Tier II CRC in Invertebrate Neurobiology

The Department of Biology, Western University, (www.uwo.ca/biology) is pleased to announce a search for a Probationary (tenure track) at the rank of Assistant or Associate, or Tenured at the rank of Associate, Tier II Canada Research Chair in Invertebrate Neurobiology. The rank and tenure status will be commensurate with the successful applicant’s qualifications and experience. The anticipated start date will be July 1, 2018 or as negotiated.

The CRC in Invertebrate Neurobiology will carry out research on invertebrate animals, such as insects, nematodes or molluscs and develop a competitive research programme in: cognitive or neuro-physiology, neurobiology of behavior, neural target identification, neurobiology of plant-insect interactions, or a related area. Neurobiology is advancing rapidly with new experimental approaches, and the successful applicant will ideally employ cutting-edge methods and techniques in their research, for example optogenetics or other in vivo control or assay of neuronal activity.

The CRC will be expected to develop a strong funding portfolio including basic science funding (e.g. NSERC, CIHR), and potentially funding supported by industrial, government, or NGO partners, for example in the pharmaceutical, agriculture, pesticide or biocontrol sectors.

Cognitive Neuroscience is an identified research strength and well-supported research theme at Western. There is ongoing and significant investment being made into core research facilities and infrastructure in this research area, including an ongoing search for a CRC Tier I position in Systems Neurobiology and two junior appointments in Cognitive Neuroscience. In addition, the University has just been awarded $66M from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund to support Cognitive Neuroscience and Imaging, the largest competitive grant in Western’s history. The ideal candidate will be able to collaborate effectively with academic colleagues across the University, for example with our partners in the Neuroscience program and Western’s Brain and Mind Institute (http://www.uwo.ca/bmi/).

The Department seeks an energetic, interdisciplinary, and visionary early career scholar committed to the study of Invertebrate Neurobiology. The candidate will hold a doctoral degree in a relevant discipline such as biology, neurobiology or physiology. In addition, a proven ability to deliver world-class, innovative research and impact in the field as evidenced for example, by publications in top journals across the discipline, is required. Demonstrated success in attracting research funding, and the ability to lead a research group and train highly-qualified undergraduate and graduate personnel are also highly desired characteristics.

Western’s Department of Biology is an exceptional environment for interdisciplinary research and teaching. Our department consists of 38 faculty and over 150 graduate students and boasts strength in the study of invertebrates including their chemical ecology, physiology, evolution, development, and behavioural genetics. Western has one of the strongest groups of insect scientists in Canada, including ecologists, physiologists, evolutionary biologists, cellular and molecular biologists and groups examining molecular plant-insect interactions. Western also has strong connections with insect scientists who are adjunct colleagues at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, which has a large research campus in London (http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/science-and-innovation/research-centres/ontario/london-research-and-development-centre/?id=1180640801098).

The Department has large undergraduate majors and honors programs in biology, ecology and genetics. Therefore, the ability to teach to a variety of student constituencies ranging from introductory biology to highly specialized neurobiology is essential. In addition, members of the department participate in the graduate program in Biology plus have the option to participate in the collaborative graduate programs of Developmental Biology, Environment and Sustainability, and Neuroscience.
With a full-time enrolment of about 35,000 students, Western University is a large, research-intensive university with a full range of academic and professional programs. General information about the University can be found at http://www.uwo.ca To learn more about Western and its resources for new faculty, please visit: http://www.uwo.ca/about/work.html and http://uwo.ca/facultyrelations/recruitment_retention/index.html

The university campus is in London Ontario, a city of 410,000, located midway between Toronto and Detroit. With parks, river valleys, tree-lined streets, and bicycle paths, London is known as the “Forest City”. London has a reasonable cost-of-living, and boasts an international airport, galleries, theatre, music and sporting events (see http://www.goodmovelondon.com/).

In accordance with the regulations set for Tier 2 Canada Research Chairs (www.chairs-chaires.gc.ca), Tier 2 Chairs are intended for exceptional emerging scholars (i.e., candidates must have less than 10 years of experience as an active researcher in their field at the time of nomination). Applicants who are more than 10 years from having earned their highest degree (and where career breaks exist, such as maternity, parental or extended sick leave, clinical training, etc.) may have their eligibility for a Tier 2 Chair assessed through the program’s Tier 2 justification process, please contact Research Development at Western for more information. Please consult the Canada Research Chair website for full program information, including further details on eligibility criteria: http://www.chairs-chaires.gc.ca/program-programme/nomination-mise_en_candidature-eng.aspx#s3

Candidates should submit a curriculum vitae, two-page research plan, one-page teaching and mentoring statement including a description of experiences and contact details of at least three referees to:

Professor Mark Bernards, Chair,
Department of Biology, Faculty of Science
The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario N6A 5B7, Canada

Email: hrbio@uwo.ca

Please ensure that the Application for Full-Time Faculty Position Form available at http://www.uwo.ca/facultyrelations/pdf/careers/Faculty/Application-FullTime-Faculty-Position-Form.pdf is completed and included in your application submission.

Consideration of applications will begin on January 31, 2017 and will continue until the position is filled.

*Positions are subject to budget approval and conditional upon a successful CRC application. Applicants should have fluent written and oral communication skills in English. The University invites applications from all qualified individuals. Western is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups/visible minorities, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression.*

*In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.*

Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process. If you require accommodations for interviews or other meetings, please contact Sherri Waring (swaring@uwo.ca) or phone 519-661-2111 ext. 83154.

Posted on Faculty Relations website December 15, 2016.