



OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES
November 2006 - Newsletter

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ORS Facilitates Ryerson SSHRC – SIG Research Grant Information Session for Faculty Researchers

An Information Session was held on October 25th in Eric Palin Hall to review program guidelines and the on-line submission process for the upcoming Ryerson SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG) Research Grant competition.

Previous SIG award winners Dr. Ida Berger, Business Management, Faculty of Business and Alex Wellington, Philosophy, Faculty of Arts, were guest speakers at the session. They shared their research strategy in securing a successful Ryerson SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG) and how it led to the development of an external grant proposal to Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

Faculty researchers also learned about the short term value in applying for a variety of internally funded research programs and how to leverage it into the longer term strategy of applying to external sponsors.

Thirteen faculty researchers attended the Information Session with representation from the Faculty of Arts, Business, Community Services and Communication and Design.

The Ryerson SSHRC - SIG Research Grant provides funds to Ryerson faculty members pursuing research in the social sciences and humanities for small research seed projects. Funds for this program are provided by SSHRC and the Office of Research Services (ORS). Awards of up to \$7,000 for research applications are available to faculty researchers. Deadline for submission is Wednesday, November 15 at 5 p.m.

Normally only full-time tenured, tenure-track, or Limited Term faculty members are eligible for support under this program.

For more information, please visit the ORS website at:

http://www.ryerson.ca/ors/forms/sig_research.html



Alex Wellington
 Philosophy
 Faculty of Arts

Ida Berger
 Business Management
 Faculty of Business



Faculty members at the Information Session

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Upcoming Events and Workshops

NOVEMBER 2006

RYERSON CREATIVE FUND INFORMATION SESSION

November 9, 2006, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, EPH 433

RSVP: Elizabeth Mota, ext. 6531 or email:

emota@ryerson.ca

A review of the guidelines and on-line application process. When possible, faculty award winners from previous years will be invited to attend to share their research experiences in applying for these grants.

LEARN TO USE COS TO ADVANCE YOUR RESEARCH

November 21, 2006, 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm, EPH 314

RSVP: Elizabeth Mota, ext. 6531 or email:

emota@ryerson.ca

Community of Science or COS is a global research collaboration network of nearly 500,000 profiles of scientists and scholars with nearly 1,000 academic, corporate, sponsor, government and media organizations.

Learn to search the comprehensive funding resource, with more than 22,000 records representing nearly 400,000 opportunities, worth over \$33 billion. Monies are available for work in all disciplines including physical sciences, social sciences, life sciences, health & medicine, arts & humanities. This 90 minute hands-on information session will show you how to use the COS resource to your advantage and answer:

- What is COS and why should I use the funding resource?
- What are the various COS databases?
- How do I search for funding opportunities or experts?
- How do I create my profile?
- How do I create an automatic funding email alert?

WHAT IS A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT AND WHAT IS IT REALLY FOR?

November 27, 2006, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm EPH 433

RSVP: Galina Maliouta, ext. 7287 or email:

gmaliout@ryerson.ca

Industrial partners and collaborators sometimes need to exchange confidential information within a research relationship. What is reasonable and what isn't in a confidentiality agreement? Who does it protect and for whom does it represent a liability? When is it necessary? Learn the answers to these and other questions.

JANUARY 2007

CIHR OPERATING GRANT APPLICATIONS INFORMATION SESSION

Date and Time TBA

Contact: Jane Burns, Grants/Contract Officer, ext. 6606, or email:

mjburns@ryerson.ca

This presentation will provide an insider view on writing a successful CIHR application.

RYERSON NEW FACULTY SRC DEVELOPMENT FUND INFORMATION SESSION

January 11, 2007, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, EPH 433

RSVP: Elizabeth Mota, ext. 6531 or email: emota@ryerson.ca

A review of the guidelines and on-line application process. When possible, faculty award winners from previous years will be invited to attend to share their research experiences in applying for these grants.

MARCH 2007

CANADA FOUNDATION FOR INNOVATION (CFI): REPORTING OBLIGATIONS AND IOF EXPENSE PROJECTION DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

Time and Date TBA Contact

RSVP: Kathy Peter, email: kpeter@ryerson.ca

For more information contact: Paul McArthur, Grants/Contracts Officer, ext. 4841 or email pmcarthur@ryerson.ca

APRIL 2007

NEW GRANTS FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SESSION

April 26, 2007, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm, EPH 441

For more information contact: Rose Jackson, Coordinator, Research Projects Administration ext. 6605 or email rjackson@ryerson.ca.

EVENTS AND WORKSHOPS (continued)

STAYED TUNED...

ONTARIO MINISTRY OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (MRI): EARLY RESEARCHER AWARD (ERA) Workshop date to be announced soon

The Early Researcher Award workshop will be of interest to faculty who wish to build their research teams and have access to funds to cover the salaries and benefits of graduate students and research associates plus travel and expenses related to conferences. The application process is available to full-time faculty, actively involved in research, within the first five years of their research career and is open on a competitive basis.

