Office of the Vice-President Research



A weekly update on funding opportunities, workshops, and other support services.

In this Issue - 21 January 2025

USask Workshops and Support Services:

- Call for Nominations: New and Distinguished Researcher Award
- USask Love Data Week 2025
- CFI-JELF Information Session

Internal Research Programs:

- Collaborative Energy, Minerals, and Society Research Award
- Research Junction Development Grant 2025: Call for Proposals
- Tri-Agency USRAs: NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR Deadline 24 January 2025
- NSERC USRA Adjudication Committee: Call for Members

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities and Updates:

Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) – USask Launch

Natural Sciences and Engineering Opportunities and Updates:

• NSERC Alliance Webinar on EDI Considerations in the Training Plan

Social Sciences and Humanities Opportunities and Updates:

SSHRC Dialogue Newsletter

International Opportunities and Updates:

- 2024-2025 USask Internationalization Awards
- USask Misiweskamik International Postdoctoral Fellowship 2025
- NSERC Alliance: France-Canada Call for Proposals
- Human Frontier Science Program Research Grants
- Changes to Mitacs Globalink Research Award
- The Canadian International Development Scholarships 2030 (BCDI 2030)
- Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Centre Call for Proposals 2025

Learn more about RASI services online.

USask Workshops and Support Services

Call for Nominations: New and Distinguished Researcher Award

The Office of the Vice-President Research is inviting nominations for faculty members who have demonstrated excellence in their research, scholarly or artistic work. This is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements of University of Saskatchewan faculty members.

The **Distinguished Researcher Award** applies to eligible candidates that received their Ph.D or terminal degree 10 or more years ago whereas the **New Researcher Award** applies to eligible candidates who are within 10 years of receiving their Ph.D or terminal degree.

Distinguished Researcher Award: Nomination Process and Selection Criteria

New Researcher Award: Nomination Process and Selection Criteria

Nomination Deadline: 05 March 2025

Please submit your completed nomination package and direct any questions to Candace Leuschen at Candace.leuschen@usask.ca

USask Love Data Week 2025

Learn about all things data and research at **USask's Love Data Week 2025** from 10 -14 February 2025!

What is Love Data Week?

Love Data Week is an international celebration of data that takes place every year during the week of Valentine's Day. During the event, universities, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, associations and individuals gather to participate in data-related events and activities.

This is USask's first year participating, and we are excited to host you! Our sessions are open to everyone on campus—students, faculty and staff—and many sessions are open to the broader community. The focus of our events will be research data management and security, data sharing, Indigenous Data Sovereignty, data finding and data visualization.

Who is hosting Love Data Week?

Love Data Week is hosted by the University Library and generously co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice-President Research (OVPR) and the Information Communications and Technology (ICT) unit.

How do I register?

Register here to view all the available programming.

CFI-JELF Information Session

The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) <u>John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF)</u> program provides institutions the opportunity to acquire infrastructure for leading research faculty to undertake cutting-edge research. USask has been provided a JELF institutional envelope from which <u>project leaders can request up to 40% of the eligible project costs</u>.

This information session to be held on **Tuesday, 04 March 2024 (2pm -3pm)** has been targeted for those interested in the **October 2025** CFI submission group. Institutional CFI ask guidelines and review process will be discussed and a timeline for the submission will be provided. Potential applicants and co-applicants are

strongly encouraged to attend. Research facilitators and technical staff are welcome. We anticipate that USask will also submit JELFs to CFI in **February 2026** and **October 2026**.

October 2025 JELF Guidelines

- Proposed infrastructure will support cutting-edge CFI-eligible research at USask. It is appropriate to include in an existing or emerging core facility.
- Proposals can request up to \$800,000 from the CFI, with a maximum total eligible cost of \$2 million. The
 Institutional envelope is limited; the information session will provide guidance regarding CFI asks for
 this submission group.
- Core team (up to 3 applicants) must all have continuing, full-time academic appointments.
- Requests by OVPR to Innovation Saskatchewan will not be part of this call. Rather, proposals must demonstrate that all matching funding has been received by the university and/or provide letters of commitment from funding sources upon Expression of Interest submission.

Expressions of Interest intake will be **28 April 2025** and will be assessed for the fit with USask research priorities, impact to the USask research community, need for the infrastructure, feasibility and sustainability of the project and availability of institutional JELF envelope.

To register for this in-person information session, please RSVP to cfi.support@usask.ca.

