Call for 2024–2026 Schwartz Reisman Faculty Fellows

The Schwartz Reisman Institute for Technology and Society (SRI) supports and integrates world-class research across sectors and disciplines to deepen our understanding of advanced technologies, law, institutions, regulatory structures, and social values. Our multifaceted research program fosters interdisciplinary ideas, insights, and understanding of how technology affects society and individuals. The integrative research we conduct rethinks technology’s role in society, the contemporary needs of human communities, and the systems that govern them. We are investigating how best to align technology with human values, and deploy it responsibly. In doing so we seek to support existing fields of inquiry as well as to identify and nurture new research agendas by introducing researchers to the concepts and framing used by different disciplines to analyze problems.

Our mission is to deepen our knowledge of advanced technologies, societies, and what it means to be human by actively integrating research across traditional boundaries and building human-centered solutions that really make a difference.

Fellowship details

Our Faculty Fellows program will provide $25,000 over two years in research project support for up to four appointed faculty at the University of Toronto. Faculty may be at any stage of their career and will be evaluated with career stage as a consideration. Applicants who have not previously received an SRI faculty fellowship will be given priority. Please note that status-only appointees are not eligible for the fellowship.

Funds may be used for expenses directly related to the proposed project, including trainees, materials, data collection, computing, subject compensation, teaching release, and select travel, as appropriate. Expenses are eligible from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2026.

Terms for Schwartz Reisman Institute Faculty Fellows

- Participate in and lead activities at the Institute, including, for example, weekly seminars, key meetings, and events that foster our commitment to reconceptualizing common notions of the ways technology, systems and society interact, and supporting diverse areas of inquiry.
- Contribute to the growth and development of the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary SRI research community by engaging with other fellows, research leads, and faculty affiliates on a regular basis, both through formal events and independently.
- With the support of SRI’s communications team, contribute at least one public-facing product relating to the proposed research (e.g., blog post, op-ed, interview).
- Submit a final report summarizing all fellowship activities by April 30, 2026.
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How to apply

To be considered, you must fill out the online application form, which includes the following:

- A research statement (PDF) with responses to the following questions:
  - Describe your proposed project (approx. 1500 words), including:
    - A description of the work to be undertaken;
    - A deliverable (e.g., publication, workshop);
    - The potential scholarly and economic/social impact of your research;
    - A brief outline of how you plan to allocate award funds (this is not a formal commitment; funds must be spent in accordance with university policies).
  - Describe how your proposed project and the perspective you bring to our community aligns with SRI's research goals and priorities (approx. 500 words).
  - Describe how you will engage with researchers in other fields and disciplines, including who outside your field will likely be interested in this project, experience you have in communicating your research outside of your field, and experience you have participating in or leading interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary research communities and activities (approx. 500 words).
  - Optional: Describe how your proposed project and scholarship engages with principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion (approx. 500 words).
- A copy of your curriculum vitae (PDF).
- Up to three examples of your writing and research (PDF; publications preferred).

Application forms must be submitted by 11:59 PM ET on February 4, 2024. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

SRI Faculty Fellows will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Potential scholarly and social/economic impact of project;
- Alignment with the research goals and priorities of the Institute;
- Diversity of perspective;
- Ability to engage with a multidisciplinary research community;
- Track record of research impact (as appropriate for career stage).

The Schwartz Reisman Institute embraces diversity and is building a culture of belonging that increases our capacity to effectively address and serve the interests of our global community. We strongly encourage applications from Indigenous Peoples, Black and racialized persons, women, persons with disabilities, and people of diverse sexual and gender identities. We value applicants who have demonstrated a commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion and recognize that diverse perspectives, experiences, and expertise are essential to strengthening our academic mission.

For questions about the SRI fellowship program, please review the FAQs found on our website announcement. If you have further questions, or if you require accessibility accommodations to participate in the application process, please contact us directly at sri.research@utoronto.ca.