For more information contact:

Paul McArthur
Grants/Contracts Officer
Ext. 4841
E-mail: pmcarth@ryerson.ca

WORKSHOPS IN DEVELOPMENT

Further announcements to be made:

- How to market your research to industry
- Writing collaborative grant proposals

UPCOMING DEADLINES

November 10 – SSHRC: Northern Development Program

November 15 – Fulbright deadline for Traditional Fulbright Scholar Award and Canada-US Fulbright Visiting Research Chairs

November 15 – Ryerson SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG)

November 15 – Registration: The Advanced Foods and Materials Network (AFMNet), Strategic Transition & Application of Research Program

November 20 – SSHRC: Crossing Boundaries Research Initiative

November 24 – Expression of Interest: Genome Canada: Position Papers in Strategic Research Areas

December 1 – Ryerson Creative Fund

December 4 – CIHR: Letter of Intent: Annual Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI)

December 8 – SSHRC: Aboriginal Research: Development and Research Grants

December 15 – CIHR: Michael Smith Prize in Health Research: Canada's Health Researcher of the Year

December 18 – NCE: AUTO21, Automotive Focused Research Projects, Application Deadline (Step 3)

January 15 – Letter of Intent: Genome Canada, Technology Development Competition

January 22 – Ryerson New Faculty SRC Development Fund

January 31 – SSHRC: Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI)

Any time – NSERC: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)/NSERC Research Partnerships Program

Any time – NSERC: Northern Research Internships

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

MESSAGE FROM SSHRC

Changes to the Official Languages Research and Dissemination Program

At Heritage Canada's request, this program now offers research grants under the theme of Sustainable Development of Francophone Minority Communities outside Québec. SSHRC and Canadian Heritage have also extended the deadline for applications by one week to November 7, 2006.

If you have any additional questions about this program, please contact the following program officer:

Mathieu Ravignat
Tel: (613) 947-3724
E-mail: mathieu.ravignat@sshrc.ca

Multiculturalism Issues in Canada

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) in partnership with the Multiculturalism Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage, wishes to inform all CAURA members that the 4th competition for the Multiculturalism Issues in Canada program will not take place as planned.

If you have any additional questions about this program, please contact the following program officer:

Luc Lebrun
Tel: (613) 947-9652
E-mail: luc.lebrun@sshrc.ca

Law Reform Commission of Canada

Competitions planned for the two programs organized by SSHRC in partnership with the Law Commission of Canada: Virtual Scholar in Residence and Relationships in Transition - will not proceed at the request of the Law Commission of Canada.

If you have any additional questions about this program, please contact the following program officer:

Éric Bastien
Tel: (613) 992-3407
E-mail: eric.bastien@sshrc.ca

MESSAGE FROM CIHR

International Review Panel Report Update on the CIHR Response - President's Message

In June 2006, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) made public the "Year 5 - International Review Panel Report, 2000-2005" prepared by the International Review Panel (IRP), which conducted CIHR's first external review.

The Panel applauded CIHR for what has been accomplished to date, noting that Canada is setting an example to the world. Indeed, the announcement, in March this year, of the intent to reorganize funding arrangements for health research in the U.K., is testimony to the compelling vision of CIHR. Not surprisingly, many of the Panel's observations echoed comments that we receive time and again from researchers, for example about the complexity and number of our programs and the consequent strain on the peer review system.

Given the complexity of the issues raised by the Panel's observations and the potential impact on CIHR's stakeholders, I indicated in my first message on this subject (June 28, 2006 <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/31689.html>) that we would take the time necessary to deliberate and reflect on each of the observations before taking action. I also assured you that in developing our response, we would be seeking broad input.

During its August 24-25 Retreat, Governing Council (GC) had the opportunity to reflect at length on the IRP's observations. CIHR's senior management and Institute Scientific Directors also had the opportunity to review GC's discussions, as well as discuss and propose possible changes to the current structure, at the September Research Priorities and Planning Committee (RPPC) meeting.

We recently initiated discussions with the research community about some of the steps we are contemplating to respond to the Report's observations. I met with the Chairs and Scientific Officers (SO) of our peer review committees on September 27, 2006, as part of their annual meeting. I sought their views on the following issues: how to improve Peer Review, solutions to our financial constraints, including the possibility of shifting to a single Open Competition a year. Details follow below:

1) New Research and Knowledge Translation Committee

"It seems inescapable that, given this important role played by SDs in creating a strategic vision for CIHR and their emerging role as advocates for both Institutes and related panels, SDs should now be given further responsibility to oversee the panel activity in their scientific area. It would also seem reasonable that a future role for SDs might be to form the core of the central committee replacing the Research Priorities and Planning Committee (RPPC) responsible for the allocation of the whole research budget. Such a committee would resolve the important outstanding issue of accountability and responsibility for funding decisions and its alignment with the strategy endorsed by the GC."

(Year 5 - International Review Panel Report, 2000-2005, p 30)

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

One important direction suggested by the IRP was the creation of a single research and knowledge translation (KT) committee to account for all research-related decision-making within CIHR, including allocation of the budget. The IRP also suggested that Governing Council devolve some of its responsibilities down to this new Committee.

