

**Mount Royal University
Board of Governors Research Chair
Guidelines**

1. Background

Mount Royal University fosters excellence in undergraduate education enriched by research and scholarship for knowledge generation, application and positive change. Board of Governors Research Chairs (“Chairholders”) create and mobilize knowledge to achieve research excellence. Appointing Research Chairs is also a critical tool in retaining our outstanding researchers. As leaders in their fields, Chairholders play a critical role in deepening our knowledge base and in strengthening our teaching, the training of students (highly qualified professionals), and research capacity. Chairholders must have demonstrated or shown potential for exceptional scholarly distinction. As catalysts and builders, they contribute to the university's positioning in priority areas of research identified in the Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan and to the enhancement of the research training environment.

Subject to final budgetary approval, Mount Royal University will appoint two Board of Governors Research Chairs, with appointments to be effective July 01 2019 .

2. Eligibility

All full-time tenured MRU faculty members are eligible for appointment. Applications are encouraged from across the full spectrum of disciplines.

MRU is dedicated to creating a diverse, respectful, and inclusive environment that allows for the full participation of a diverse group of individuals. Chairholder recruitment and appointment processes will adhere to the Diversity and Meaningful Inclusion Plan and will be in alignment with the Tri-agency Institutional Programs Secretariat (TIPS) best practices for equity, diversity and inclusion.

3. Research Chair Categories and Terms

3.1 Career Stage

The Board of Governors Research Chairs will be adjudicated based on career stage and level of research development.

3.1.1 Early Career Scholars

Associate professors: 1) within 10 years of receiving their highest degree at the time of application, and 2) with demonstrated excellence in scholarly or creative activity and potential for further development as a leader in their field with international recognition. Where breaks in the candidate’s research career exist due to maternity

or parental leave, extended sick leave, clinical training, family care, etc., this information must be summarized in the application.

3.1.2 Established Scholars

Associate or full professors with demonstrated excellence in scholarly or creative activity and recognized internationally by their peers as a leaders in their respective fields.

3.1.3 Terms

Board of Governors Research Chair Appointments will be made for 3 years, inclusive of any form of leave. Appointments are not renewable. Chairholders will receive a one time \$5,000 research grant, \$1,500 per year to support dissemination activities and 2 course reassignments per year for 3 years. Funds will be administered as a research grant through ORSCE.

A Board of Governors Research Chair cannot be held concurrently with another internal or external research chair or named professorship during their appointment.

Chairholders will be named “Board of Governors Research Chair in [one of the six existing and emerging research strengths identified in the Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan¹]” and will be recognized on the ORSCE Web site and other faculty publications.

Within 6 months of completing the Chair term, the Chairholder will submit a final report to the Board of Governors through the AVP Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement. Chairholders will also be expected to provide a research presentation to the Board of Governors at some point during the term of the award.

3.2 Appointment

3.2.1 Application Process

In response to a *Call for Applications* from the AVP Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement, applicants will be required to submit the following materials:

- i. Applicant identification information (name, MRU id, department)
- ii. Quality of applicant statement summarizing significant research, scholarly and/or creative achievements (1-page maximum)

¹ The six existing and emerging research strengths are: Resilience & sustainability; Social innovation, entrepreneurship and systems design; Health and well-being; People and places; Scholarship of teaching and learning; and, Science, technology and society.

- iii. Anticipated impact of the research, scholarly and/or creative activity on the applicant's career, academic unit and the Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan (1-page maximum)
- iv. Proposed program of research, scholarly and/or creative activity over the tenure of the award (3-page maximum)
- v. A current CV (any format acceptable)
- vi. If applicable, a statement explaining any career interruptions that should be taken into account for consideration as an early career researcher.
- vii. A letter of support from your Chair and Dean confirming that two course reassignments per year for three years is feasible for the unit (Note: this assessment should not be predicated upon budget)

3.3.2 Selection Criteria

Board of Governors Research Chair appointments are awarded on a competitive basis on the record of accomplishment relative to career stage and the potential for impact. Applications will be assessed on the following evaluation criteria:

- i. Record of research, scholarly or creative activity, relative to career stage;
- ii. Potential and impact of the proposed research program;
- iii. Alignment with the research goals of the applicant's faculty and the Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan; and
- iv. Record of student training/preparation and the extent of student involvement in the proposed research program.

3.3.3 Selection Committee

The selection committee will be chaired by the AVP Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement, or delegate (non-voting), and is comprised of the Associate Deans Research (or equivalent) of all Faculties and the Library.

The AVP Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement is responsible for soliciting external review and evaluation.

The selection committee will make appointment recommendations to the AVP Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement who will then provide a summary and recommendations for the Provost and VP Academic who, in turn, will make a recommendation to the Board of Governors for final approval.