UBC Okanagan Principal’s Research Chair 2021 Program Terms

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STRATEGIC INTENT

The goal of the UBC Okanagan Principal’s Research Chair (UBCO PRC) program is to enable recruitment of outstanding new faculty and to retain our top research scholars. The UBCO PRC program provides research support for faculty engaged in outstanding research or creative scholarship. UBCO PRCs are expected to be, or have the potential to be, leaders that will build and intensify world-renowned research at UBCO. The requirements of the UBCO PRC program generally align with the federal Tier 1 and Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs (CRCs).

Tier 1 Principal’s Research Chairs

Provided to recognized leaders of scholarship, research and creative activities.
- Open to established research leaders, usually tenured full professors with a full-time academic appointment in the research stream.
- 5-year term, renewable once.
- For the duration of the Chair’s term, Tier 1 Principal’s Research Chairs will receive an annual honorarium of $10,000 and an annual research allowance of $25,000.
- Tier 1 Principal’s Research Chairs will normally be expected to receive a teaching release from their home faculty but must maintain a minimum course load of 1.0.

Tier 2 Principal’s Research Chair

Provided to emerging leaders of scholarship, research and creative activities.
- Open to tenured or tenure-track emerging faculty research leaders with a full-time academic appointment in the research stream who are, at the time of nomination, no more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree (with allowances for career interruptions).
- 5-year term, renewable once.
- For the duration of the Chair’s term, Tier 2 Principal’s Research Chairs will receive an annual honorarium of $7,500 and an annual research allowance of $20,000.
- Tier 2 Principal’s Research Chairs will normally be expected to receive a teaching release from their home faculty but must maintain a minimum course load of 1.0. The home faculty is tasked with ensuring that the candidate’s teaching load allows development of robust teaching dossier that meets promotion and tenure requirements.

There are two streams of Principle’s research Chairs:
1. The attraction stream is aimed at recruiting top caliber faculty members to UBCO.
2. The retention stream is aimed at retaining excellent faculty members at UBCO.
ELIGIBILITY
Principal’s Research Chairs are faculty members at UBC Okanagan with a full-time academic appointment in the tenured or tenure-track research stream.

Considerations for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion: As with the CRC program, the UBC Okanagan PRC program seeks robust participation and representation from persons in the federally recognized four designated groups (FDGs): (1) women, (2) Indigenous peoples, (3) persons with disabilities and (4) members of visible minorities (racialized scholars). A strong commitment to equity should be reflected in the diversity of the candidates considered by faculties. Faculties allocated more than one PRC are required to ensure that at least 50% of their PRCs are individuals from one of the FDGs.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE
Only deans may apply for PRC allocations. Deans may submit multiple requests for Principal’s Research Chairs but are required to provide a single list ranking their attraction and retention nominations.

The UBCO Provost and the Vice-Principal, Research and Innovation (VPRI) will jointly review requests and make recommendations on UBCO PRCs to the Principal and Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

Formal offers of UBCO PRC awards to candidates are made by the Office of the VPRI.

Deans interested in requesting a Principal’s Research Chair allocation should prepare briefs (~2-3 pages per submission) that include:

- Type of award requested (Tier 1 or Tier 2; attraction or retention stream)
- The proposed position and rank, and description of the research area
- An outline explaining how the Principal’s Research Chair will support the UBC strategic plan and the faculty’s strategic research framework
- A description of supports that will be made available to the successful candidate (space, specialized equipment, admin support, teaching release, etc.)
- EDI considerations that were weighed as part of the determination of candidates
- For retention stream only - justification for using the Principal’s Research Chair for an internal nominee (i.e. for retention purposes) and the candidate’s name, position and full CV

Nomination Deadline: Application package and a ranked list of nominations from a faculty (if applicable) must submitted to vprawards.ubco@ubc.ca by 4:00 PM on June 1, 2021.

Deans will be informed of the allotment of PRCs by July 1, 2021. The Faculty will have until June 30, 2022 to complete the Chair recruitment for a PRC in the attraction stream and must submit the candidate’s full dossier for final approval to vprawards.ubco@ubc.ca.

If the Principal’s Research Chair award is not deployed within this one-year period, the allocation will return to the pool of vacant Principal’s Research Chairs and be allocated in a subsequent round. In truly exceptional circumstances, extensions of up to six months may be granted at the discretion of the Provost and VPRI.

DETAILS
Expectations of UBC Okanagan Principal’s Research Chairs: UBC Okanagan PRCs will have demonstrated excellence in research and scholarship. They will have made substantive contributions to research
leadership or will have demonstrated potential to do so. They will be expected to be active in the training of graduate and postdoctoral trainees, and provide leadership in the development of graduate and postdoctoral training programs within their disciplines.

Recognizing that UBC Okanagan’s external reputation and research standing depends to an important degree on our share of Tri-Agency funding, UBC Okanagan PRCs are expected to be active beneficiaries of Tri-Agency funding and to benefit from other funding opportunities as may be appropriate to their discipline. PRCs are expected to recognize the importance of translating their scholarship, research findings and/or creative activities into tangible benefits to society, through knowledge exchange, translation and mobilization efforts.

**Terms of the Principal’s Research Chair grant and reporting:** The term of the Principal’s Research Chair is five years and a Principal’s Research Chair is eligible to be nominated for a second five-year term. Disbursement of the honorarium and research allowance for years two and beyond is conditional upon receipt and approval of a brief annual report from the candidate that describes progress towards the research and training goals articulated in the proposal. *Reports are due on March 1 of each year.* A report template can be found on the VPRI website.

A Principal’s Research Chair cannot be co-held with government funded research Chairs, such as a Canada Research Chair or a Tri-Agency funded Chair (e.g. an NSERC Industrial Research Chair), or with internal endowed or named Chairs. Principal’s Research Chairs can be combined with Aspire awards.

**Grant Administration:** A research grant account will be established for the PRC’s research allowance. All eligible expenditures must be incurred prior to the end of the Principal’s Research Chair term, after which time any unspent funds will be returned to the VPRI. With justification, a one-year, no-cost extension may be granted at the end of the Principal’s Research Chair term at the discretion of the VPRI.

The Principal’s Research Chairholder is responsible for financial oversight of the research allowance. All expenses must comply with the most current Tri-Agency Financial Administration guide (TAGFA) and UBC Finance expenditure guidelines.

The annual honorarium portion of the Principal’s Research Chair’s award will be paid as a supplement to the award holder’s regular professorial salary. The honorarium account will be administered by the Chairholder’s faculty/unit office.

**Official Chairholder Title:** The name of the Principal’s Research Chair should follow the convention of "UBC Okanagan Principal’s Research Chair in (area of research).” The title should be as short and simple as possible and not use symbols or abbreviations. The chair name must be provided to the program manager prior to the award start date.

**PROGRAM MANAGER**

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