

PDAD&C #37, 2012-13

To: PDAD&C
From: Cheryl Misak, Vice-President and Provost
Date: February 14, 2013
Re: **Science Leadership Program, May 2–4, 2013 – Call for applications**

Please distribute this memo widely within your units

The University of Toronto Science Engagement will host its first Science Leadership Program (SLP) from May 2-4, 2013. The SLP is meant to provide outstanding academic scientists with the skills, approaches and frameworks for engaging more effectively with the media, the decision makers and the public throughout their careers.

Designed by Prof. Ray Jayawardhana, Senior Advisor on Science Engagement to the President, with the guidance of a planning advisory group, the SLP will build a network of top researchers across the UofT and other research-intensive universities in Canada, who share a common set of goals and to connect them with leaders of relevant external organizations and media to help foster a culture change by putting into practice what they learn at the workshop.

The SLP will consist of a series of hands-on training sessions on communications, outreach and leadership, discussion panels and opportunities for interaction. Experienced trainers and prominent practitioners will lead the sessions and participate in the panels, including several top policy experts and journalists. Other session topics include affecting policy, community involvement and team building.

We are looking to select about 12 participants from UofT and about 8 more from other research-intensive Canadian universities. Selection criteria include:

- excellence in scientific/engineering/medical research and teaching;
- passion and capacity to exercise leadership and enthusiasm for communicating science;
- interest, willingness and appropriate professional position to engage with stakeholders; and,
- commitment to participate fully in the training program and follow-up activities.

Given the intensity and the nature of the training, participants are expected to commit to the full two days of the program. The program will begin with a reception on the evening of Thursday May 2nd and end with a group dinner on Saturday May 4th. Interested participants are asked to submit an application by **March 15, 2013**. Successful applicants will be chosen by **March 29, 2013**.

The application form and further information can be found at:
<http://www.utoronto.ca/about-uoft/scienceengagement/SLP.htm>

Please direct all inquiries to: SLPapply@utoronto.ca