GC has had the opportunity to reflect on these observations at length and determined that the creation of a single research and KT committee is the right direction for CIHR. They have asked CIHR management to establish this new Committee, which would be responsible for overseeing both CIHR's open grants and strategic programs, including knowledge translation.

Work is currently underway to define the terms of reference for this new Research and KT Committee (RKTC), which will combine the work of the current Standing Committee for Oversight of Grants and Awards Competitions (SCOGAC) and Research Priorities and Planning Committee (RPPC) in one body.

The bridging of the divide between the Institutes and CIHR's open competitions will be an important step forward in creating a more integrated approach to all of our research and Knowledge Translation programs.

2) Improving Peer Review

"An explosion of new initiatives, new panels and new funding streams has also put a very considerable pressure on the peer review system and we were told that researchers are now suffering from significant review fatigue. Ensuring that panels are supplied with high quality and senior scientists is apparently proving difficult and the changing of panels due to potential conflicts of interest makes these problems even more difficult. The small size and short duration of some grants, the establishment of a large number of new grants committees and the presence of committees that see few proposals suggests that the peer review system is perhaps not being optimally managed. There appears to be no open and transparent process for the establishment of new panels, nor does there appear to be clear criteria or process for their evaluation and, in the event that a particular panel is no longer needed, how this decision is to be reached. There have been many new panels established and none eliminated in the past six years.

These challenges associated with the peer review panel system illustrate some of the current risks associated with rapid growth and increased complexity. It would be timely for this important activity within the CIHR to be reviewed and possibly restructured."

(Year 5 - International Review Panel Report, 2000-2005, p 23)

The Research and Knowledge Translation Committee (RKTC) will need to tackle fundamental issues to address quickly the strain on CIHR's peer review system, an area of improvement suggested by the IRP. Much work has been done, and continues to be done, to improve the current CIHR Peer Review system. That work is important, but, in my view, "tweaking" the system will likely get us only so far. I believe that, as a community, we must begin a serious exploration of alternative approaches and consider the possibility of more profound changes. I am not advocating any particular approach, only that it is imperative that we now begin a dialogue about the sustainability of our peer review system.

During the recent Chairs and SOs meeting, we began a discussion on how CIHR's Peer Review System might be achieved. As we move forward, it is important to remember that peer review is absolutely key to identifying those grant applications that are addressing the most exciting and important questions, and that have the highest likelihood of achieving their objectives. At the same time, peer review is only a means to an end: our ultimate objective is not just excellence in peer review, but excellence in the research and Knowledge Translation that we fund.

3) The CIHR Operating Grants Program

One far-reaching change that we have only recently begun to consider is a transition to a single, annual operating grant competition. With a single competition, CIHR would be better positioned to streamline peer review, improve planning and budgeting and better integrate with targeted programming.

Such a move would, of course, reduce the number of opportunities for funding through CIHR but would not reduce our total investment in operating grants. We realize that this is not a decision to be taken lightly. However, from a peer review perspective, re-review of unsuccessful grants re-submitted only days after decision from one competition to the next have become an increasing reality.

Obviously, this would be a very significant decision and we must make it with full input from the community on the pros and cons from all perspectives. CIHR's senior management and Institute Scientific Directors are currently reviewing options, including transition plans and impacts.

The Chairs and SOs meeting is the first public forum in which I have raised this possibility. We need to hear your reactions early in our deliberations. I invite you to share your thoughts on this and on other solutions you might have to meeting the challenge of increasing demand, pressures on the peer review system, and how best to support Canadian health research.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

4) Fewer and Larger RFAs

Simultaneously with examining the Operating Grants Program, we have also been discussing the need to better integrate targeted programming, streamline our planning and budgeting and focus on larger and fewer initiatives. I invite your comments on the number and range of RFAs currently available to the research community and your suggestions of ways of focusing our RFA opportunities.

5) Equipment Grants

CIHR has been funding infrastructure (equipment, research resources and maintenance) in an inconsistent manner over the past years. This unpredictability has caused growing unease in the research community and has caused budgeting and planning difficulties at CIHR. This issue was discussed at the last RPPC and there was agreement that CIHR needs to implement a consistent strategy for equipment funding. This strategy will be developed in the coming weeks and shared with the research community.

6) The 2007-08 Grants and Awards Budget

Your engagement is all the more important as we enter a period where the growth in CIHR's budget may be slower than it has been over the past six years and where application pressure - with increasing numbers of applications and in the ever-increasing quality of the applications - is expected to continue to far outstrip CIHR's ability to keep pace.

As I have stated many times in discussions with the research community, while CIHR has received steady and remarkable increases in its budget since our inception six years ago, federal appropriations to CIHR has not yet reached the one billion dollars mark. As such, with much of our money tied up in forward commitments, and a budgetary increase in 06-07 that was less than the cost of inflation, there is precious little new money for new grant proposals and renewals.

Next year (07-08), we are not planning for a significant budget increase, and so the constraints on our ability to fund the number of grants and their dollar value will remain. Without a significant budget increase from the federal government in the next fiscal year, we will have available only about 2/3rds of the funds for new investments compared to what we have this year. It is clear that some difficult decisions will need to be made. We need your guidance, advice, and support as we begin to define our approach to meeting this challenge.

