

# Rotman Institute of Philosophy

## Faculty Membership Policy

Members of the Institute are appointed to a 3-year term, with the approval of the Steering Committee, as either *core* or *associate* members. This status can be reviewed, at the member's request, before the end of the 3-year term. We expect that members will move back and forth between these categories, reflecting their level of participation in Institute projects.

Prospective members may nominate themselves or be nominated by existing members. Nominations will be considered by the Director and Steering Committee, on the basis of scholarly excellence, or comparable achievements in relevant areas, and evidence of commitment to the Rotman Institute's vision and mission.

### Core Membership

*Core members* lead or actively participate in one or more Institute research projects, and contribute directly to fulfilling the vision and mission of the Institute. Core members will typically hold a faculty appointment at Western. Each core member negotiates a Letter of Understanding and alternative workload agreement, with at least 50% of their workload dedicated to the Institute, with their home department and the Director, in consultation with the Steering Committee. Arrangements for core members who are not faculty at Western will be made on an ad-hoc basis, with a shared workload fully specified in the Letter of Understanding. Core members will have the following obligations and benefits, which will hold unless explicitly modified in the Letter of Understanding:

#### *Obligations and Responsibilities:*

- Pursue interdisciplinary research projects, bridging philosophy and the sciences, that advance the Institute's vision and mission;
- Mentor graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the appropriate research areas, including (but not limited to): leading Institute Research Seminars; supervision of MA and PhD thesis work; supervision of collaborative research projects;
- Work with home department to develop the undergraduate curriculum, or to pursue other teaching opportunities, related to Rotman research;
- Support public engagement and knowledge mobilization activities;
- Support efforts to receive external funding for Institute projects, by pursuing grant applications as an individual or part of a team, and by aiding the efforts of colleagues and trainees.

#### *Benefits:*

- Office space in the collaborative Institute space;
- Institute staff support, including administrative support for research teams, preparation of grants, expertise in public engagement and other areas;
- Access to Institute funding to support a research team, including: external visitors, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students;
- Eligibility for competitively awarded Institute funds.

## **Associate Membership**

*Associate* members include individuals who have contributed to the Institute's activities in a variety of ways, ranging from regularly attending Institute sponsored events to collaborating on Institute projects. Scholars from other institutions, and individuals from outside the academy, who contribute to Institute projects will be invited to become associate members. Associate members may be granted office space in the Institute space, at the discretion of the Director, in order to facilitate their contributions. Other individuals can contact the Director directly, with appointments based on scholarly excellence, or comparable achievement in relevant areas, and evidence of commitment to the Rotman Institute's Vision and Mission.