

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)
REQUEST FOR DECISION

PRESENTED BY: Scott Walsworth, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships (JCCP)

DATE OF MEETING: September 26, 2024

SUBJECT: Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health

DECISION REQUESTED: It is recommended by the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships that University Council approve the Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

PURPOSE: To provide strategic leadership in swine welfare research for the Canadian swine industry, to increase the critical mass of highly qualified personnel working on swine welfare research in Canada who can support solutions for the industry to become leaders in animal care and can work in areas of research, industry, government and humane societies. The research Chair program is able to support a critical mass of research personnel that are able to respond to immediate and emerging research questions for the Canadian swine industry. The research Chair in swine welfare becomes a go to resource for the industry in all areas of swine welfare, from research, to governmental oversight, legislation, Code of Practice renewal. The establishment and maintenance of a Chair in Swine Welfare positions USASK, the WCVM and Canada as leaders in the forward thinking research to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY: The creation of the Chair in Swine Welfare has been discussed with, and endorsed by, the donor, the Office of the Vice President Research, and the Office of the Vice President University Relations.

FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED: With approval of the University Council and subsequently approval of Board of Governors, the terms of reference will be implemented immediately.

ATTACHMENT: Terms of reference for the Limited Term Enhancement Chair in Swine Health in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Chair in Swine Health **Terms of Reference**

Purpose:

To provide strategic leadership in swine welfare research for the Canadian swine industry, to increase the critical mass of highly qualified personnel working on swine welfare research in Canada who can support solutions for the industry to become leaders in animal care and can work in areas of research, industry, government and humane societies. The research Chair program is able to support a critical mass of research personnel that are able to respond to immediate and emerging research questions for the Canadian swine industry. The research Chair in swine welfare becomes a go to resource for the industry in all areas of swine welfare, from research, to governmental oversight, legislation, Code of Practice renewal. The establishment and maintenance of a Chair in Swine Welfare positions USASK, the WCVM and Canada as leaders in the forward thinking research to address the challenges of today and tomorrow.

Accountability:

All terms of reference must align with the *Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships*

Chair Type:

This will be a Limited Term Enhancement Chair. The objective of the chair is to enhance the research activities of an outstanding individual already currently employed at the University of Saskatchewan in WCVM for a time limited by the term supported by donor funding.

Background:

An existing WCVM faculty member held a NSERC Industrial Research Chair that ended in 2024 when the NSERC chair program ended. Given the importance of this topic and the swine industry interest in this area of swine welfare research, WCVM would like to recreate this chair through a new donation-based chair position supported by a consortium of swine industry members and groups.

Source and Amount of Funding:

Donations from various producer organizations, industry groups, and swine health stakeholders will fund this chair.

It is anticipated that \$220,000 of donations will be received each year over a period of five years, for a total initial commitment of \$1,100,000.

Tenability:

Donations will be received annually for a period of five years, the timing of which will depend upon the individual agreements with the donors.

Continuation of the chair after the five-year period will depend upon renewal of funding commitments. The underlying faculty position, however, will continue as part of WCVM faculty complement and its operating budget regardless of the chair status.

Selection Committee:

The Provost and Vice-President academic, or designate, the Vice-President Research, or designate, and the Dean/Executive Director, in consultation with the department or faculty in the school or college, shall appoint a search committee for selection of an appropriate candidate. The membership of, and the process followed by, the search committee must align with the provisions of the Collective Agreement between the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association. Additional members may be included to the search process by forming a search sub-committee, as per the collective agreement.

This chair is created for an existing WCVM faculty member whose research aligns with the intended purposes of the donors, thus there will be no external search. Should the chair become vacant, WCVM will follow processes outlined in section 6 of the JCCP Guidelines related to vacancies.

Chairholder responsibilities:

The chairholder will contribute to the research and teaching program of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences in areas of swine welfare, swine behaviour, swine health and related fields.

