

Jarislowsky Chair in Trust and Political Leadership Acadia University

Posted: **July 19, 2022**

<https://www.academicwork.ca/jobs/jarislowsky-chair-in-trust-and-political-leadership-acadia-university>

Acadia University invites applications from outstanding academic scholars or distinguished political or public sector leaders to the inaugural Jarislowsky Chair in Trust and Political Leadership. Supported by a \$4 million endowment from the Jarislowsky Foundation and Acadia University, this prestigious appointment is one of five new endowed chairs at liberal arts and science universities across Canada who will form the first-ever network of its kind, focused on educating tomorrow's leaders about Canadian government, politics, and the public service.

With access to a significant annual allocation of funding from the \$4 million endowment, Acadia's Jarislowsky Chair in Trust and Political Leadership will develop an innovative program of scholarship (teaching and research) that will expand knowledge and training in the ethical practice of politics, fiduciary responsibility, and democratic governance.

The Chair will be expected to establish partnerships that foster experiential learning and research opportunities for students. This is an exciting opportunity for an exceptional candidate to educate and train future political and public service leaders.

Acadia's Jarislowsky Chair will be a founding member of the national Network of Jarislowsky Chairs in Trust and Political Leadership made up of five endowed Chairs at Acadia University, l'Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières (in collaboration with l'École Nationale d'Administration Publique), Trent University, the University of Lethbridge, and Vancouver Island University.

The aim of the national network is to educate the next generation of politicians, public, and community leaders in ethics, democratic values and responsible governance within the contexts of Canada's diverse citizenry, democracy and commitment to meaningful Truth and Reconciliation. The Jarislowsky Chairs network will offer students innovative academic programs and enriching experiential learning opportunities. The Network of Jarislowsky Chairs will work collaboratively to develop, improve and promote communities of practice in ethics, trust and fiduciary responsibility in political and governance decision making across Canada.

For the inaugural Chair, we seek an eminent scholar or distinguished practitioner whose research and/or professional experience prioritizes ethical political leadership and building trust within and between Canadian political systems and communities. This is a cross-appointed position between the Department of Politics and another department in the Faculty of Arts at the rank of Associate Professor or Professor.

The Chair's research and teaching at Acadia will focus on how to strengthen and deepen democratic governance in Canada in the context of rising political extremism, reduced trust in government institutions, and failures of political leadership. Distinctively, the Chair will provide experiential learning and research opportunities for students to address the erosion of political efficacy, integrity, and trust in ways that contribute to a more just and equal Canada. In the midst of the ongoing call for Truth and Reconciliation in Canada, the Chair's activities will emphasize the relationship between trust and political leadership. The Chair will inform, mentor, and inspire students about the foundational prerequisites for good governance to advance the public interest while confronting a range of complex, overlapping ecological, socio-economic, ethical, and other crises that cumulate in global political crises.

The successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to fulfill the teaching, research, and service expectations of an Acadia University faculty member, including teaching undergraduate and Master's level courses, maintaining a high quality, nationally- or internationally- recognized research program, and providing leadership within and beyond the University commensurate with a senior academic appointment. The Chair will bring an understanding of Canadian government, politics, and/or knowledge about the public

sector; familiarity with Atlantic Canada, where Acadia is located, is considered an asset. Importantly, the successful candidate will demonstrate the ability to fulfill the national collaborative leadership expectations of the Network of Jarislowsky Chairs in Trust and Political Leadership.

The inaugural Chair term will be for five years (with the possibility of renewal for one additional five-year term) to be held concurrently with an Acadia University faculty appointment. Ideally, the appointment will commence in Fall 2022, with a start date to be negotiated.

How to Apply: Applicants should have a Ph.D. (or equivalent) in Political Science or a related discipline in the Arts, Humanities or Social Sciences. Individuals with substantial professional experience in politics, public service, or community leadership are also encouraged to apply.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and names of three references. As part of this application package, applicants should additionally submit:

- A teaching dossier, including a statement of your teaching philosophy, with examples of how you will use this opportunity to foster experiential learning and inspire and mentor students about the importance of democratic governance.
- A statement that provides an overview of how your research or professional/community experience addresses the crisis of democratic governance or/and how you have worked to build political trust within or across diverse settings in Canada. We are also interested in learning about any local, national, or international networks that you have developed which will help you carry out the work of the Chair, as well as the focus of your current and longer-term research interests.
- A statement providing information about how you have worked to advance diversity, equity and inclusion in academic, professional and/or community contexts and how you will bring a commitment to these principles to the work of the Chair.

Applications should be addressed to Dr. Rachel Brickner, Head of the Department of Politics, and submitted, ideally in a single pdf file, to JarislowskyChair@acadiu.ca.

Closing Date: September 15, 2022

For further information about the Jarislowsky Chair in Trust and Political Leadership at Acadia, please contact Dr. Rachel Brickner (rachel.brickner@acadiu.ca)

Acadia University is located on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq First Nation. Located in the quintessential university town of Wolfville in the beautiful Annapolis Valley region of Nova Scotia, Acadia (founded in 1838) is one of Canada's leading small universities focussing on a transformational educational experience for its students. Acadia has a strong interdisciplinary focus, with expertise across departments and faculties that provides students with both depth and breadth of knowledge and experiential learning opportunities. Community engagement is a defining feature of Acadia, and the links between communities, governance, sustainability, public policy, and leadership are addressed in many programs across the University.

The University invites applications from all qualified individuals; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Acadia University is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from Indigenous Peoples, African Nova Scotians, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, women, and persons of any minority sexual orientation or gender identity. Consistent with the principles of employment equity, the primary criterion for appointment to a position is qualifications and professional excellence. Candidates who identify as a member of one of the aforementioned groups, and who wish to have the application considered as such, are invited to submit the online Employment Equity Voluntary Self-Identification Form as part of their application package. The University will provide support in its recruitment processes to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant's accessibility needs. If you require accommodation because of a disability or for any other reason during the application or interview process, please contact Ms. Denise Bonnell or Dr. Rachel Brickner (JarislowskyChair@acadiu.ca).