Canada Research Chair, Tier II
Assistant or Associate Professor
Faculty of Engineering

Date Posted: January 17, 2019

Canada Research Chair Tier 2 in Smart Cities for a Sustainable Future

The University of Victoria 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 campus is located on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish Peoples and we are privileged to do our work in a way that is inspired by their history, customs and culture. Our connections to Indigenous communities – as well as global communities – are important to us.

The Faculty of Engineering invites applications for a Canada Research Chair (CRC) Tier 2 in Smart Cities for a Sustainable Future. This CRC builds upon UVic's research strengths in integrated energy systems and applied data science, and supports the University's mission of promoting sustainable futures. The successful applicant will be nominated by the University for a CRC Tier 2 and, upon approval by the CRC Secretariat, will then be offered a position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor (eligible for tenure). The anticipated start date is May 1, 2021.

Requirements

Tier 2 CRCs 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). 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 CRC will add an emerging world-class researcher to UVic’s world-leading Institute for Integrated Energy Systems (IESVic). Founded in 1989, IESVic is an interdisciplinary research centre drawing expertise from Engineering, Sciences, Social Sciences and Public Administration. IESVic has a mandate to develop sustainable energy systems with specific emphasis on a systems perspective. Since its formation, IESVic has graduated over 150 PhD and Masters students, who are well placed in energy-related careers in academia, industry and government. IESVic’s extensive impact include university-industry research partnerships, numerous spin-off companies, graduate-led start-up companies and patents. The CRC is also expected to generate research projects that contribute to the Smart Cities application areas of UVic’s recently-formed Matrix Institute for Applied Data Science. The Institute has well developed ties to the tech. industry in BC, with a strong focus on innovation and technology transfer.

The University seeks an emerging world-class researcher whose excellence in scholarship can be demonstrated in different ways, including sustained publication in top-tier journals, or high-impact writing on community-based research. The CRC should have experience in developing collaborations with government, community and industry in urban transportation planning and/or operations. Candidates must propose an original, high-quality research program, with the potential to: achieve international recognition; attract & develop excellent students and researchers; and attract external funding. Evidence of ability to develop successful inter-disciplinary research collaborations is required.

The goal of the Canada Research Chair in Smart Cities for a Sustainable Future is to lead policy-relevant smart cities research towards the design of sustainable (i.e., low-carbon and climate resilient) urban transportation systems. The CRC will build upon UVic’s leadership by focusing on accelerating the transition to resilient, net zero urban areas in Canada and abroad. Smart technologies for individual components of urban infrastructure continue to evolve, but a systems perspective is required to realize the potential for innovative solutions to energy challenges in cities. The CRC will be skilled in monitoring and/or planning of future low-carbon urban transportation within an integrated urban energy systems context.

The CRC is expected to be a high-quality teacher and supervisor, with a track record of creating inclusive class environments and supporting a diverse student body. An ability to teach core civil engineering courses in sustainable urban transportation systems (planning and operations) is required. The Chair may be appointed, and provide service, to any of the four departments of the Faculty (Civil Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical & Computer Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering), or cross-appointed between them. Applicants must hold PEng registration or be eligible for and committed to PEng registration. They must have demonstrated their support for equity, diversity and inclusiveness in university or other settings.

Additional information

Faculty and Librarians at the University of Victoria are governed by the provisions of the Collective Agreement. Members are represented by the University of Victoria Faculty Association.

Contact information

To be considered, please submit a completed application package including:

https://www.uvic.ca/opportunities/faculty-librarian/current/engn_220_098.php
(1) a cover letter providing an overview of how the candidate's qualifications fulfill the criteria above;
(2) a detailed curriculum vitae, including lists of publications and service activities;
(3) a maximum two-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 two-page statement of teaching experience and approach, including evidence of teaching effectiveness and working well with diverse students;
(6) a one-page statement identifying their strengths and experiences in promoting diversity; and
(7) contact information for three referees.

The application package should be uploaded at https://academicjobsonline.org, addressed to Dr. Chris Kennedy, Chair of Search Committee. In order to be considered, application packages must be received by February 15, 2020. You are asked to upload your C.V. and other personal information to this service, which is provided for the convenience of you and your referees. The service stores data on servers located outside of Canada; the data is therefore not in the custody or under the control of the University of Victoria. You may wish to review the privacy statement on https://academicjobsonline.org. If you do not wish to use this service, please submit your complete application package to CIVErole1@uvic.ca.

Application deadline
February 15, 2020

Equity statement
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: www.uvic.ca/equitystatement

In addition to this overarching commitment to equity and inclusion, the Faculty of Engineering is seeking to hire an exceptional faculty member with a preference for outstanding women candidates. This is in accordance with the University of Victoria's Equity Plan, and pursuant to Section 42 of the BC human rights code. The Faculty is seeking to develop an environment that nurtures high quality learning for all students and we value the role that gender diversity, amongst other factors, contributes to this goal. Candidates who wish to qualify for preferential consideration, must self-identify as a woman in their cover letter.

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.