

April 26, 2021

RE: Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards (JCURA) Eligibility for Indigenous Faculty and Students

Dear Indigenous Faculty, Staff and Students,

As you are likely aware each year undergraduate students are nominated by faculty supervisors to receive a JCURA award. Beyond the eligibility spaces assigned per department/school, *I am pleased to announce that the Division of Learning and Teaching Support and Innovation (LTSI) will pilot an initiative with three additional eligibility spaces available specific to Indigenous students and their supervisors.*

As in past years, the criteria for the JCURA is as follows:

- student applicant must be full-time in 3rd or 4th year (typically registered in 12 or more units of study in the winter session of the academic year in which the award is given);
- be in strong academic standing (minimum sessional GPA requirement of 7.0); and
- satisfy the [general regulations](#) of Student Awards and Financial Aid.

Policies

- a student may receive only one JCURA award during her/his career at UVic;
- a student may be nominated by only one academic unit in a given year; and,
- an interdisciplinary student may apply either through his/her home department or through the unit in which the supervisor teaches.

To access these additional eligibility spaces an Indigenous student (with supervisor) should *submit their application through their home department and concurrently submit their application directly to the LTSI at ltsipc@uvic.ca (using the specific designation -- “Indigenous students and supervisor” under eligibility in addition to identifying their home department/school). Please check your home department for the submission deadline date.*

To date, eligibility spaces have been assigned per department/school. Each academic unit receives 1 to 3 spaces. Departments/schools review the applications and make a determination of the selected nominees that are then forwarded to the LTSI. We review these to ensure that the student meets the eligibility criteria and then confirm the award with the student and supervisor. The general call to departments/schools for nominations for the JCURA was previously sent out (see other attachment).

Applications will be reviewed, ranked and adjudicated by the Executive Director of the LTSI concurrently with the Executive Director of the Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement.

Students and supervisors will be notified of decisions after all reviews are completed. Should there be any remaining spaces, notification of a second call for JCURA nominations will go out.

We hope that this new initiative is an effective means of supporting and encouraging Indigenous students and faculty to seek out JCURA funding with the ultimate goal of creating more opportunities for research inspired teaching and student learning.

Sincerely,



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