Dr. Alan Bernstein
CIHR President

ONLINE GUIDES

CIHR: Grants and Awards Guides

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/805.html>

NSERC: Use of Grants Funds

http://www.nserc.gc.ca/professors_e.asp?nav=profnav&lbi=f3

SSHRC: Using your Funds

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/using/using_e.asp

TRI - AGENCY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NSERC - Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

<http://www.nserc.gc.ca/index.htm>

NSERC NORTHERN RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

Deadline: Anytime to NSERC

[http://www.nserc.ca/sf_e.asp?nav=sfnv
&lbi=nri](http://www.nserc.ca/sf_e.asp?nav=sfnv&lbi=nri)

NSERC Northern Research Internships supports third and fourth year undergraduate students, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows pursuing studies in the Canadian North by facilitating extended stays and subsidizing the costs associated with activities in the North. Up to 30 awards per year are available with a high success rate (80-90%).

- For the purposes of the program, Canada's North is defined as the land- and ocean-based territory that lies above the line of discontinuous permafrost, from northern British Columbia to northern Labrador.
- Organizations not located in the North but which have land or offices in the North and that interact with Northerners may be considered.

The award value is \$375 per week depending upon eligibility for 12-16 weeks and a \$4,000 allowance allocated for travel and logistics.

Eligibility applicants must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada; an undergraduate student in the third or fourth year of their program or a graduate student, or have received a Ph.D. in the natural sciences or engineering, within the past five years; and have secured a formal agreement with a northern partner, who will contribute financially to the internship or will provide in-kind support.

AGRICULTURE & AGRI-FOOD CANADA (AAFC)/ NSERC RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Deadline: Any time

http://www.nserc.ca/professors_e.asp?nav=profnav&lbi=b5_4

The program is designed to support research, research training and commercialization activities (pilot projects) through funding of well-defined collaborative projects involving university and college researchers and the agriculture and agri-food industry. The program supports research in the following areas: Environmental Health, Sustainable Production Systems (Animal and Plant), Bioproducts and Bioprocesses, and Food Safety and Quality.

Direct project costs are shared by the industrial partner(s), AAFC and NSERC. Projects may range from one to five years in duration but most awards are for two or three years. Maximum funding level: \$200,000 per year

Research Priorities:

Proposals should fall within the following AAFC priority research areas as defined under the Agricultural Policy Framework. Applicants are encouraged to consult with AAFC researchers in one or more of AAFC's National Science Programs to explore opportunities to establish complementary research programs, noting, however, that grants are available only to support university research. Priority areas for research are:

- Environmental Health
- Sustainable Production Systems - Animals
- Sustainable Production Systems - Plants
- Bioproducts and Bioprocesses
- Food Safety and Quality

Projects can be at any point in the R&D spectrum that is consistent with the university's research, training and technology transfer mandate. Eligible collaborations include focused projects with specific short- to medium-term objectives and also those that are discrete phases in a program of longer-term research. Projects that focus on the routine application of existing technology, provide routine analysis, collect data without interpreting underlying mechanisms, or provide professional practice or consulting services are not eligible.

Eligibility:

Open to eligible faculty members of Canadian universities under the usual NSERC guidelines. Collaboration with AAFC researchers is encouraged but they cannot receive funds from the program.

Additional Information:

Questions about the program, its objectives, policies, completion of forms, etc. should be addressed to:

Contact:
Doris Braslins
Account Manager, Bio-Industries,
Research Partnerships Programs
NSERC
Tel: (613) 996-7229
Fax: (613) 992-5337
E-mail: doris.braslins@nserc.ca

Further details are available
on all programs on the ORS
website

<http://www.ryerson.ca/ors>

TRI - AGENCY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

CIHR – CANADIAN INSTITUTES FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/>

PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEALTH SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT (PHSI)

Deadlines:

December 4, 2006 - Letters of Intent

April 2, 2007 - Full Application

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/32476.html>

The purpose of this initiative is to support teams of researchers and decision-makers interested in conducting applied health research useful to health system managers and/or policy makers. Successful teams will conduct health services, health systems and policy research (including public health) projects of up to three years in length, in high priority thematic areas.

CIHR and a variety of partners, such as provincial health research organizations, provincial governments and the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation, support the PHSI initiative.

This year, two new partners will support the program - the CIHR-Institute of Infection and Immunity Pandemic Preparedness Research Initiative; and the joint CIHR-Institute of Population and Public Health and Public Health Agency of Canada-Office of Public Health Practice Initiative.

This year's competition also includes a CV module designed specifically for decision maker applicants, based on community feedback on the previous competitions.

MICHAEL SMITH PRIZE IN HEALTH RESEARCH: CANADA'S HEALTH RESEARCHER OF THE YEAR, Call for Nominations

Deadline: December 15

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/22389.html>

CIHR welcomes nominations for the CIHR Michael Smith Prize in Health Research: Canada's Health Researcher of the Year, CIHR's most prestigious research award. This prize was established to honour Dr. Michael Smith who shared the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1993, and is provided annually to an outstanding Canadian researcher who has demonstrated a high degree of innovation, creativity, leadership and dedication in health research. Candidates must be nominated by a member of the Canadian health research community and be endorsed by the executive head of the candidate's institution. Nominations must be submitted to CIHR by December 15, 2006.