The chairholder's responsibilities will include:

- **Research:**
 - Enhance and accelerate research focused on swine welfare and swine behaviour at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine;
 - Publish scientific studies in peer-reviewed scientific journals that are available to a wide and diverse scientific community investigating swine welfare, animal behaviour and swine industry practices/standards;
- **Outreach, industry extension and technology transfer:**
 - Present at scientific and industry conferences and perform outreach activities to educate veterinarians, swine industry, scientists and the public about the

importance of swine welfare, swine behaviour, and new research findings and discoveries;

- Establish collaboration with scientists engaged in swine welfare and animal behaviour at the College and University as well as at regional, national and international levels;
- Build and maintain relationships with the community and external stakeholders interested in swine welfare and behaviour as it relates to agriculture industry standards;
- Teaching:
 - Provide didactic teaching, research training and mentorship to undergraduate and graduate students in areas of swine welfare, animal behaviour, swine industry standards and related areas.
 - Provide the Dean of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine an annual report on the chairholder's research, teaching and other activities;
- Fulfill all responsibilities as outlined in accordance with the university policies and regulations relative to Chairs and Professorships.

It is anticipated that the chair holder will spent their time as follow:

- 60% on research
- 20% on outreach, industry extension and technology transfer
- 10% on teaching
- 10% on administration

Term of Chair:

The chair will be appointed for an initial five-year term with eligibility for renewal following the completion of the term. A Chairholder will be eligible to hold the chair title for a period of up to ten (10) years (five-year initial term plus one five-year renewal term). Renewal of this chair is dependant on continued donor funding and satisfactory progress as determined by the management committee. At the end of the chair, the chairholder will maintain their faculty position in WCVL.

Renewal:

All renewals of Chairholders must follow the renewal process outlined in Section 5.0 of the Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships.

Review:

Chairholder scholarship progression must be reviewed at least biennially. A financial review must occur annually. Chairholders

must submit a final report at the end of their term. Reporting structure and templates can be found in the Guidelines for Chairs and Professorships.

Oversight:

The Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine will be responsible to oversee the Chair.

Oversight responsibilities shall include the following:

1. Oversee the activities of the Chair or Professorship;
2. Oversee management of the fund to ensure compliance with the terms of the trust deed and the on-going financial integrity of the initiative;
3. Approve annual budgets;
4. Receive annual financial statements of the trust fund;
5. Receive and review the biennial scholarly report, the annual financial report and the final report on the activities of the Chairholder; and
6. Provide a copy of the required scholarly, financial and final reports to the co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Chairs and Professorships.

Removal of Chairholder:

Any allegations related to a breach of one or more of the University policies made against a Chairholder should follow appropriate university policies and procedures related to the nature of the breach. This includes, but is not limited to, policies related to research, financial stewardship, and/or employment. Should the appropriate process conclude and determine that the Chairholder has breached a University Policy or failed to meet an expectation as a faculty member, the provost and vice president academic and vice president research will determine appropriate measures regarding the continuation of the Chairholder which may include termination from the Chair. The final determination will be communicated to the Chairholder, the dean/executive director and the chair of the Management Committee (if applicable).

Eligible Expenditures:

Expenditures will be in alignment with Section 2.0 of the *Guidelines for the Establishment of Chairs and Professorships*. The funding providing by industry partners will cover the cost of the chairholder salary and provide base research funding.

Unspent Funds:

At such time that the Chair ceases to be in existence, any unspent donor funds for salary will be used for research in swine health in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

Insufficient Funds:

Should there be insufficient funds to cover the costs of the chair, the excess cost will be covered by the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

In the event that circumstances make the Chair in Swine Health no longer practical or desirable, the oversight committee, will recommend to University Council and the Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan, changes to the Chair. These recommendations will maintain, as much as is reasonably possible, the Chair's spirit and general intent as identified in its statement of Purpose.

The creation of this Chair is subject to approval of both University of Saskatchewan Council and University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors.

The Dean, Western College of Veterinary Medicine recommends acceptance based on the above terms.



September 19, 2024

Gillian Muir, PhD

Date

The Office of the Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations recommends acceptance based on the above terms.

Scott Walsworth, PhD
Vice-Provost, Faculty Relations

Date

The Office of the Vice President, Research recommends acceptance based on the above terms.

Dawn Wallin, PhD
Associate Vice President, Research

Date

Approved and accepted on behalf of the Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan.

Cheryl Hamelin
Vice-President, University Relations

Date