

## **Lead By Design Spring Institute Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is the *Lead By Design* Spring Institute?**

The *Lead by Design* Spring Institute (its full name is the “*Lead By Design* Spring Institute on Leadership, Diversity and Dialogue for Graduate Students in Engineering”) is a 5-day co-curricular course being held over **April 23-29, 2014**. This course is based on novel diversity-attracting integrative pedagogies that tap into the motivations and values that engineering graduate students bring to their work and study.

The *Lead By Design* Spring Institute is part of a research study that is investigating graduate students’ sense of themselves as engineers and citizens engaged in understanding and meeting the complex challenges of our times, both locally and globally. We argue that engineering education needs to engage more deeply with issues of diversity in order to ensure the life-long career sustainability of engineering graduates. We want to find out what new elements in teaching and learning engineering will assist in these changes within engineering education, and in the careers and lives of our graduates.

### **Why should you apply for this course?**

You can expect to benefit from your participation in this research project. As a co-curricular course, the Institute may help you to develop a greater sense of self-awareness, self-efficacy, and professional identity, as well as tools and processes for heightened professional-awareness, leadership, and skills for ongoing professional development. You may also benefit from renewed commitment to your professional career, with new tools and processes to sustain your own choices about your individual career path.

### **Who is eligible?**

All current full-time and part-time graduate students in engineering at Memorial University. If space permits, admission will be offered to senior undergraduate students in engineering, postdoctoral fellows in engineering, or graduate students in the natural sciences.

### **Other admission criteria?**

- Space is limited to 25 participants
- At least 50% of the accepted participants will be women
- Level and degree of study (see above under “Who is eligible?”)
- Applicants’ perceived likelihood of benefitting from the Institute

### **How much time commitment is involved?**

Sessions will be **9am-3pm on April 23, 24, 25, 28 and 29**, with an evening session from 7-10pm on April 28 and a possible activity over the weekend of April 26-27. You can expect to spend time outside of the sessions on homework and on a team Engineering Challenge.

### **What will it cost me?**

There is a registration fee of \$25.

### **Will this course be part of my co-curricular record?**

Yes, if you are a registered full-time or part-time graduate student at Memorial University.

## **The Lead By Design Spring Institute Application Form**

### **Instructions:**

Please complete this form and submit electronically to [cmoloney@mun.ca](mailto:cmoloney@mun.ca), or drop off a hard copy to the Engineering Main Office, EN-4019 for Dr. Cecilia Moloney. All answers should be provided within this form and no extra files should be sent as part of the application. Please ensure all criteria are met before submitting your application. Applications are due **April 14, 2014**.

### **A. Personal Information (The facts)**

1) Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2) Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

4) Program of Study (MEng, PhD, MASc): \_\_\_\_\_

5) Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_

6) Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### **B. Personal Information (Your story)**

1) Statement of Interest - Please state why you would like to participate in the Spring Institute. (100-150 words)

2) Sum yourself up: If you had to give your biography in just one ten-word sentence, what would it be? (10 words)

3) Academic and Career Focus – What is the focus of your graduate studies? Why did you pick this field? How does this relate to your career goals? (150-200 words)

4) Community Involvement – Describe any extracurricular involvement in the community (e.g. volunteering) that you've had in recent years. Please include details such as your motivations for involvement and benefits to the community. (150-200 words) [Note that past community involvement is not a criterion for participation in the Institute.]

5) In order for you to gain the most out of your experience with the Institute, we ask for your full commitment to attend all activities. The Institute will run from Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and from Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, with daily sessions from approximately 9am-3pm (with the possibility of a few working lunches) and an evening session on April 28. Note that there may be some optional activities over the weekend. If you are not able to attend all portions of the Institute, please explain when you would be absent and why.

Note: Applicants selected for the Spring Institute will be invited to participate in a research study whose purpose is “to propose, implement and evaluate new diversity-attracting integrative pedagogies that tap into the motivations and values that engineering graduate students bring to their work and study”. Informed consent forms will be distributed at the beginning of the Institute.

If an admitted applicant does not choose to participate in the study, after being provided with full details about the research project and what they will do in the study, they may withdraw from the research project and from the Institute. There will be no negative consequences to not joining the study.

The proposal for this research has been reviewed by the Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research and found to be in compliance with Memorial University’s ethics policy. If you have ethical concerns about the research (such as the way you would be treated or your rights as a participant), you may contact the Chairperson of the ICEHR at [icehr@mun.ca](mailto:icehr@mun.ca) or by telephone at 709-864-2861.

Another part of this study is conducting an online Engineering Graduate Student Motivations survey found at [www.mun.ca/springinstitute/survey.php](http://www.mun.ca/springinstitute/survey.php). We encourage you to fill in the survey – in which case, do keep a copy of your answers for future reference in the Institute.