Internal Research Programs

Collaborative Energy, Minerals, and Society Research Award

The University of Saskatchewan (USask) and University of Regina (URegina) are excited to announce a call for proposals for the new, jointly funded *Collaborative Energy, Minerals, and Society Research Award.* The award will support USask and URegina faculty members to co-supervise an undergraduate summer student to support a joint research project around Saskatchewan's energy transition, critical mineral resource development, and/or understanding societal impacts of these.

Awards available: 2 USask awards, 2 URegina awards (4 total)

Deadline to apply: 14 February 2025 at 9:00am **Award duration:** Four months May to August (2025)

Competition Details: <u>online</u>
Application Form: <u>online</u>

All applications will be submitted to rasi.support@usask.ca by 9:00am on Monday, 14 February 2025. All submissions are subject to compliance checks over the following five business days.

Workshop

Join us at a workshop to learn more and to have the opportunity to make a virtual connection with URegina faculty:

Date: 16 January 2025 Time: 1:00-2:00 PM Register: online

Contact Meaghan Risling at <u>rasi.support@usask.ca</u> to learn more about this exciting opportunity or to make a connection with a URegina researcher.

Research Junction Development Grant 2025: Call for Proposals

<u>Research Junction</u> is a partnership between the City of Saskatoon and the University of Saskatchewan to support the development of collaborative research projects that address contemporary urban issues for the benefit of Saskatoon

residents. The <u>Research Junction Development Grant</u> will support research projects developed in partnership between a city staff member and a USask researcher.

Available funding: \$100,000

Individual grant amount: \$10,000 to \$30,000

Deadline to apply: 16 May 2025 Competition Details: <u>online</u> Application Form: online

Applications must be submitted to UnivRS by 16 May 2025 at 4:00pm. All submissions are subject to UnivRS approvals and compliance checks over the following five business days.

Contact Meaghan Risling at <u>research.junction@usask.ca</u> to learn more about this exciting opportunity or to make a connection with City of Saskatoon staff.

Tri-Agency USRAs: NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR – Deadline 24 January 2025

Undergraduate students and faculty supervisors are invited to submit applications for the 2024 Undergraduate Student Research Awards competition by **Friday**, 24 January 2025 at 11:59 pm Saskatchewan Time.

There are five different USRA Awards for summer 2025:

- NSERC USRAs (61 Awards for USask)
- NSERC USRAs for Indigenous Student Researchers (Unlimited Awards for USask)
- NSERC USRAs for Black Student Researchers (6 Awards for USask)
- SSHRC USRA for Black Student Researchers (3 Awards for USask)
- CIHR USRA for Black Student Researchers (3 Awards for USask)

Please see our website for application details and contact undergraduate.research@usask.ca with questions.

NSERC USRA Adjudication Committee: Call for Members

USask faculty are invited to submit applications to join **USask's NSERC USRA** Adjudication Committee.

The <u>Terms of Reference</u> outlines the committee's mandate, membership criteria, review process and important dates.

Apply: Online

Deadline: Friday, 24 January 2025, by 5 PM

For questions, please contact <u>undergraduate.research@usask.ca</u>.

Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities

Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) – USask Launch

The <u>Canada Excellence Research Chairs</u> (CERC) program is designed to attract researchers and scholars of the very highest caliber to Canadian universities. This program is responsible for contributing to Canada's global competitiveness and wellbeing as well as support Canadian institutions in the attainment of highly competitive global research talent.

These are highly competitive chairs. RASI has a created a CERC snapshot to provide an overview of previous competition results and profile successful award holders. This snapshot can be viewed here.

March 2026 CERC Competition

Formal launch expected in late January 2025; however, we have been provided with the following details:

- Chairs will be valued at either:
 - o \$500K/year for 8 years (\$4M)
 - o \$1M/year for 8 years (\$8M)

Note: The USask institutional application limit is \$1M/year (\$8M total) for the 2026 competition.

• Nominations must align with the federal Science, Technology and Innovation Priorities. These remain unchanged from the 2022 competition. Those can be viewed here.

USask 2026 CERC process and timelines

To support the successful recruitment of a candidate, RASI has developed a multi-stage process.

Stage 1	3 March 2025	Expression of Interest (EOI) deadline
Stage 2	12 May 2025	Theme Area and Nominee Submissions deadline
	27 May 2025	Applicants notified
Stage 3	June 2025	RASI launch meeting(s)
	January 2026	TIPS CERC registration deadline
	March 2026	CERC submission deadline

Stage 1: EOI Submission

Once submitted, RASI will provide one-on-one support to explore the strength of the proposed research area and the feasibility of recruiting a nominee with world-leading expertise. These activities will contribute to the development of a Theme Area and Nomination Submission.

