



University of Toronto

CONNAUGHT COMMITTEE

The McLean Award

Program Guidelines - January 14, 2008 Competition Deadline

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 McLean Award in the amount of \$100,000. One McLean Award will be made each year.

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.

The specific purpose of the McLean Award is to provide extraordinary support to an outstanding researcher relatively early in his or her career by assisting the awardee to attract and support graduate students and post-doctoral fellows of great promise as part of his/her research team. The award recipient will be known as the *McLean Senior Fellow*. 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 student and post-doctoral members of 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 for the personal compensation of the Awardee.

Eligibility

Eligibility for the McLean Award is restricted to full-time members of the University's faculty who conduct research in the fields designated above and who are, as of the date of application, within twelve years or less of having received the Ph.D. Final determination of the eligibility of applicants and area of research will be made by the adjudication panel.

Application

There is no application form for this Award. Submissions should include the following:

- a statement (no more than two pages) summarizing the applicant's research program since receiving a Ph.D., noting special research achievements or milestones, and detailing why this area of research is important and promising;
- a description (no more than two pages) of the applicant's current research program;
- an executive summary describing your research project and its anticipated significance/impact on the relevant area of research in non-specialist language (approximately half page in length);
- a short bio (of approximately 100 words) which will be featured on our website should you be successful in the competition;
- a research proposal, no more than three pages of the applicant's future research plans with both short term and long term objectives identified;
- a complete c.v. including a list of all refereed publications and research awards or distinctions;
- a listing of all funding held or applied for including project title, sponsor, amount and effective dates;
- a list of names and contact information of three individuals (outside of U.of T.) who could comment objectively on the scholarly standing of the applicant and the promise of his or her proposed research program. Please indicate why each individual was selected (e.g. expert in the field, knows applicant's work, etc.); and
- a list of five to ten references to work published within the past decade, not by the applicant, referees, nor collaborators, which seem most relevant to the proposed research.

Submissions should be typewritten with a minimum 12 pt font with 1 inch margins. Please submit an original and eight copies of the complete application package.

All submissions must be accompanied by an RIS Application Attachment ("blue form"), available electronically (Adobe Acrobat) at:

http://www.research.utoronto.ca/funding_internal/pdf/ris_blue.pdf

The signature of the applicant's academic unit head must appear on the cover page of the application.

Budget

No budget is required. The successful applicant will receive \$100,000 to support his or her research within the eligible expenditure categories set out above. The pace of expenditure of the Award is left entirely to the discretion of the awardee although the funds must be spent within seven years of the date of the Award.

Report

The Award Recipient will be required to submit a brief annual progress report (typically less than two pages), until the funds are fully spent. These reports must list the names of all McLean Graduate Fellows and McLean Post-doctoral Fellows funded by the Award.

Adjudication

The McLean Award will be awarded annually following competitive applications to an outstanding member of the University of Toronto to support his or her research program and research team. The two principal criteria in making the award will be the demonstrated excellence of the applicant's scientific and scholarly contributions to date and the importance and promise of the proposed research program. The two criteria will be given approximately equal weight but, where necessary to choose between two relatively equal applicants, additional weight will be given to contributions to date.

Applications will be reviewed and an award recommendation made by the Connaught Physical Sciences and Engineering Review Panel. This Panel may be augmented by the inclusion of other eminent University of Toronto scholars, at the discretion of the Vice-President - Research. Short-listed candidates will be invited to meet with the Review Panel. These meetings will involve a brief presentation by the applicant of his or her proposed research program and an opportunity to answer any questions that the Panel may have.

The final decision regarding the Award will be made by the Connaught Committee, upon receipt of the Panel's recommendation.

Deadline for Submissions

Applications must be received by the Connaught Secretariat, 3rd Floor, McMurrich Building, 12 Queen's Park Cr. W., no later than **January 14, 2008**.

Questions

Questions regarding the McLean Award should be directed to:

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