Data Analytics for Health Systems Transformation: Canada Research Chair Tier 2

University of Ottawa

Deadline: November 15, 2021

The Telfer School of Management (TSM) at the University of Ottawa and the University of Ottawa Heart Institute (UOHI) are seeking applications for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Data Analytics for Health Systems Transformation. The selected candidate will hold a tenure-track faculty position and will explore the application of novel data analytics approaches to the transformation of health systems and care delivery with a particular focus on improving complex patient care, including cardiovascular conditions. The research conducted by the Chair holder is expected to focus on the way in which data analytics can drive health systems transformation to create value for patients, clinicians, and institutions. The successful candidate will also have the opportunity to develop tools that can enhance evidence based clinical decision making. This Chair builds on a unique partnership between the UOHI, a world-class tertiary cardiac center, and the TSM, a triple-accredited business school. The Chair is expected to collaborate with the UOHI Leadership Team to define how best to apply his/her research to strategic UOHI initiatives. The Chair holder is also expected to teach at the Telfer School of Management and conduct research of relevance for healthcare management practice in the context of data analytics.

Research agenda
The research agenda of this interdisciplinary Canada Research Chair draws from relevant fields such as Operations Research, Applied Artificial Intelligence (AI), Information Systems, or Health Informatics to answer the following broad questions:

- How can analytics-driven clinical and administrative tools provide value to healthcare organizations?
- How can novel data analytics methods and models improve patient care in a multidisciplinary, multi-stakeholder driven environment?
- How can data analytics contribute to health systems transformation so as to meet the challenges of integrative and patient-centered care delivery in a post-COVID 19 context?
- How can applied AI and data analytics support advanced decision making in a health environment?

While research conducted by the Chair will be in collaboration with the UOHI, results need to be scaled up to other settings and contexts. The position will include:

- Access to UOHI’s data infrastructure including an integrated longitudinal procedural and inpatient database (CardioCore).
• Expanding access to the electronic health record (EPIC) clinical process of care data, linkages to the provincial administrative database and other relevant databases, including the emerging Ontario Health Data Platform.

Program description
Tier 2 Chairs, tenable for five years and renewable once, are for exceptional emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field. For each Tier 2 Chair, the institution receives $100,000 annually for five years, with an additional $20,000 annual research stipend for first-term Tier 2 Chairs.

Candidates should, at a minimum, be assistant or associate professors, or possess the necessary qualifications to be appointed to these levels. Candidates who are more than 10 years from their highest degree must contact the University of Ottawa directly for questions related to their potential eligibility for a Tier 2 Chair. The institution may nominate a professor or a researcher who is more than 10 years from their highest degree at the time of nomination and has experienced legitimate career interruptions (see acceptable justifications). In such cases, the institution must submit to the Secretariat a formal justification (using the Tier 2 Justification Screening Form), explaining why the nominee is still considered to be an emerging scholar. The University recognizes the legitimate impact that leaves (e.g., parental leave, leave due to illness) can have on a candidate’s record of research achievement and that these leaves will be taken into careful consideration during the assessment process. New CRC nominees are also eligible for infrastructure support from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to help acquire state-of-the-art equipment essential to their work.

The University of Ottawa is committed to ensuring equity, diversity and inclusion in the scholarly and leadership environments of our students, staff, and faculty. Accordingly, we strongly encourage applications from skilled and experienced members of the four designated groups such as Indigenous Peoples in Canada, visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and women, as defined in the Employment Equity Act, as well as from all qualified candidates with the skills and knowledge to productively implement equity measures that ensure and retain diverse teams and promote inclusive practices for research team members.

Required Qualifications:
A PhD or equivalent in Operations Research/Industrial Engineering, Data Science/Applied AI, Information Systems, or Health Informatics, combined with superior research achievements in health systems research and proof of interdisciplinary collaborations. Candidates with a demonstrated knowledge of healthcare systems and the application of data analytics methods and models in the healthcare domain are strongly encouraged to apply. Candidates should have a solid record with respect to teaching and training of students at the graduate level, the ability to obtain external research funds, excellent communication skills in either English or French. A passive knowledge of the other official language in Canada is a requirement for tenure. English-French bilingualism is an asset.
Rank and salary:
Regular tenure-track academic appointment in the Telfer School of Management.

Application Package:
- A cover letter;
- An up-to-date curriculum vitae (please include career interruptions such as parental or sick leaves that may have impacted your record of research. These will be taken into consideration in the selection process);
- A research plan (2 to 3 pages);
- A statement of teaching interests (1 to 2 pages);
- A statement on equity, diversity, and inclusion philosophy and concrete practices (1 page);
- The names of three people who may be contacted by the University for letters of reference which will follow the Canada Research Chairs guidelines (i.e. one arm’s length and two who are not affiliated to the University of Ottawa unless they are the candidate’s PhD or postdoctoral supervisor), and;
- We encourage applicants to fill the Employment Equity section of their online Profile during the application process.

Applications should be submitted electronically through the University of Ottawa Academic Careers website at the following link:

The selection process will begin immediately after the closing date and will continue until the position is filled. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Please address your cover letter to the following person:
Dr. Sylvain Charbonneau, Vice-President, Research
University of Ottawa
550 Cumberland St., room 246
Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5 CANADA

If you are invited to continue the selection process, please notify us of any particular adaptive measures you might require by contacting the Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations at 613-562-5958. The Canada Research Chairs Program imposes no restrictions on nominees with regard to nationality or country of residence. Procedures to allow non-Canadian chairholders to work in Canada have been established by Employment and Social Development Canada and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada. Candidates who wish to be considered as a member of one or more designated groups are asked to complete the confidential Self-Identification Questionnaire, to be completed at the time of application.

The University of Ottawa is justly proud of its 160-year tradition of bilingualism. Through its Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute, the University provides training to staff members and their spouses in their second official language.