Stage 2: Theme Area and Nomination Submission

The Strategic Advisory Committee will provide recommendations by ranking Theme Area and Nominee submissions based on:

- Available USask quota
- Quality of Theme Area and Nomination Submission
- Feasibility of nominee recruitment in the theme area

Stage 3: CERC Submission

RASI will work with those sponsoring the successful submission(s) to develop and implement a tailored process to submission.

If you are interested in submitting an EOI, please use this form.

If you have any questions, please contact rasi.support@usask.ca.

Natural Sciences and Engineering Opportunities and Updates

NSERC Alliance Webinar on EDI Considerations in the Training Plan

NSERC's Alliance Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Outreach team is offering a presentation on EDI

considerations in the Alliance Training Plan for applicants.

The interactive session will focus on the importance of EDI in the research team, consideration of EDI in the Alliance application, and how to write a strong statement regarding EDI in the training plan. We will work through examples together and share resources with you.

Register ahead of time by clicking on the desired link below and then clicking the "Register" button on the Event page. Please note that an identical session is offered twice in each language.

You are welcome to **submit your questions** about EDI in the Alliance Training Plan ahead of the information session via the registration links (see below). When registering for a session, there will be an optional text box for advance questions. Submitting your questions in advance will ensure that we get them during the presentation and that we are able to prepare a helpful answer for you.

Please bear in mind that project-, partner-, student-, or team-specific questions are better addressed privately; you can send these anytime by contacting us at alliance@nserc-crsng.gc.ca.

Feel free to share the invitation with other faculty members who may be interested in attending. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Session in English:

Tuesday, January 28th, 2025; 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Eastern Time (ET)

Event registration: https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/6bded2ee-9b27-4acb-b1f0-9a2408590c19@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65

Wednesday, February 5th, 2025; 11:00 am – 12:30 pm ET

Event registration: https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/69b6d976-7271-43bd-9633-1df23d131656@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65

Session in French:

Monday, January 27th, 2025; 11:00 am – 12:30 pm ET

Event registration: https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/a924c2a3-b479-4cda-a7ee-c7125f81e132@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65

Tuesday, February 4th, 2025; 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm ET

Event registration: https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/05916b97-31d6-4426-b91e-69f2a0e740cb@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65

Social Science and Humanities Opportunities and Updates

SSHRC Dialogue Newsletter

Please see below for highlights from the 15 January 2025 SSHRC Dialogue Newsletter:

- SSHRC Launches Impact Awards 2025 competition
- 2025 Impact Awards webinars
- Guidance on the Use of AI in the Development and Review of Research Proposals
- Canada-France call for proposals on Al
- Parliamentary Internship Programme taking applications for 2025-26 cohort

Funding Focus – Upcoming Deadlines:

- SSHRC's Storytellers Challenge (21 January 2025)
- Destination Horizon Grants (22 January 2025) *new*
- Connection Grants (01 February 2025)
- Insight Development Grants (02 February 2025)
- Partnership Grants—Stage 1 (10 February 2025)
- Research on Research Joint Initiative (20 February 2025)
- Partnership Engage Grants (15 March 2025)
- SSHRC Impact Awards (01 April 2025)

International Opportunities and Updates

2024-2025 USask Internationalization Awards

J.W. George Ivany Internationalization Award for Faculty

As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action, the International Office announces the <u>J.W.</u>

<u>George Ivany Internationalization Award</u> to recognize the achievements of a USask faculty member who provides outstanding contributions to the internationalization of the University of Saskatchewan. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask faculty for a J.W. George Ivany Internationalization Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions.

Visit here for details. Questions can be directed to international.office@usask.ca.

Nomination deadline: 31 March 2025 by 4 PM CST/SK time

Value: \$1500

Global Research Leadership Award for Faculty

As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action, the International Office announces the **Global Research Leadership Award** to recognize exceptional contributions of a USask faculty member toward strengthening the global profile of the University of Saskatchewan. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask faculty for a Global Research Leadership Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions.

Visit here for details. Questions can be directed to international.office@usask.ca.

Nomination deadline: 31 March 2025 by 4 PM CST/SK time

Value: \$1500

International Engagement Service Award for Staff

As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action, the International Office announces the International Engagement Service Award for Staff to recognize the achievements of a USask administrative staff member who provides outstanding contributions to the internationalization of the University of Saskatchewan. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask staff for an International Engagement Service Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions.

