scientists) at the Centre and several other Canada Research Chairs (including 2 Tier 1 and 2 Tier 2 CRCs), who work at HLI.

Application Process
To apply, please submit a full curriculum vitae, a letter of application, a brief statement of research plans for the next 5 years (two page maximum), a teaching and graduate student mentorship/supervision statement (one page maximum), and the names and contact details of three academic references. The teaching statement must detail experience and interests, and identify undergraduate and/or graduate courses of teaching interest with reference to existing FHS course offerings. Please also outline any contributions you expect to make to academic life in the form of service.

These materials should be submitted electronically to: fhs_recruit@sfu.ca

The search committee will begin to review submitted applications on May 11, 2020. The position will remain open until filled. Any general inquiries regarding this posting may be directed to the FHS Confidential Secretary email: fhssecy@sfu.ca

This position is contingent upon the applicant being successfully awarded a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair. For this reason, only scholars with outstanding research records will be considered. Each Canada Research Chair is tenable for five years and may be renewed once. The position is subject to the availability of funding and to final approval by the University Board of Governors and the CRC Secretariat. Interested applicants are invited to review the initial appointment and chair renewal details of the CRC Program.

SFU recognizes that alternative career paths and/or career interruptions (e.g. parental leave, leave due to illness) can impact research achievements and commits to ensuring that leaves are
taken into careful consideration. Candidates are encouraged to highlight in their application how alternative paths and/or interruptions have impacted their careers.

Simon Fraser University is an institution whose strength is based on our shared commitments to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Diversity is an underlying principle of SFU’s Strategic Vision, which pledges SFU to “foster a culture of inclusion and mutual respect, celebrating the diversity reflected among its students, faculty, staff, and our community.” SFU is committed to ensuring that no individual is denied access to employment opportunities for reasons unrelated to ability or qualifications. Consistent with this principle, SFU will advance the interests of underrepresented members of the work force, specifically Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, racialized persons, and women; embrace gender and sexual diversity; ensure that equal opportunity is afforded to all who seek employment at the University; and treat all employees equitably. Candidates that belong to underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply.

SFU offers several benefits and services aimed at creating a more inclusive and accessible campus community for faculty, please see the Faculty Relations, Benefits and Service page for more details. SFU is also committed to ensuring that the application and interview process is accessible to all applicants; if you require accommodations or have questions about SFU benefits, services, accommodations policies, or equity considerations please contact the Specialist, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Faculty Relations.

Under the authority of the University Act personal information that is required by the University for academic appointment competitions will be collected. For further details see the Collection Notice.

SFU respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded ancestral and traditional territories of the xʷməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Səl̓ílwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh), q̓ic̓əy̓ (Katzie), and kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (Kwikwetlem) Nations.