OVERVIEW OF THE QUEEN’S NATIONAL SCHOLAR PROGRAM

The Queen’s National Scholar (QNS) program was first established in 1985, with the objective to “enrich teaching and research in newly developing fields of knowledge as well as traditional disciplines.” Since then, over 100 QNS appointments have been made in a wide variety of disciplines, and the appellation of Queen’s National Scholar has become synonymous with academic excellence.

Those appointed under the QNS program will have clearly demonstrated their ability to provide rich and rewarding learning experiences to students as well as to develop innovative research programs that align with University’s priorities.

Appointments will be at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor, either tenure-track or with tenure, depending on level of experience.

PROCESS

Starting with the 2012-2013 competition, the QNS program has had a two-stage selection process. In the first stage, an invitation to submit Expressions of Interest (EOIs) is extended to all Faculties and Schools within Queen’s. The QNS Advisory Committee reviews these EOIs, and selects up to eight submissions to advance to the second stage.

At the second stage, those responsible for each successful EOI are invited to prepare and submit a full proposal. Each full proposal nominates an individual to be appointed. The QNS Advisory Committee reviews these full proposals and makes a recommendation to the Principal as to which nominees (up to four) will be offered QNS positions.

Applications from all qualified individuals are welcome. Queen’s university is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and encourages all applications from equity-seeking groups including women, visible minorities, Aboriginal people, persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity. Deans and Department Heads are encouraged to actively seek applications through venues intended to reach candidates from equity seeking groups.
Nominees will not be considered unless their applications have been reviewed in accordance with established Faculty and Departmental appointments procedures, and in accordance with the Collective Agreement or the relevant Senate documents. The Chair of the Departmental Appointments Committee is responsible for ensuring the equity procedures have been followed, including that an equity self-identification form is sent to all applicants.

Appointments are subject to review and final approval by the Principal.

ELIGIBILITY

The objective of the QNS program is to renew and refresh the faculty complement at Queen’s with candidates of the highest quality. Attracting candidates who would add to the diversity and strength of their Department or Unit is an intrinsic objective of the QNS selection process. As such, candidates holding an existing tenure-track or continuing-adjunct appointments at Queen’s will not be considered.

MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR FULL PROPOSALS

In the interest of fairness to nominees and the efficiency of the review process, the full proposals should include, at a minimum, the following documentation:

I. From the nominee:

- a curriculum vitae which includes a comprehensive list of publications, awards and grants received;
- a statement of current and prospective research interests, and a statement regarding teaching experience and interests together with a teaching portfolio;
- a minimum of three letters of reference, preferably from more than one university or other appropriate institutions; at least one letter must be at arm’s length. Reference letters should be dated, and include the referee’s name, position, Department, institution, email address and telephone number, the name of the nominee, and the period of time and the capacity in which the referee has known the nominee;
- any other materials which may be useful to the Advisory Committee in evaluating the nominee.
II. A report from the Department’s appointment committee and the relevant Head(s) and/or Dean(s), outlining the strengths and weaknesses of the candidate, and the alignment between the candidates teaching and research interests and the area of focus of the proposal will be requested.

- This will be a major consideration for the Committee in deciding which two nominees to recommend for appointment.

- Departments will also be asked to explain how they plan to assist and support appointees in developing their scholarly and research careers in terms of mentoring, teaching release, and research support.

- It is the responsibility of the Departments, Faculties and Schools to provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate to the Advisory Committee the academic potential, stature, and excellence of the candidate.

III. All nominations for QNS candidates must be accompanied by a completed and signed Appointments Committee Equity Checklist.