



OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT,
RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

**PETRO-CANADA YOUNG INNOVATOR AWARDS
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION
2017**

Academic year:	2016-2017
Deadline:	For application deadline please refer to the Faculty call for proposals Faculty recommendations must be submitted to the Office of the VP, Research and Graduate Studies by <u>March 29, 2017 at 12 p.m.</u>
Awards:	Up to two awards, \$10,000 each
Nomination Quota:	1 application from the Faculty of Fine Arts, John Molson School of Business, and the Faculty of Engineering and Computer Science 2 applications from the Faculty of Arts and Science

Program Overview

Concordia University is pleased to announce a call for proposals for the 2017 edition of the Petro-Canada Young Innovator Awards.

The Petro-Canada Young Innovator Awards (PCYIA) recognize, promote, and support outstanding and innovative emerging researchers whose work contributes significantly to the training environment of the University and has an impact on society at large. This annual award, made possible by Suncor Energy's generous endowment to Concordia University, is intended to articulate the commitment of Suncor Energy and Concordia to support researchers at the launch of their scholarly careers, and enable them to carry their research forward.

The competition is open to all subject areas related to Concordia's [Strategic Research Plan](#), with one award attributed to each of the two strategic research clusters identified and described in the plan: "The Person and Society" and "Technology, Industry and the Environment".

The recipients will each receive \$10,000 and hold the title of Petro-Canada Young Innovator for one year.

Eligibility

Full-time tenure-track faculty members at Concordia are eligible to apply from the start of appointment until their fifth year (*in the 2016-2017 competition, this refers to appointments starting in January 2012 or more recently*) and who obtained their highest academic degree within the last seven years (*January 2010 or more recently*).

Time spent in a non tenure-track position, such as Lecturer, LTA, or postdoctoral fellow, does not count towards the period of eligibility.



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Faculty members holding research chairs or special research professorships are ineligible to apply because of their unique status that already includes research support and protected time for research.

A faculty member can only be awarded the PCYIA once. Unsuccessful nominations can be resubmitted if all eligibility criteria are met. A faculty member cannot be nominated for a PCYIA and submit an application for the University Research Awards program in the same year.

Nomination and Submission

Each Faculty prepares a call for proposals inviting faculty members to submit applications to the PCYIA competition. In the call, each Faculty indicates the internal deadline to receive applications. The respective Faculty Research Committee (or the equivalent) selects among the applications and submits their recommendations to the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies by Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at 12 p.m.

Applications to the Faculty must include:

- A lay summary of the proposed project (1 page);
- A description of the project addressing: objectives and expected outcomes, activity plan with a timeline, and significance (up to 5 pages);
- List of References (1 page);
- Budget and justification of expenses;
- A letter of recommendation from a colleague highlighting the innovative aspect of the proposed project (up to 2 pages); and
- Free form CV maximum number of pages is 20 (standard formats such as the Canadian Common CV - both versions - or CVs by the major funding agencies are recommended).

The recommendation by the Faculty to the OVPRGS must include:

- A complete dossier of the selected application(s) (as described above); and
- A separate recommendation letter for each application by the Faculty Dean's office describing the reasons for selecting the candidate(s), the quality and innovative aspect of the research/creation, the contribution to their field, and fit with the Strategic Research Cluster (up to 2 pages).

Adjudication Process

University Research Awards Committee

Recommended proposals will be adjudicated by the *University Research Awards Committee*. The Committee is chaired by the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies (or delegate) and consists of six voting members, appointed for a period of two years. The members are from various disciplines representing all Faculties: two from Arts and Science, one from each of the other Faculties, and one from the School of Graduate Studies. The Chair will vote only in case of a tie. A representative of Suncor Energy may be present as a non-voting observer during the Committee meeting.

Conflict of interest

The Committee members cannot be in a situation of conflict of interest with respect to a candidate. Conflict of interest includes, but is not limited to, having collaborated (i.e., published or been a co-researcher) with the applicant in the last six years, being involved in the proposed research, or providing a letter of support as part of the application dossier. The Committee members must disclose any conflict of interest to the Chair of the committee prior to the start of the adjudication process.

Evaluation criteria

The recommended proposals, received by the Committee, are evaluated on the following points:



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- Quality and innovative aspect of the proposed project;
- Expected outcomes;
- Impact on graduate student training;
- Overall research/creative activity promise of the applicant; and the
- Appropriateness of project scope and budget.

Should the Committee determine that nominations in a given category or year do not warrant the title of Petro-Canada Young Innovator, the award will be withheld for that competition.

Award administration and Reporting

After the award announcement, the funds will be released upon verification that any compliance requirements (human ethics, etc.) are met. The funds will be made available in a research account following the award announcement.

The awarded funds are normally spent within two years of the award notice. If the project is not completed within the time frame, the grant holder must contact the OOR. An award cannot be transferred to another faculty member, a research unit, or a department. In general, only the proposed research project should be supported with the awarded funds, however, small modifications to the approved project are allowed. If a project is terminated before completion, the remaining funds will be returned to the Program envelope.

Reporting and Communication

Each award recipient must submit a brief report, within six months of the end date of the award, to the OOR, outlining how funds were spent, specific outcomes including training of students, and how the award contributed to the recipient's overall research activities.

The University will advise Suncor Energy, in writing, of the selection decisions as soon as they are made and provide a copy of the winners' abstracts. If a recipient's work is particularly relevant to Suncor Energy, the company may wish to continue communications with the award recipient and receive a copy of the final report.