

Canada Research Chair (CRC) Tier 2 in Assistive Technologies in Biomedical Engineering

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The University of Victoria is consistently ranked in the top tier of Canada's research-intensive universities. As an internationally renowned teaching and research hub, we tackle essential issues that matter to people, places and the planet. Our commitment to research-inspired dynamic learning and vital impact make this Canada's most extraordinary environment for discovery and innovation.

The [Department of Mechanical Engineering](#) and the [Division of Medical Sciences](#) invite applications for a Canada Research Chair (CRC) Tier 2 in Assistive Technologies. Assistive technology development creates devices and methods for improving the quality of life for people living with a broad range of cognitive and physical challenges. This Canada Research Chair will run a world class research program developing novel technologies to assist people in overcoming challenges faced in daily activities, rehabilitation, as well as to mitigate cognitive impairment. These technologies would improve the independence and quality of life of people across the age spectrum, and a particular focus on seniors, aging, and frailty. The target candidate will establish an externally funded, internationally recognized research program.

The presence of [CanAssist](#) is a grant funded, provincially recognized entity at UVic, provides a unique collaboration opportunity for this Chair that will enable access to the British Columbia health and social service sectors through their existing partnerships.

The successful applicant will be nominated by the university for CRC Tier 2 and, upon approval by the CRC Secretariat, will be offered a tenure track or tenured appointment. The anticipated start date is April 2020.

This CRC recruitment is part of a broad strategy to expand and raise the profile of research in health and aging at the University of Victoria. The successful candidate will be expected to engage with the UVic [Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health](#), which has a 25-year history of high-quality research, community outreach, and trainee support. Research strengths in the Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health are currently organized around cognitive health, lifelong health, and vulnerability and frailty.

Tier 2 CRC Chairs are one of Canada's premier early career recognition and recruitment programs, and are intended for exceptional emerging scholars (i.e., candidates must have been an active researcher in their field for fewer than 10 years at the time of nomination). However, applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree (and where career breaks exist) may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 Chair assessed through the program's Tier 2 [justification process](#). For more information on the CRC program generally and on eligibility specifically, please consult the [Canada Research Chairs](#) website.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering has a complement of 22 regular faculty members including three existing CRCs. We have over 150 graduate students and a large number of adjunct faculty members, research personnel, and visiting researchers. This CRC recruitment will also help support our accredited undergraduate program in Biomedical Engineering, which has over 120 students. The Division of Medical Sciences includes seven active research faculty, including one Tier 1 CRC. The

Division also has a number of affiliated faculty who actively participate in UVic's interdisciplinary neuroscience graduate program and teach in the Island Medical Program.

Both the Department of Mechanical Engineering and the Division of Medical Sciences value candidates who share our commitment to equity and inclusivity in scholarship and teaching.

Candidates will be evaluated on the criteria that follow. The successful candidate will have a PhD, will be an emerging world-class researcher in the field of Assistive Technologies who demonstrates particular research creativity; will have a critical understanding of medical devices in the context of Biomedical Engineering, and be proposing an original, innovative research program of high quality with the potential to achieve international recognition. The candidate will offer evidence of high-quality teaching and supervision, including support to diversity and inclusiveness. The successful candidate will collaborate with CanAssist – developing innovative, non-medical technologies that solve practical problems for differently abled clients. They will also facilitate integration of CanAssist's expertise into the academic and research missions of the University of Victoria along with interactions with both Mechanical Engineering and the Division of Medical Sciences. In addition, the candidate will translate the knowledge generated by their research program through the Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization office. The successful candidate will possess a degree in biomedical or mechanical engineering or a closely related field, be eligible for registration as a professional engineer, and will be expected to offer courses for our undergraduate program in Biomedical Engineering and contribute to the interdisciplinary graduate program in Neuroscience.

Candidates should submit a single PDF document that includes (1) a cover letter providing an overview of the candidate's qualifications, how they fulfill the criteria defined above, and how their research capacity will complement existing research strengths in the school; (2) a detailed curriculum vitae, (3) a maximum 4-page page description of the candidate's proposed research program, (4) a one page description of the candidate's three most important research contributions to date, (5) a maximum 2-page statement of teaching experience and approach, including evidence of teaching effectiveness, and (6) contact information for three referees. To be considered, please submit your application package via email to: meng.asst.chair@uvic.ca, with the subject line "Assistive Technologies Position" by Wednesday, 19 June 2019.

Applications should be addressed to:

Dr. Nick Dechev, PhD, PEng
Acting Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering
University of Victoria
c/o meng.asst.chair@uvic.ca

About the University of Victoria: UVic is consistently ranked in the top tier of Canada's research-intensive universities. Vital impact drives the UVic sense of purpose. As an internationally renowned teaching and research hub, we tackle essential issues that matter to people, places and the planet. Situated in the Pacific Rim, our location breeds a profound passion for exploration. Defined by its edges, this extraordinary environment inspires us to defy boundaries, discover, and innovate in exciting ways. It's different here, naturally and by design. We live, learn, work and explore on the edge of what's next—for our planet and its peoples. Our commitment to research-inspired dynamic learning and vital impact make this Canada's most extraordinary environment for discovery and innovation. Experience the edge of possibilities for yourself.

The University of Victoria community acknowledges with respect the Lkwungen-speaking peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

In accordance with the University's Equity Plan and pursuant to Section 42 of the BC Human Rights Code, preference will be given to members of the following groups: persons with disabilities and women. Candidates from these groups, who wish to qualify for preferential consideration, must self-identify.

UVic is committed to upholding the values of equity, diversity, and inclusion in our living, learning and work environments. In pursuit of our values, we seek members who will work respectfully and constructively with differences and across levels of power. We actively encourage applications from members of groups experiencing barriers to equity. Read our full equity statement here: [equity statement](#)

The University acknowledges the potential impact that career interruptions can have on a candidate's record of research achievement. We encourage applicants to explain in their application the impact that career interruptions have had on their record.

Persons with disabilities, who anticipate needing accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, may contact Faculty Relations and Academic Administration in the Office of the VP Academic and Provost at FRrecruit@uvic.ca. Any personal information provided will be maintained in confidence.

Faculty and Librarians at the University of Victoria are governed by the provisions of the Collective Agreement. Members are represented by [University of Victoria Faculty Association](http://www.uvicfa.ca) (www.uvicfa.ca).