

Call for Applications

CANADA EXCELLENCE RESEARCH CHAIR (CERC) IN FOREST ECOGENOMICS

Diffusion of the call : *April 5th, 2022*

A privileged living environment in the heart of Quebec City and the first French-speaking university in North America, Université Laval is a major university open to the world and recognized for its culture of excellence in teaching and research. Thanks to the Department of Wood and Forest Sciences of the Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics (FFGG), Université Laval is the only university institution in Quebec to offer undergraduate programs in forestry and wood engineering, leading to the Order of Forest Engineers of Quebec or the Order of Engineers of Quebec. The Department of Wood and Forest Sciences is also responsible for the integrated multi-faculty bachelor's degree in natural and managed environments. It has 35 full-time professors, five research chairs, three teaching leadership chairs, a research consortium, two research centers and more than 500 undergraduate and graduate students. Collaborations with the departments of geography and geomatics, as well as with those of other faculties at Université Laval, offer interesting opportunities for multidisciplinary research.

This recruitment competition is part of the Canada Excellence Research Chairs program. This program provides Canadian universities with grants of \$8 million or \$4 million over eight years to support their world-class researchers and their teams in developing ambitious research. The potential holder of the Chair is an established researcher, recognized by his or her peers as a leader in his or her field.

The person selected by the Nomination Committee must successfully pass an internal selection at Université Laval as well as the national selection as part of the [Canada Excellence Research Chair competition](#). For more information on the program and eligibility criteria, please visit the [Canada Excellence Research Chair website](#).

The successful candidate will receive:

- A full professor position;
- \$8 million over 8 years (\$1 million/year) in funding from the CERC Program;
- An envelope reserved by Université Laval for the submission of an application to the Leaders Fund program of the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for the purchase of laboratory equipment up to \$2 million;
- Laboratory space for research equipment;
- Competitive and attractive start-up funds;
- Attachment to the Institute of Integrative Systems Biology (IBIS) and the Center for Forest Studies (CEF);
- An environment of excellence for genomics research (access to high-performance greenhouses; molecular biology and genomics laboratories; various cutting-edge IBIS analysis platforms; largest teaching and research forest in the world).

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

Valuing equity, diversity and excellence, Université Laval is strongly committed to provide an inclusive work and living environment for all its employees. For Université Laval, diversity is a source of wealth, and we encourage qualified individuals of all origins, sexes, sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions, as well as persons with disabilities, to apply.

Université Laval also subscribes to an equal access to employment program for women, members of visible or ethnic minorities, Aboriginal persons and persons with disabilities. Adaptation of the selection tools can be offered to persons with disabilities according to their needs and in complete confidentiality.

By choosing Université Laval, you will benefit from the following integration measures:

- Welcome days for new professors
- Peer mentoring
- Free French courses for you and the spouse. You will be required to commit to being able to communicate in French (oral and written) within two years of taking up your position;
- Support for settling in Quebec City and job search assistance for your spouse,
- For professors from abroad a tax exemption (under certain conditions)

Career Interruption and Special Circumstances

Université Laval acknowledges that career interruption and special circumstances (e.g., maternity or parental leave, leave for prolonged illness, clinical training, care for a family member, the COVID-19 pandemic) as well as a disability may have an effect on productivity and contributions in research. Applicants are invited to explain, as appropriate, these effects so that they are taken into account in the assessment of their applications.

Accommodation

In complete confidentiality, accommodation can be offered to people with disabilities according to their needs in this competition, including accessibility. If you need accommodation, we invite you to contact the equity officer using contact information below.

Patricia Neitthoffer

Equity Officer

patricia.neitthoffer@edi.ulaval.ca

Job Description

The Department of Wood and Forest Sciences is seeking a Professor of Forest Ecogenomics whose teaching and research activities will focus on areas such as:

1. Genome analysis, considering all organisms in the forest ecosystem;
2. Genome dynamics in forest ecosystems;
3. Links between species diversity, population dynamics, and genetic diversity;
4. Links between genome-level variation and functional traits.

The task includes:

1. Conducting research and supervising graduate students on topics related to the above areas;
2. Obtaining research funding from external granting agencies and partners to support research;
3. Teaching in ecogenomics at the undergraduate and graduate levels;
4. Developing new teaching methods or materials;
5. Participation in departmental, faculty, university, and multi-stakeholder committees (with private and public sectors);
6. The development of teaching and research on ecogenomics at the teaching and research forest of Université Laval, Forêt Montmorency, in collaboration with all partners involved in the Scientific and Management Committee of the Montmorency Forest;
7. The development of synergy with the Department of Geography and the Department of Geomatic Sciences of the FFGG and government research centers in the field.

Requirements

1. Possess specific expertise in at least two of the areas listed in the research program description;
2. Demonstrated ability to develop a world-class research program;
3. Have an above-average publication record, demonstrating major impacts in terms of societal and research spin-offs;
4. Demonstrated ability to integrate into multidisciplinary teams;
5. Demonstrated teaching skills;
6. Demonstrated ability to supervise graduate students;

Applicants must meet the [CERC eligibility requirements](#). They must be full professors or associate professors who are close to obtaining tenure. Applicants from outside academia must have the necessary qualifications to be nominated as full professors.

The complete application package should be sent to conseiller-vice-decanat-recherche@ffgg.ulaval.ca. It includes:

- A curriculum vitae, including a list of publications, a list of active grants, and graduate students supervised over the past five years (with mention of career breaks and their impacts);
- A two-page document presenting a vision for the Chair;

- A one-page document demonstrating the contribution of the project to the Canadian research ecosystem (see selection criteria in item 4. [Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program](#)), and specifying your strategies for building and maintaining a diverse research team (see selection criteria in item 1. Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program);
- the [UL self-identification form](#) (in French only)

Competition Stages and Evaluation Criteria

1. Competition Stages and Submission Deadlines

Full application deadline	May 6 2022
Interviews (depending on number of applicants)	May 19-20 2022
Results announcement	May 27, 2022
Application deadline at VPR Office	June 13, 2022
Final results announcement	June 2022
Full application deadline at CERC Program	October 13, 2022
CERC Program results announcement	Spring 2023

2. Evaluation #1

A Nomination Committee, at the faculty and department level, selects one application based on the following criteria and sub-criteria:

- Relevance of degrees;
- Concordance of the expertise with the targeted fields;
- Scientific productivity demonstrating significant societal and research impact;
- Ability to fund and manage a research program of international scope;
- Ability to develop and manage partnerships;
- International recognition;
- Proposed vision for the CERC;
- Compliance with CERC program eligibility criteria.

The Nomination Committee is composed of 6 professors from the Department of wood and forest sciences, including the director of the department. In addition, an equity officer will take part in the committee meetings to ensure the conformity of the evaluation process. All committee members receive clear instructions on their role, the expected definition of excellence as well as on the impact of career interruptions and special circumstances in the evaluation of applications. Members must also complete unconscious bias training in peer review.

3. Evaluation #2 at Vice-President Research (VPR) Office

The application of the selected candidate will be sent to the VPR Office for a final internal selection according to the [selection criteria of the CERC Program](#).

Starting Date : up to 12 months following CERC Program results announcement in Spring 2023.

Contacts

Application call process

Mr. Jean-Claude Ruel
Director
Department of Wood and Forest Sciences.
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Canada G1V 0A6 email : direction-foresterie@sbf.ulaval.ca

Questions related to EDI principles

Patricia Neitthoffer
Equity Officer
EDI Office
Vice-rectorate for equity, diversity, inclusion, and human resources
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