Contact CIHR for more information:

Tel: (613) 954-1961

E-mail: dlalonde@cihr-irsc.gc.ca

SSHRC - Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_index_e.asp

NORTHERN RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Deadline: November 10

Value: The maximum value of a Northern Research Development grant is \$40,000 over two years

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/northern_e.asp

Description: Proposals may request support for the direct costs of research or for research-related activities. These latter include "summer institutes," conferences, community workshops, and networking activities that will create research partnerships and develop collaboration with northern communities.

All proposals, including those seeking support for such activities as workshops and conferences:

- must meet the program objectives set out in the previous section;
- should involve Northern residents, communities or researchers;
- should lead to new research projects undertaken in partnership with Northern residents, communities or researchers.

Applicants for support under this program must clearly state how the research they are proposing will pave the way for or otherwise support future research and related activities.

Contact:

Luc Lebrun
Program Officer
Strategic Programs and Joint Initiatives
Division
SSHRC
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K1P 6G4
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TRI - AGENCY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

CROSSING BOUNDARIES RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Deadline: November 20

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/ine/boundaries_e.asp

Objectives: This competition of the Crossing Boundaries Research Initiative invites proposals for policy-relevant research papers that explore the implications for Canadian federalism of the emerging approach to the delivery of government services commonly called **citizen-centred service**.

SSHRC's partner in this joint initiative is the Crossing Boundaries National Council, a not-for-profit forum of public servants and elected representatives from all three levels of government as well as from Canada's Aboriginal community. Its mission is to foster Canada's development as an information society through a more citizen-centered approach to government and governance.

The research of the successful applicant will contribute to the Crossing Boundaries National Council's ongoing efforts to develop evidence-based policy options for key issues that citizen-centred service raises for the future of the Canadian federation.

Contact:

Garry Pinard
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OR

Donald G. Lenihan
Chief Executive Officer
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Tel: (613) 594-4795 ext. 202
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E-mail: dlenihan@crossingboundaries.ca

STRATEGIC KNOWLEDGE CLUSTERS

Deadline: November 20

Value: Up to \$300,000 annually for up to seven years. Up to seven grants will be awarded in this competition.

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/knowledge_cluster_e.asp

Objectives: The overall objective of the Strategic Knowledge Clusters program is to build upon and add value to research supported through SSHRC's other programs by supporting Canadian researchers in their efforts to develop and sustain creative, innovative knowledge networks.

Through such support, the program seeks to foster and enhance:

- synthesis and application of humanities and social sciences research knowledge in areas in which Canadian researchers demonstrate strength and which are of importance for Canadian society;
- collaborative knowledge partnerships able to leverage external funding that will support new research in the humanities and social sciences;
- the international role and impact of Canadian social sciences and humanities research.

Description: For the purposes of this program, a strategic knowledge cluster is a national or international network of researchers in the social sciences and/or humanities that fosters collaboration or otherwise contributes to a particular issue, theme or content area.

Many research issues demand a range of expertise beyond that of any individual researcher, discipline, institution and, in many cases, country. These are best served by multidisciplinary teams located across a variety of institutions both within Canada and abroad. Strategic knowledge clusters benefit researchers and Canadian society by providing opportunities for scholars, in partnership with diverse stakeholders outside academia, to bring research knowledge to bear on issues of intellectual, social, economic, political and cultural importance with a focus and force that would not otherwise be possible.

These sustainable knowledge partnerships may vary in size and scope, but all build on existing research strengths to make the whole greater than the sum of its parts. Clusters add value to research activities by developing and using infrastructure that enables researchers to connect and interact, on an ongoing basis, with each other, with users of research and other stakeholders, and with the general public.

Strategic knowledge clusters do not provide direct support for research projects: their activities focus on networking, mobilizing knowledge, and facilitating the impact of research knowledge.

For example, successful strategic knowledge clusters will:

- focus on issues, themes, and content areas on which Canada offers both an existing critical mass of expertise and specific opportunities for research and research training;
- facilitate intellectual exchange and cross-fertilization of ideas among Canadian and foreign researchers;
- facilitate the work of researchers and users of research in the non-profit, public and private sectors who are collaboratively seeking solutions to complex issues;
- catalyze new understanding of, and perspectives on, critical intellectual, cultural, social and economic issues as well as new practices that effectively respond to them;
- add value to research projects already supported through other SSHRC programs;
- involve students and new researchers;
- provide for the geographic mobility of participants (students and researchers);
- secure financial and in-kind contributions from a range of partnering organizations, including the host institution;
- extend and enhance international connections at all levels.

Contact:

Mathieu Ravignat
Program Officer
Strategic Programs and Joint Initiatives
Tel: (613) 947-3724
E-mail: mathieu.ravignat@sshrc.ca

TRI - AGENCY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

ABORIGINAL RESEARCH: DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH GRANTS

**Value: Development Grants,
up to \$25,000**

Deadline: December 8

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/aboriginal_e.asp

**Research Grants: up to \$100,000
annually with a maximum of \$250,000
over 3 years**

Description: This program seeks to build Canada's capacity, at the postsecondary level, to engage research questions that are of concern to Aboriginal peoples in ways that capitalize on knowledge, experience and traditions developed among and in partnership with those peoples.

