Memorial University of Newfoundland

Canada Excellence Research Chair in
Next Generation Communication Technologies

Closing Date: June 20, 2022

The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science (FEAS) at Memorial University in Newfoundland and Labrador (NL) invites applications for a Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Next Generation Communication Technologies in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The CERC program aims to attract the best global talent to Canada and support the next generation of leaders in science and technology. The social and economic benefits of the program will impact Canadians and others around the world through knowledge translation and mobilization that the research generates. The allocation to the university for this non-renewable position is $500,000 per annum for eight years. Please visit the Canada Excellence Research Chairs website for detailed information, at www.cerc.gc.ca/program-programme/cpan-pccs-eng.aspx.

The vision for the CERC in Next Generation Communication Technologies is to develop solutions for the massive connectivity of heterogenous devices through the Internet-of-Everything (IoE) and/or digital twinning, using artificial intelligence systems and other technologies, with applications to sectors of strategic importance to Canada and the province of Newfoundland and Labrador such as renewable energy, offshore energy, ocean technology, smart grid, mining and mineral processing.

Applicants must be established, internationally recognized research leaders, who have relevant expertise and experience in one or more of the following areas: digital twins, Internet-of-Everything, artificial intelligence, and massive connectivity. The successful candidate should possess strong capabilities and experience in integrating theoretical and practical approaches to develop innovative strategies for the information and communication technology (ICT) sector. The Chair will be expected to build upon existing institutional research strengths and to lead an actively funded research program at Memorial University. Equity, diversity and inclusion considerations must be included in the research program.

The application process involves three stages. For Stage I, candidates will submit an application to the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering that includes: a cover letter describing their fit with the CERC Program (1-2 pages); current curriculum vitae with a summary of main career achievements; research plan for the duration of the program (2-4 pages); significant contributions to research (2-4 pages); teaching philosophy and plan including aspects of mentoring of students and/or junior research colleagues (1-2 pages); copies of three relevant technical publications; names and contact information of at least three referees; a statement on how the applicant’s research program fosters and implements best practices in equity, diversity, and inclusion (see www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/_doc/EDI/Guide_for_Applicants_EN.pdf). The successful candidate should be eligible for registration as a professional engineer in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Applications for Stage I should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than June 20, 2022 to allow for sufficient time to meet the CERC Program deadlines (registration deadline is September 15, 2022 and final submission deadline is October 13, 2022). Candidates should submit their completed application as a single PDF file to Dr. Cheng Li, Head, Department of Electrical and Computer
Engineering, Memorial University, St. John's, NL, Canada, via email: engr.ece@mun.ca. Please quote the reference number F00650-2022-110 in the application and email subject line.

For Stage II, selected candidates will be interviewed. Details on the process for Stage II will be provided to selected candidates. For Stage III, one candidate will be selected as the nominee who moves forward with co-developing a CERC application with Memorial University. Appointment of a candidate to the advertised position is conditional upon the success of the application to the CERC Program.

The successful candidate from Stage II will be, at the point of CERC Program nomination (Stage III), either: at the academic level of Full Professor; at the academic level of Associate Professor eligible for promotion to Full Professor within 2 years; or, hold a position outside of academia with equivalent qualifications necessary for appointment at these academic levels. The CERC Program places no restrictions on nationality or country of residence of nominees.

Interested candidates are encouraged to send any informal inquiries about this position, our department, and the broader community. Such questions may be addressed to the ECE Department Head (engr.ece@mun.ca), who can provide further information or connect the candidate with others in our community. In assessing applications, Memorial recognizes the legitimate impact that leaves (e.g., parental leaves, leave due to illness) can have on a candidate’s record of research achievement. These leaves will be taken into careful consideration during the assessment process.

Memorial is committed to providing an inclusive learning and work environment. Memorial’s Workplace Accommodation policy can be found online at www.mun.ca/policy/browse/policies/view.php?policy=287. If there is anything we can do to ensure your full participation in the interview process please contact equity@mun.ca directly, and they will work with you to make appropriate arrangements.

Memorial University is one of the largest universities in Atlantic Canada. As the province's only university, Memorial plays an integral role in the education and cultural life of Newfoundland and Labrador. Offering diverse undergraduate and graduate programs to almost 18,000 students, Memorial provides a distinctive and stimulating environment for learning in St. John's, a safe, family-friendly city with great historic charm, a vibrant cultural life, and easy access to a wide range of outdoor activities. For further information about Memorial, please visit www.mun.ca.

The Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science offers accredited undergraduate and graduate programs in civil engineering, computer engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, ocean and naval architectural engineering and process engineering, following a fully integrated co-operative education model, as well as course-based master’s programs in computer engineering, energy systems, environmental systems, oil and gas, and safety and risk engineering. New programs to be launched in the next year include an undergraduate program in mechatronics engineering and two graduate programs in software engineering and artificial intelligence (in partnership with computer science). For more information, please visit www.mun.ca/engineering.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Memorial University is committed to employment equity and diversity and encourages applications from all qualified candidates, including women; people of any sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; Indigenous peoples; visible minorities and racialized people; and people with disabilities. The CERC program is promoting exemplary practices with respect to equity and diversity (www.cerc.gc.ca/program-programme/equity-equite-eng.aspx).
As part of Memorial University’s commitment to employment equity, all applicants are invited to identify themselves as a member of a target group(s) as appropriate. Applicants cannot be considered as a member of a target group(s) unless they complete an employment equity survey. If you do not receive a survey or have any questions, please contact equity@mun.ca.

We acknowledge that the lands on which Memorial University’s campuses are situated are in the traditional territories of diverse Indigenous groups, and we acknowledge with respect the diverse histories and cultures of the Beothuk, Mi’kmaq, Innu, and Inuit of this province.