Visit here for details. Questions can be directed to international.office@usask.ca.

Nomination deadline: 31 March 2025 by 4 PM CST/SK time

Value: \$1500

Global Research Leadership Award for Students

As part of the University of Saskatchewan Blueprint for Action, the International Office announces the **Global Research Leadership Award** to recognize exceptional contributions of a USask student or student-led team who provides outstanding global research leadership. Nominate our amazing and deserving USask students for a Global Research Leadership Award. Nomination forms and two supporting letters must be included with submissions.

Visit here for details. Questions can be directed to international.office@usask.ca.

Nomination deadline: 31 March 2025 by 4 PM CST/SK time

Value: \$1500

Funded through <u>USask's International Blueprint for Action</u>, this competitive fellowship has a mandate of bringing international postdoctoral scholars to the University of Saskatchewan.

The Fellowship may allocate up to one award in the following Signature Areas of Research:

- 1. Indigenous Peoples: Engagement and Scholarship
- 2. <u>Health and Wellness</u>: Combining the arts, social sciences, biomedical sciences and medicine to make humans healthier
- Communities and Sustainability: Exploring the interrelatedness of human communities and natural
 ecologies

Value and Duration: \$50,000/year for two years Number of Awards: One fellowship awarded annually

Application deadline: 07 February 2025

Details of the call can be found here.

NSERC Alliance: France-Canada Call for Proposals

NSERC's Alliance Communications Team will be offering presentations on the <u>Canada-France call for</u> <u>proposals on artificial intelligence</u> for university faculty members and researchers on 11 February 2025 at 1:00 PM ET (French) and 12 February 2025 at 11:00 AM ET (English).

Please register ahead of time by clicking on the desired link below and then clicking the "Register" button on the Event page.

This joint initiative between the <u>French National Research Agency</u> (ANR), and the three federal research funding agencies – the <u>Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada</u> (NSERC), the <u>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada</u> (SSHRC), and the <u>Canadian Institutes of Health Research</u> (CIHR), in collaboration with <u>IVADO</u>, was announced on <u>September 18, 2024</u>, and the complete <u>literature</u> was published on <u>December 19, 2024</u>. The deadline to submit proposals is the end of March 2025; the exact date will be confirmed later.

The presentations will focus on the objectives of the call and on the requirements for the Canadian teams to apply for funds. NSERC will be responsible for receiving and assessing the eligibility of the Canadian applications on behalf of the three Councils. Where applicable, IVADO will evaluate the requests for supplements that are included in the proposals. Representatives from NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR and IVADO will be present at the webinar to answer questions.

You are welcome to submit your questions about this call for proposals ahead of the information session via the registration links (see below). When registering for a session, there will be an optional text box for advance questions. Submitting your question in advance will ensure that we get to your question during the presentation and that we are able to prepare a helpful answer for you.

Please bear in mind that any project-, partner-, student, or team-specific questions are better addressed privately; you can send these anytime by contacting us at ANR@nserc-crsng.gc.ca.

Please note, Al chatbot technology is not permitted to be used during these meetings due to security and privacy concerns.

Please share the invitation with other faculty members who may be interested in attending. We look forward to seeing you soon.

French session: Tuesday, 11 February 2025; 1:00 – 2:30 PM Eastern Time (ET)

Registration link: https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/06f1b0dd-64b3-40ed-a7c6-80ce8f672639@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65

English session: Wednesday, 12 February 2025; 11:00 AM- 12:30 PM Eastern Time (ET) Registration link: https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/1571c2a5-e0f1-413d-81a4-

e17d3ebcbd85@fbef0798-20e3-4be7-bdc8-372032610f65

Human Frontier Science Program Research Grants

HFSP Research Grants support innovative basic research into fundamental biological problems with emphasis placed on novel and interdisciplinary approaches that involve scientific exchanges across national and disciplinary boundaries (see guidelines).

Participation of scientists from disciplines outside the traditional life sciences such as biophysics, chemistry, computational biology, computer science, engineering, mathematics, nanoscience or physics is recommended because such collaborations have opened up new approaches for understanding the complex structures and regulatory networks that characterize living organisms, their evolution and interactions.

Research grants are provided for teams of scientists from different countries who wish to combine their expertise in innovative approaches to questions that could not be answered by individual laboratories. Preliminary results are not required and applicants are expected to develop new lines of research through the research collaboration.

