THE MCLEAN AWARD – GUIDELINES

The McLean Endowment was created in 1995-96 by a gift of $1 million from Mr. William F. McLean, alumnus and benefactor of the University of Toronto. The McLean Endowment is administered by the University's Connaught Committee. The principles of peer review and high academic standards which dictate the distribution of funds from the Connaught Fund also apply to the distribution of funds from the McLean Endowment. The McLean Endowment will be preserved in perpetuity and the real income from the endowment will be matched annually with proceeds of the University's Connaught Fund to create the annual McLean Award in the amount of $125,000.

Nomination Deadline: March 31, 2022

PURPOSE

The purpose of the McLean Endowment is to support outstanding **basic** research at the University of Toronto in the following fields; physics, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, engineering sciences, and the theory and methods of statistics. One McLean Award will be made annually.

The specific purpose of the McLean Award is to provide meaningful support to an outstanding researcher relatively early in their career by assisting the awardee to attract and support graduate students and post-doctoral fellows of great promise as part of their research team. The award recipient will be known as the *McLean Senior Fellow*. Graduate students and post-doctoral fellows receiving support from the Award will be known as *McLean Graduate Fellows* and *McLean Post-doctoral Fellows*, respectively.

The McLean Award may be spent only on financial support for the graduate students and post-doctoral fellows on the research team and any necessary travel and related expenses associated with these individuals. Funds from the Award cannot be used for equipment or other infrastructure support, nor can they be used for the personal compensation of the Awardee.

ELIGIBILITY

All full-time professorial staff (tenured or tenure-stream) at the University of Toronto, who conduct research in the fields designated above and who are **within twelve years of receiving their Ph.D**, as of the date of application, are eligible to be nominated. The aforementioned window of eligibility may be extended if a nominee has experienced significant interruptions in their academic career. *Please note that delays related to the Covid-19 pandemic could constitute eligible career interruptions, provided a clear case with specific examples is brought to the attention of the Secretariat in advance of the competition.*

Final determination of the eligibility of nominees and area of research will be made by the adjudication panel.

NOMINATION

The nomination package must include the following:

1. A letter from the Chair/Director of the academic unit, or Dean/Principal of a non-departmentalized division (nominator)
2. A statement (up to three pages) summarizing the nominee's research program, including how decolonization[1], equity, diversity and inclusion have been or will be considered and addressed in plans for the recruitment, training, and mentorship of graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.
3. A complete C.V. including a list of **all** refereed publications and research awards or distinctions
4. a) The name, institutional affiliation and contact information for three internationally recognized experts in the field (who represent no conflict of interest[2] and can comment objectively), who will submit letters of support describing the scholarly standing of the nominee and the significance of their research program.
   b) The letters of support from these three referees. **Letters of support are to be sent directly, by the referee, to the Connaught Secretariat (connaught.secretariat@utoronto.ca) by no later than April 15, 2022.**

Further details on the nomination package are available on the website. The nomination package is to be submitted, by the nominator, to the Connaught Secretariat (connaught.secretariat@utoronto.ca) by the submission deadline **(March 31, 2022).**

The onus is on the nominator to ensure that the nominee's research program meets the mandate of the McLean Award.

INDIGENOUS DECOLONIZATION, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The University of Toronto recognizes that diversity is essential to the creation of a vibrant intellectual community that allows our researchers to maximize their creativity and their contributions. The Connaught Fund is therefore strongly committed to diversity in research and especially welcomes nominations of racialized persons/persons of colour, women, Indigenous/Aboriginal Peoples of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2S+ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas. To this end, based on the aggregate equity data discussed below, should the applicant pool not be sufficiently diverse, the competition will be re-opened to encourage additional nominees from these communities.

The University also acknowledges that scholars have varying career paths and that career interruptions due to personal circumstances can be part of an excellent academic record. Review panel members have been instructed to give careful consideration to—and to be sensitive to the impact of—career interruptions in their assessments.

In order to be considered for this opportunity, all nominees are required to answer the University of Toronto's Employment Equity Survey, available through Employee-Self Service, by no later than the nomination deadline. Applicants may voluntarily self-identify in any of the groups, or log a response indicating that they decline the survey. Self-identification data is important to the University's ability to

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[1] Tuck, Eve and K. Wayne Yang. Decolonization is not a metaphor." Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education & Society 1/1 (2012).

[2] *Tri-Agencies and CFI wherein a conflict of interest may come into play if an external reviewer has collaborated, published or shared funding with the applicant within the past six years.*

accurately identify barriers to participation and to develop strategies to eliminate these barriers. Aggregated results as of the closing of this posting will be sent to the Research Equity and Diversity Strategist and may be accessed by only a small number of designated senior administrators within the Division of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation (VPRI). Any information directly related to you is confidential and cannot be accessed by the reviewers or VPRI staff. The aggregated information will be used by VPRI as part of our ongoing efforts to embed principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion in the administration of internal funding programs. If you have already completed the survey, thank you; your responses will be included in the aggregated results.

BUDGET

No budget is required. The successful nominee will receive $125,000 to support their research within the eligible expenditure categories set out above. The pace of expenditure of the funds is at the discretion of the awardee, although the funds must be spent within five years of the award start date.

ADJUDICATION

The two principal criteria applied in adjudicating the award will be:
- demonstrated excellence of the nominee's scientific and scholarly contributions to date; and
- the significance and promise of the nominee's research program.

Consideration of Indigenous reconciliation[3], equity, diversity and inclusion will also be applied. Nominations that indicate direct impact on Indigenous individuals, communities, peoples, topics, lands, or areas of interest will also be assessed by the Indigenous Research Circle Review Panel.

These factors will be given approximately equal weight but, where necessary to choose between two relatively equal nominations, additional weight will be given to contributions to date.

The disciplinary panel, comprised of University of Toronto faculty members, will review the nominations and formulate their recommendation based on the published criteria. The recommendations will be forwarded to the Connaught Committee for final approval.

REPORT

The Recipient may be asked to report on the impact of the award by the Connaught Committee, during or after the term of the Award. These reports should briefly describe the impact of the Award on their research program, including a list of all McLean Graduate Fellows and McLean Post-doctoral Fellows.

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[3]University of Toronto (2017). Answering the call: Wecheehetowin. https://www.provost.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/155/2018/05/Final-Report-TRC.pdf