Saint Mary's University

Emergency Retention Mechanism Statement
posted on November 03, 2026

The Canada Research Chairs program allows institutions to engage an Emergency Retention Mechanism in very exceptional circumstances to assist institutions in the retention of outstanding scholars. Saint Mary's University (SMU) intends to use the Emergency Retention Mechanism to nominate an exceptional SMU professor/researcher for a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair.

Justification:

- The candidate is being actively recruited for research leadership positions at other institutions, and SMU wishes to retain this individual.
- The candidate is very well qualified for a Tier 1 CRC, being recognized internationally as a Canadian leader in their area.
- The candidate's research aligns strongly with one of the Major Research Themes in the SMU Strategic Research Plan, and represents a long-standing area of unique strength for SMU.
- This retention is being done in careful consideration of current and future equity and diversity targets for the allocation of CRCs, noting that SMU is entering a period of turnover/renewal in Chairholders that will involve specific intention in hiring to ensure continued alignment with SMU's targets.

The utilization of the Emergency Retention Mechanism was done in compliance with the Canada Research Chairs Program requirements, and this transparency statement has been posted to fulfill one of these requirements (see Requirements for recruiting and nominating Canada Research Chairs).

All CRC nominations are subject to review and approval by the Tri-Agency Institutional Programs Secretariat.

This decision was approved by:

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If you have any questions or concerns regarding this decision, please contact:

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