The program supports, in particular, but not exclusively:

- international comparative studies;
- new approaches and methods of inquiry that will build understanding of the dynamics and significance of Aboriginal knowledge; and,
- effective mobilization of knowledge within Aboriginal and other communities.

The program offers two support mechanisms: Development Grants and Research Grants.

Development Grants support the development of research partnerships and detailed proposals for research grants, whether under this or other funding programs. The grants can be used, for example, to fund research workshops, research networks, community research consultations, and the development of research ideas and methodologies.

Given that one of the program's specific objectives is to generate significant research training opportunities for Aboriginal students, applications for **Research Grants** should include stipends for undergraduate, master's or doctoral students or postdoctoral researchers, as appropriate, with priority given to Aboriginal students. Applicants should note these stipends cannot be transferred to cover other budget expenses. Proposals for either type of grant should also emphasize the effective mobilization or transfer of insights, information, and other benefits gained from research within and between Aboriginal, academic and other communities.

Contact:

Laurent Messier
Acting Senior Program Officer
Strategic Grants and Joint Initiatives
Division
Tel: (613) 943-1148
E-mail: laurent.messier@sshrc.ca

MAJOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH INITIATIVES (MCRI)

Deadline: January 31, 2007 - Letter of Intent

http://www.sshrc.ca/web/apply/program_descriptions/mcric_e.asp

Objectives: The Major Collaborative Research Initiatives (MCRI) program supports leading edge research with true potential for intellectual breakthrough that addresses broad and critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance through the effective coordination and integration of diverse research activities and research results.

The conceptual framework and research questions of MCRI projects should be of such breadth and scope as to require the participation of many scholars of different perspectives and with different types of expertise working together in an enriching and effective fashion.

The size and composition of the research team should be determined by the complexity of the issues under study. In addition, there should be a mechanism in place to facilitate dialogue among the various disciplines that is necessary to explore fully the multifaceted and complex issues under investigation.

The MCRI program seeks to support research with a strong analytical component, research of such significance and quality that it brings international recognition to the team, involves appropriate partners and stakeholders and produces results that will have a major impact on Canadian scholarship and society.

This issue-driven program seeks to strengthen Canadian research capacity in the humanities and social sciences by promoting broadly-based research and unique student training opportunities in a collaborative, interdisciplinary, inter-university research environment.

The program is intended for leading scholars with solid track records and past experience in collaborative research, student training and grant management, and who demonstrate the leadership and other skills necessary for managing a complex, interdisciplinary, multi-institutional project.

TRI - AGENCY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

The MCRI program seeks to support research with a strong analytical component, research of such significance and quality that it brings international recognition to the team, involves appropriate partners and stakeholders and produces results that will have a major impact on Canadian scholarship and society.

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The program is intended for leading scholars with solid track records and past experience in collaborative research, student training and grant management, and who demonstrate the leadership and other skills necessary for managing a complex, interdisciplinary, multi-institutional project.

The MCRI program also seeks to foster unique opportunities to collaborate on important international research in which the Canadian team plays the lead role in the direction of the research. International scholars can be invited to join an MCRI team as [co-applicants](#) (co-investigators) or visiting scholars. However, the number of international scholars appointed as co-investigators cannot exceed the number of Canadian co-investigators on the research team. Funding allocations should also reflect this balance.

The specific objectives of the MCRI program are to:

- support leading edge, collaborative research that meets high standards of excellence, promises a significant contribution to the advancement and transfer of knowledge in the humanities and social sciences, and encourages discussion and debate from a broad perspective on critical issues of intellectual, social, economic and cultural significance for Canadian scholarship and society;
- promote broadly based collaborative research as the central mode of research activity—both within and among disciplines, departments, and faculties as well as with other sciences at universities across the country and abroad;
- promote the development of active partnerships with private or public sector groups to ensure their participation in the design and conduct of the research project and in the dissemination of research results;
- promote the development of links with appropriate stakeholders;
- provide unique opportunities for training students and postdoctoral fellows in a collaborative, interdisciplinary research environment;
- support research that achieves integrated and comprehensive syntheses of the issues under study;
- encourage dynamic and innovative approaches to disseminating research findings that will have a major impact on Canadian scholarship and society by reaching both traditional and new audiences, including Canadian and international scholars, policy makers, stakeholders and the general public;

- involve postsecondary institutions in long-term commitments to the development of unique, large-scale inter-university research initiatives.

Contact:

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MCRI Program Coordinator
Tel: (613) 947-9659
Fax: (613) 992-7635
E-mail: brenda.werrell@sshrc.ca

Looking for a specific form?

