School of Social Work

Canada Research Chair (Tier 2) in Migration and Mobility in the Digital Age

The School of Social Work invites applications for a tenure-track appointment at the Assistant Professor or Associate Professor rank to be nominated for a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC). The field of specialization is Migration and Mobility in the Digital Age. We seek applicants who demonstrate the potential for major and transformative scholarship on the relationship of digital technologies to global migration and mobility. Following from York’s strategic research priorities of Public Engagement for a Just and Sustainable World, and Digital Cultures, and from the School’s priority research areas of critical social work, social policy, and global social justice, we are interested in scholars whose work will add significant strength to our established research capacity in the study of migration, resettlement, and precarious status, while at the same time intensifying our research capacity in affiliation with York’s Organized Research Units such as the Centre for Refugee Studies, Centre for Research on Latin America and the Caribbean, York Centre for Asian Research, Centre for Feminist Research, and the Institute for Science and Technology Studies. The use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in the national and transnational context is a vital and growing area of research expertise as ICTs are increasingly implicated in the movement and (in)security of people today. This CRC will, for example, engage the digitization of everyday life in relation to questions of identity, inclusion, and/or exclusion, studying the use of biometrics and/or digital technologies in social services, institutional practices and government policies that produce new forms of surveillance and knowledge within and across borders, and, in particular, in the forced migration of people.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in Social Work or a related field, and a BSW or MSW with demonstrated excellence or promise of excellence in teaching and scholarly research. This candidate will have in place the active, ongoing, and substantial research portfolio of an emerging world-class researcher with a demonstrated capacity for leadership and the potential to achieve international recognition in the field, and will have demonstrated the potential for excellence in the areas of Migration and Mobility in the Digital Age. Candidates for this position will be committed to progressive social work education which develops theory and practice in relation to human rights and social justice, and thus affirms that personal experiences are embedded in social structures. Such an orientation will be the basis for teaching one of Canada’s most diverse student bodies who expect, but are not limited, to practice in the rich diversity of urban Toronto. The successful candidate will be committed to conceptualizing social work as an expression of social justice. Preference will be given to those with experience supervising graduate students and/or the potential to attract, develop, and retain excellent
students and future researchers. It is expected that the successful applicant will direct courses related to Migration and Mobility in the Digital Age at all levels, contribute to curricular development in her/his area of specialization, and participate actively in the graduate program. The successful applicant shall be eligible for prompt appointment to the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

The School of Social Work at York University is recognized worldwide as a leader in critical social work. Of special interest for this CRC is our critical perspective on Canadian social policy as it affects migrant communities and racialized communities. Home to the Canadian Review of Social Policy, the School includes, among our diverse faculty members, a large number of prolific and well known researchers and writers. The School’s diverse student body offers a rich resource for teaching and research with respect to migration, settlement, identity and difference. Our graduate students conduct crucial research in the area of nation building, the Canadian state and social justice. York University is located in Toronto, Ontario, a centre of creativity and commerce with an exceptionally diverse population.

Established by the Government of Canada, the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program seeks to attract outstanding researchers to Canadian universities. The Tier 2 CRC is for candidates who are within 10 years of having completed their PhD, emerging world-class researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field, and having demonstrated the potential to achieve international recognition and attract students and trainees. The awards have 5 year terms and are renewable once. Appointments to these Canada Research Chair positions are subject to review and approval by the Canada Research Chairs Secretariat. Complete details about the CRC program can be found on the CRC website at www.chairs-chaires.gc.ca/.

The start date for this position is July 1, 2015. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. All York University positions are subject to budgetary approval. The deadline for applications is December 11, 2014.

Candidates should submit a signed letter of application, an up-to-date curriculum vitae, a specific research plan, a statement of research leadership plans, and a sample of the applicant’s written work (no longer than 25 pp.) and arrange for three signed letters of reference to be sent directly to:

Professor Barbara Heron, Director
School of Social Work, 878 South Ross Building
Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies
York University
4700 Keele Street
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M3J 1P3
Email: bheron@yorku.ca — (Subject Line “CRC Tier 2”)

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York University is an Affirmative Action (AA) employer and strongly values diversity, including gender and sexual diversity, within its community. The AA Program, which applies to Aboriginal people, visible minorities, people with disabilities, and women, can be found at www.yorku.ca/acadjobs or by calling the AA office at 416-736-5713. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and Permanent Residents will be given priority.

The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS) brings together internationally recognized research, a devotion to effective teaching, and a commitment to diversity, equity and social justice. The range, global sensitivity and intensity of disciplinary and interdisciplinary degree programs are mirrored by the diversity and engagement of its professors and students. Within its 21 academic units, LA&PS provides a compelling learning experience for more than 25,000 undergraduate and 1,800 graduate students. Become part of LA&PS — Canada’s most comprehensive group of academic programs and researchers in social sciences, humanities and related professional fields.