Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) or Associate Professor (Tenure), Tier 2 Canada Research Chair | Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine & Computer Science, Faculty of Science

Date posted: Sept 9 2020

The Department of Pediatrics, in the Faculty of Medicine, in partnership with the Department of Computer Science, in the Faculty of Science at The University of British Columbia (UBC) invite applications for an academic computer scientist for a CIHR Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Digital Health. The successful candidate will be eligible to hold an appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor (tenure track) or Associate Professor (with tenure). The successful applicant will also hold a concurrent appointment as an Investigator within the BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute.

The Department of Pediatrics, located at BC Children’s Hospital, has training programs at the undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate levels, and pursues research to make innovative advancements in knowledge and practice to improve health. The Department consists of physicians, scientists, allied health professionals and administrative staff trained in pediatric and allied child health disciplines. Department members include full-time, part-time and community-based pediatricians throughout the province. The Department’s mandate is to provide leadership and excellence in patient care, education, research and child advocacy.

The Department of Computer Science ranks among the top Departments in North America, with approximately 60 tenure-stream faculty and approximately 200 graduate and 2000 undergraduate students. Department members are recognized internationally for excellence in research, teaching and innovation. Faculty members include a Canada 150 Research Chair; four Canada Research Chairs; and many Fellows of prestigious societies including the Royal Society of Canada, ACM, IEEE, SIAM and the Sloan Foundation; many have founded successful start-ups.

The BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute, located at BC Children’s Hospital, is the largest research institute of its kind in Western Canada, where more than 300 Investigators form a dynamic and highly collaborative research community that aims to improve the health of children and their families. The successful candidate will have opportunities to collaborate with a large and diverse community of basic scientists and clinicians.

Reporting to the Heads of both the Departments of Pediatrics and Computer Science, the incumbent will be expected to develop and maintain a strong, innovative and internationally-recognized research program focused on the development and evaluation of new point-of-care digital solutions that target health data collection and personalized clinical decision-making and have the potential to be a leader in their research field. As Chairholder, the individual will be expected to effectively supervise graduate students, collaborate with other faculty members, obtain external research funding, and teach computer science courses for undergraduate and graduate students. The potential of an applicant's research program to complement and extend the existing research and teaching strengths of the department will be an important factor in selection.

Applicants must have a PhD or MD/PhD in Computer Science or a related area. The successful candidate will have demonstrated ability to effectively communicate and interact with empathy, understanding and, respect of diverse and divergent perspectives and behaviours. They will also be expected to provide service to the Department(s), University and the broader academic and professional community. If appointed at the rank of Assistant Professor, the successful candidate will have demonstrated evidence of ability in teaching and in scholarly activity. If appointed at the rank of Associate Professor, the successful candidate must demonstrate evidence of successful teaching and ability to direct graduate students, and evidence of sustained and productive scholarly activity.

Applicants must meet the eligibility requirement for a Tier 2 CRC position. Tier 2 Chairs 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, such as maternity, parental or extended sick leave, clinical training, etc.) may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 Chair assessed through the program’s Tier 2 justification process. Nominations are subject to review by the CRC Secretariat, and appointment as a CRC is conditional upon their approval. Please consult the Canada Research Chairs website www.chairs.gc.ca for full program information, including further details on eligibility criteria.

In UBC’s Strategic Plan: Shaping UBC’s Next Century, inclusion, innovation, and collaboration have been identified as our key themes. We welcome colleagues with the experiences and skills to contribute to our principles of inclusion, equity, and diversity throughout campus life. UBC welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for all candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process. To confidentially request accommodations, please contact Harjit Gill, Senior Manager Human Resources, Department of Pediatrics, at hgill2@cw.bc.ca.

A letter of application outlining the applicant’s research and teaching interests, accompanied by a detailed curriculum vitae and the names of four references should be directed to:

Dr. Wyeth Wasserman, Search Committee Chair  
Vice-President (Research), BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute  
c/o Carolyne Bliss  
Email: carolyne.bliss@bcchr.ca  
Subject Line: CRC Tier 2 in digital health

Review of applications will begin on November 1, 2020 and continue until the position is filled, with the goal to enter the spring 2021 national competition. The anticipated start date for this position is September 1, 2021 or upon a date to be mutually agreed. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

In assessing applications, UBC recognizes the legitimate impact that leaves (e.g., maternity leave, 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.

In accordance with UBC’s CRC Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Action Plan, and pursuant to Section 42 of the BC Human Rights code, the selection will be restricted to members of the following designated groups: women, visible minorities (members of groups that are racially categorized), persons with disabilities, and Indigenous peoples. Applicants to Canada Research Chair positions are asked to complete the equity survey (https://ubc.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6WJHol7SfPXRmu9) as part of the application, and candidates from these groups must self-identify as belonging to one or more of the designated equity groups to be considered for the position. Because the search is limited to those self-identifying as members of designated equity groups, candidates must also provide their name to be considered.

Personal information is collected under the authority of sections 26(a) and 26(c) of the BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The information you provide will only be used to determine whether you qualify for participation in this hiring process. Data will be collected by the Equity & Inclusion Office and only the names of those who identify as women, visible minorities (member of groups that are racially categorized) and/or Indigenous peoples will be shared with the search committee. Currently, UBC has a gap in representation for people with disabilities. Until such time as this is remedied, the names of those self-identifying as having a disability will be provided separately to the search committee. Responses will be stored in a secure database.

The University of British Columbia is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the top 20 public universities in the world. Since 1915, UBC’s entrepreneurial spirit has embraced innovation and challenged the status quo. UBC encourages its students, staff and faculty to challenge convention, lead discovery and explore new ways of learning. At UBC, bold thinking is given a place to develop into ideas that can change the world.
Our Vision: To Transform Health for Everyone.

Ranked among the world’s top medical schools with the fifth-largest MD enrollment in North America, the UBC Faculty of Medicine is a leader in both the science and the practice of medicine. Across British Columbia, more than 11,000 faculty and staff are training the next generation of doctors and health care professionals, making remarkable discoveries, and helping to create the pathways to better health for our communities at home and around the world.

The Faculty — comprised of approximately 2,200 administrative support, technical/research and management and professional staff, as well approximately 650 full-time academic and over 9,000 clinical faculty members — is composed of 19 academic basic science and/or clinical departments, three schools, and 24 research centres and institutes. Together with its University and Health Authority partners, the Faculty delivers innovative programs and conducts research in the areas of health and life sciences. Faculty, staff and trainees are located at university campuses, clinical academic campuses in hospital settings and other regionally based centres across the province.

The University is also committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive and equitable work environment for all members of its workforce, and in particular, for its employees with disabilities. An inclusive work environment for employees with disabilities presumes an environment where differences are accepted, recognized and integrated into current structures, planning and decision-making modes. For contact information regarding UBC’s accommodation and access policies and resources, please visit the Centre for Accessibility website at: https://facultystaff.students.ubc.ca/student-development-services/centre-accessibility/faculty-and-staff-disabilities. UBC Vancouver staff or faculty may contact the Health Promotion Programs (information@hse.ubc.ca) or the Centre for Accessibility (accessibility@ubc.ca) for support and assistance with accommodation questions.

Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadians and permanent residents of Canada will be given priority.