Some of the forms available on the ORS website:

- Research Grant/Contract Authorization
- Research Travel Authorization
- Lost Receipt Declaration
- Research Involving Animals
- Research Involving Human Subjects
- Research Involving Biohazardous Materials
- Risk Assessment
- Invention Disclosure
- Software Disclosure

Visit the ORS website for more information:

<http://www.ryerson.ca/ors/forms>

OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

Deadline: November 15

http://www.cies.org/vs_scholars/vs_awards/

Excellence in scholarship, along with community service, are the hallmarks of the Fulbright Program. The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program strengthens binational collaborative research and promotes thoughtful public debate on topics that reflect the broad range of contemporary issues relevant to Canada, the United States and the relationship between the two countries.

The Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program operates on the principle of reciprocal exchange and provides the opportunity for outstanding Canadian and American students and scholars to lecture, research and pursue graduate study in the United States and Canada, respectively. Award recipients include prominent and promising scholars, experienced and junior professionals and exceptional students.

Eligibility Requirements: Canada-U.S. Fulbright Program grants are open to Canadian and American citizens. Please refer to the individual award descriptions for detailed eligibility requirements and application instructions.

Awards available to Canadian and American scholars.

Traditional Fulbright Scholar Awards enable emerging and established scholars, post-doctoral researchers and experienced professionals to conduct research, teach or undertake a combination of both activities for one semester or a full academic year at a university or research centre of their choice in the host country. Applicants must have received a Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree by December 31, 2006 or have equivalent professional experience.

Canada-US Fulbright Visiting Research Chairs enable prominent and promising scholars and experienced professionals to conduct research and guest lecture at select American and Canadian universities and research centres, normally for one semester, though this may be extended to a full academic year. Applicants must have received a Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree by December 31, 2006 or have equivalent professional experience.

THE ADVANCED FOODS AND MATERIALS NETWORK (AFMNET) STRATEGIC TRANSITION & APPLICATION OF RESEARCH PROGRAM (STAR)

Deadlines:

November 15 - Registration

December 15 - Full proposal

www.afmnet.ca

Description: AFMNet, a Canadian Network of Centres of Excellence, announces its new Strategic Transition & Application of Research program. This program aims to:

“Exploit research results and developments (IP) that promise to advance knowledge and technology transfer in emerging areas related to foods and bio-materials research by supporting Proof of Principle and Knowledge Mobilization projects which are of benefit and relevance to the social and economic health of Canada.”

Funding of up to \$150,000 per project (one year, non-renewable) is available.

Decisions will be announced in Mid-February. Funding will begin March 1, 2007.

Registration and submission of proposals will be via AFMNet's web based application tool at www.afmnet.ca

Contact:

Fouad Elgindy
Program Officer
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Fax: (519) 824-8453
E-mail: fouad.elgindy@afmnet.ca

GENOME CANADA, POSITION PAPERS IN STRATEGIC RESEARCH AREAS

Deadlines:

November 24 – EOI

December 15 – Registration

<http://www.genomecanada.ca/position-papers>

Deadlines: Expressions of Interest (EOI) will be accepted until November 24, 2006. Registrations of support for an EOI will be accepted until December 15, 2006. Strategic Research Themes will be announced on January 15, 2007.

Objectives: To secure future rounds of funding for genomics and proteomics research Genome Canada has launched a process to identify Strategic Research Themes of national importance and to develop position papers in these areas.

Web site: Please see the Genome Canada web site at:

<http://www.genomecanada.ca/position-papers> for details contained in the "Request for Position Papers" and the "Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria for Position Papers".

Contact:

The role of the Ontario Genomics Institute (OGI) as one of the Genome Centres will be to help with networking and to facilitate that emerging Strategic Research Themes will be supported across Canada. One of the eligibility criteria for submitting EOIs is support from at least two Genome Centres. OGI will aid in obtaining such support. Researchers that are drafting EOI's are encouraged to contact:

For more information, please contact:

Klaus Fiebig
E-mail: kfiebig@OntarioGenomics.ca

OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

GENOME CANADA, TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COMPETITION

Deadlines:

January 15, 2007 - Letters of Intent at OGI

February 1, 2007 - LOI at Genome Canada

<http://www.genomecanada.ca/xresearchers/competitions/cTD/TechDev.asp?l=e&>

Deadlines: January 15th, 2007 - deadline for receipt of Letters of Intent at OGI

February 1st, 2007 - deadline date for receipt of Letters of Intent at Genome Canada

A call for full proposals will be made once Genome Canada receives new funding.

Description: Genome Canada has launched a competition to foster the development of new technologies applicable to genomics and proteomics research. The goal of this competition is to develop new and improved technology that will be broadly applicable to genomics, proteomics, or related areas.

The competition will proceed via a two stage process: (1) submission and review of Letters of Intent (LOI) and (2) invitation and review of Full proposals. LOIs will be submitted through the Genome Centre (for Ontario the Ontario Genomics Institute - OGI).

