



## **Announcement**

### *Request for Letters of Intent: Accelerator Grants in Genomic Medicine and Health Informatics 2015*

Building on the original \$50 million dollar bequest from the R. Samuel McLaughlin Foundation, the McLaughlin Centre entered a new phase in 2010 focusing on the advancement of genomic medicine through research and education. Genomic medicine is defined as "*diagnosis, prognosis, prevention and/or treatment of disease and disorders of the mind and body, using approaches informed by knowledge of the diploid genome and the molecules it encodes*". **The McLaughlin Centre is pleased to announce a fifth research funding competition for 2015.**

The competition will be based on invited grant applications passing an initial letter of intent stage. Both steps will go through committee peer-review adjudicated by the Director.

#### **Timelines:**

LOI Deadline: December 12, 2014

LOI Decision: January 16, 2015

Application Deadline: March 13, 2015

Application Decision: April 24, 2015

Funding Start: May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

\*LOI forms at: [www.mclaughlin.utoronto.ca](http://www.mclaughlin.utoronto.ca)

Letters of Intent up to two pages long should outline (i) background and rationale, (ii) objectives and activities, (iii) relevance to the McLaughlin Centre mission, (iv) planned deliverables and (v) a brief budget summary (LOI forms at website). Full grants will be a maximum of 10 pages. Priority will be given to applications demonstrating promise for near-term deliverables in the clinical setting, potential to seed larger grants, and those involving two or more institutions from the University of Toronto Faculties (and their Departments and Institutes) and the 9 hospitals/research institutes fully affiliated with the University of Toronto (<http://www.facmed.utoronto.ca/about-faculty-medicine/fully-affiliated-hospitalsresearch-institutes>). Successful grants will be awarded for **one** year with up to \$100,000 from the McLaughlin Centre. A requirement is that the McLaughlin Centre investment be equally matched with other funds necessary for the completion of the project.

In this call, there will be an emphasis in the following areas of **Genomic Medicine**:

1. Generating genome-wide data to advance disease gene discovery or DNA-based diagnostics and clinical genomics;
2. Enhancing the understanding and/or delivery of genomic information in the health care system including integration with digitized health data.
3. There will be additional funds available to support initiatives in **Health Informatics**, namely the development of algorithms, tools, methodologies and infrastructure to mine, rapidly access and analyze, manage and utilize the vast quantities of genomic data to benefit biomedical research and medicine.

Pre-submission enquiries are welcomed to encourage potential applicants to understand the intended scope including matching funds. For enquiries or direct submissions contact:

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