



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR CHRIS SPENCER FOUNDATION PROFESSORSHIP IN DYSLEXIA

The Faculty of Education invites applications for the **Chris Spencer Foundation Professorship in Dyslexia**, a professorship established to make significant contributions to the methodology and training resources available to teachers and families of children with dyslexia and related learning disabilities. We seek applications that articulate a clear vision for achieving demonstrable impact in Education through advancement of knowledge and improvement in practice. All **full-time, tenured** UBC faculty members at the rank of **Associate Professor or Professor** are eligible to apply.

The recipient of this Professorship is charged with pursuing the following mandate:

- Pursue a research program in the field of learning disabilities focusing on dyslexia and related reading and writing disabilities, through securing grant support and recruitment of graduate students.
- Provide leadership and coordination of research activities involving graduate students and faculty, in Education and across UBC; specifically, develop linkages with related UBC faculty, particularly in the Faculty of Medicine and in the area of Rehabilitation Sciences.
- Work with school communities to develop programs that will effectively meet the needs of children with dyslexia and related learning disabilities.
- Adapt graduate courses and seminars to focus on the current state of research on dyslexia and related learning disabilities, support practicum placements that provide students with learning opportunities in the area of dyslexia and related learning disabilities.
- Develop symposia for faculty and students that bring international scholars in the field to campus to explore new avenues of research.

Applicants are asked to submit the following materials for consideration by the Search Committee:

- i. Cover Letter (2 page max.)
- ii. Curriculum Vitae
- iii. Vision Statement (1500 words max.)
  - Please outline your vision for a three-year term as incumbent of the Professorship, indicating how you would implement the mandate described above, and how you would assess the impact of the proposed Professorship activities and initiatives. [To note: Current financial resources for the Spencer Professorship are limited (see below) yet the mandate for the Professorship is ambitious. In developing a vision statement, applicants are invited to focus their plans on selected elements, while still capturing the overall intent of the donor's mandate.]
- iv. Two references
  - One university affiliated faculty member external to the UBC Faculty of Education;
  - One community member with whom the applicant has been engaged on issues relevant to this professorship.

Criteria for the Search Committee's evaluation, to be evidenced in the cover letter and curriculum vitae, will include: excellence and impact of research and scholarship; record of leadership, research and programmatic

activities relevant to the mandate of the Professorship; and evidence of effective graduate and undergraduate student research mentorship. Further, the vision statement will be evaluated with respect to alignment with the mandate of the Professorship; its potential for advancement of knowledge and impact on practice in schools and communities; innovation; effective use of resources; and awareness of cultural issues relevant to educational engagement and intervention.

Each short-listed candidate will be asked to participate in an individual interview with the committee followed by a one-hour Question & Answer session with the Faculty of Education community. Prior to the interview, the candidate's curriculum vitae and vision statement will be made available within the Faculty of Education.

Terms of the position:

- 1) The incumbent must maintain active **full-time and tenured employment status** in the University at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor during the term of the Professorship.
- 2) The Professorship will provide financial support of **\$12,000 per year**, to be directed to research activities, research assistant support, and programmatic initiatives. With approval, funds can be used for research course release. Release of funds is contingent on acceptance of a proposed Year One budget for Professorship activities.
- 3) The successful candidate will be awarded a **three-year term**; at the end of the term, they may apply for reappointment as part of an open search for the Professorship.
- 4) Implementation and oversight of the Professorship, with respect to budget review and annual reporting, will be guided by UBC Policy #47, the Faculty of Education internal guidelines and procedures, as well as the Office of Development and Alumni Engagement requirements for annual reports to donors who fund the Professorship.

The Professorship appointment is expected to be effective **July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**, or as negotiated with the successful candidate. The position is subject to final budgetary approval. Consideration of candidates will begin on **February 15, 2018** and will continue until the position is filled. To ensure full consideration, please submit application materials by **February 15, 2018** to:

**Dr. Mark Beauchamp, Associate Dean, Research**  
Faculty of Education  
University of British Columbia 2125 Main Mall  
Vancouver BC, Canada V6T 1Z4  
OR via e-mail: [mark.beauchamp@ubc.ca](mailto:mark.beauchamp@ubc.ca)

*Equity and diversity are essential to academic excellence. An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. We encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person. We encourage all qualified persons to apply; Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada will, however, be given priority.*