Contact:

The Ontario Genomics Institute (OGI) will help and aid in the LOI submission process. On a voluntary basis, highly recommended to researchers new to the Genome Canada submission process, OGI will offer to critique and review LOIs in advance of the January 15th submission date. In past completions this feedback has been highly valued. In any case OGI encourages potential applicants to contact OGI at:

TechDev@OntarioGenomics.ca early on as they can provide feedback on the scope and fit of your planned technology development project.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Deadline: February 1, 2007 -

Application to ABMRF

<http://www.abmrf.org/grants.htm>

The ABMRF supports research on important aspects of alcohol consumption and its effects. The following four main areas are of particular interest:

- Factors influencing transitions in drinking patterns and behavior;
- Effects of moderate use of alcohol on health and well-being;
- Mechanisms underlying the behavioral and biomedical effects of alcohol; and
- Biobehavioral/interdisciplinary research on the etiology of alcohol misuse.

The Foundation does not encourage applications on the treatment of the complications of advanced alcoholism; however, research involving treatment intended to elucidate the pathogenesis of alcohol-related problems will be considered. Non-research activities such as education projects, public awareness efforts and referral services are not eligible for support.

An overhead component of 15% of total direct costs is permitted by the Foundation and all application budgets should include this line item.

Consult the ABMRF website for specific details and the guidelines and application procedures.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF CANADA RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2007/2008

Deadline: April 30, 2007

http://www.gallery.ca/english/default_74.htm

The Research Fellowship Program of the National Gallery of Canada encourages and supports advanced research. 2007/2008 fellowships are offered in the field of Canadian Art. The fellowships emphasise the use and investigation of the collections of the National Gallery of Canada, including those of the Library and Archives.

Fellowships are tenable only at the National Gallery of Canada. The term of full-time residency must fall within the period 1 September 2007 to August 31, 2008. Awards can be up to \$5000 a month, including expenses and stipend, to a maximum of \$30,000.

Further details are available on all programs on the ORS website

<http://www.ryerson.ca/ors>

INTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RYERSON SSHRC INSTITUTIONAL GRANT (SIG)

Deadline: November 15

Fund Amount: up to \$7,000

http://www.ryerson.ca/ors/forms/sig_research.html

This grant provides funds to Ryerson faculty members pursuing research in the Social Sciences and Humanities disciplines. Funds for this program are provided by SSHRC and the Office of Research Services.

RYERSON CREATIVE FUND

Deadline: December 1

Fund Amount: up to \$5,000

<http://www.ryerson.ca/ors/forms/creative.html>

This grant provides funds to support faculty members who engage, or wish to engage, in creative activity in the fine arts, where it can be demonstrated that such activity is relevant to their discipline and also to encourage faculty to explore potential alternative sources of funding. Normally only full-time tenured, tenure-track, or limited term faculty members are eligible for support.

RYERSON NEW FACULTY SRC DEVELOPMENT FUND

Deadline: January 22, 2007

Funding: up to \$10,000

http://www.ryerson.ca/ors/forms/new_faculty.html

This grant provides funding to new faculty within the first two years of their tenure or probationary appointment who are in the Faculty of Arts, Business, Communication & Design, Community Services and Architectural Science to establish and implement an SRC program.

This initiative does not fund "stand alone" projects that are not part of a larger plan.

Eligibility:

- have not been a PI on an external grant from a federal granting council or other sources
- have some support from the Faculty/School
- have not received funding from this program

ACADEMIC RESEARCH ASSISTANT PROGRAM

2007 Summer

Deadline: February 28, 2007

http://www.ryerson.ca/ors/forms/ra_summer.html

This program provides employment to fulltime undergraduate Ryerson students with proven financial need in career-oriented, academically relevant, Ryerson SRC programs. Students must apply for eligibility approval through Student Financial Assistance.

Duration:

mid May to mid August
(actual dates to be confirmed)
15 weeks, 34 hrs per week
\$13.19 per hour
100% government funded

RYERSON DATA CENTRE

DEADLINE: April 30, 2007

Funding: up to \$2,000 (one award per project)

<http://www.ryerson.ca/ors/forms/incentive.html>

This funding is to facilitate use of the Research Data Centre (RDC). A limited number of grants are available to Ryerson PIs who have projects which utilize the RDC. In order to receive a grant, the project must first have been approved by the RDC adjudication committee and the PI must have received security clearance to access the Centre.

ACADEMIC RESEARCH ASSISTANT PROGRAM

Fall/Winter 2007-2008

Deadline: May 10, 2007

This program provides employment to fulltime undergraduate Ryerson students with proven financial need in career-oriented, academically relevant, Ryerson SRC programs. Students must apply for eligibility approval through Student Financial Assistance.

Duration:

September to March
(actual dates to be confirmed)
13.5 hrs per week, 67.5 per semester,
134 total hours
\$13.19 per hour
75% \$1,500 government funded
25% \$ 500 contributed by PI

For internal program questions contact:

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E-mail: mcurtis@gwemail.ryerson.ca

For online application technical support contact:

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Research Opportunities Newsletter is produced monthly by the Office of Research Services (ORS) at Ryerson University.

Distribution is via the researchnet Listserv and on the ORS website <http://www.ryerson.ca/ors>

To subscribe to the Listserv send an email to:

majordomo@ryerson.ca

In the body of the message type "subscribe researchnet"

Questions, materials, comments about Research Opportunities Newsletter can be sent to:

Bob Dirstein at dirstein@ryerson.ca, Jane Burns at mjburns@ryerson.ca, or Elizabeth Mota at emota@ryerson.ca