It is understood that such research inherently contains risks and HFSP expects that teams of applicants address the risks and outline mitigation strategies for their research in case of failure and how they intend to achieve their goals.

Applications for applied research, including medical research typically funded by national medical research bodies, will be deemed ineligible (see guidelines).

Applicants can check the HFSP Science Digest on recently awardee projects.

Two types of Grant are available: Research Grants – Early Career and Research Grants – Program.

• Research Grants - Early Career

All team members are expected to direct a research group (however small) and must have a doctoral degree (PhD, MD or equivalent). They must be in a position to initiate and direct their own independent lines of research. The HFSP award is not intended to create scientific independence, this is a decision of the research institute prior to the application.

Research Grants – Program

Awarded to teams of independent researchers at any stage of their careers. The research team is expected to develop new lines of research through the collaboration. Applications including independent investigators early in their careers are encouraged.

Project Duration: Three years of funding support, but funds can be used in a fourth year **Funding Amount:** 300,000 – 500,000 USD (depending on team size and composition)

Internal Deadline: 10 business days before the external deadlines

Letter of Intent Deadline: 27 March 2025

External Deadline: mid-September 2025, by invitation only

Changes to Mitacs Globalink Research Award

Changes to Mitacs Globalink Research Award

The new and simplified GRA program features important changes, some of which are detailed below:

- Only two streams: allocation and quantum. The program will no longer be co-delivered with international partners. Instead, Mitacs will fully fund all projects.
- **Allocation stream**: participating universities will receive an allocation of internship units (IUs). Cofunding is not required.
- **Quantum stream**: open to all universities. No IUs limit per university and does not count in the allocation. Co-funding is not required.
- Each intern is now allowed a maximum of two IUs per academic lifetime (across projects).
- · Increased project duration: two years

The online application portal will also undergo functional changes ahead of the new program's launch on April 1. Please note, all projects still pending on the portal on Monday, 31 March 2025, will be deleted permanently. All Mitacs applications must be submitted internally to UnivRS by Friday, 07 March 2025 to ensure that they can be submitted to Mitacs by Friday, 21 March 2025.

The Canadian International Development Scholarships 2030 (BCDI 2030)

The Canadian International Development Scholarships 2030 (BCDI 2030) program will soon be launching the first of several terms of reference for institutional partnership projects. All member institutions of Universities Canada (and Colleges and Institutes Canada) will be invited to present proposals for "Stream 2" projects which forge partnerships between Canadian and partner country higher education institutions in 26 eligible countries in Africa. The projects will allow you to offer customized training programs designed to address the unique labour market needs and challenges of each partner country. Keep an eye out in the next few weeks for an announcement with more information.

You can also visit www.bcdi2030.ca or email info@bcdi2030.ca

Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Centre Call for Proposals 2025

The Oxford-Harrington Rare Disease Centre (OHC), a partnership between the University of Oxford, U.K. and Harrington Discovery Institute at University Hospitals, Cleveland, Ohio, is seeking innovative projects for its 2025 Rare Disease Scholar Award, which advances promising discoveries from academic labs into clinical practice. In addition to grant funding, the award includes drug and business development support from pharma-experienced industry leaders.

The OHC's 2025 Rare Disease Scholar Award seeks novel approaches to treat rare diseases, with a focus on neurological disorders, developmental and metabolic disorders, and rare cancers. Applications directed to other rare, genetic indications with a high unmet need are also of interest. Any therapeutic modality will be considered. Intellectual property rights are retained by the award recipient or their institution.

Researchers in the US, UK, and Canada are eligible to apply for this award. Successful applicants will receive:

- Guaranteed grant award of USD\$100,000 for US- and Canada-based awardees and £100,000 for UKbased awardees
- One year of therapeutics development support and project management with potential to renew for a second year based on milestones met
- Access to core facilities and infrastructure including oligonucleotide synthesis and screening, small molecule and protein platforms, cell and gene therapy facilities
- Opportunity to compete for acceleration funds up to USD\$300,000 / £250,000
- Opportunity to qualify for investment funds up to USD\$1,000,000 according to project requirements
- Invitation to present at a Harrington Discovery Institute or Oxford-Harrington Centre Symposium

Internal Deadline: 24 February 2025

External Deadline: 10 March 2025, 11:59 PM ET

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

For more information, email research.services@usask.ca

Sent to USask research listservs by Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives, OVPR You can manage your research listserv subscriptions <u>online</u>.