



2015-16/03

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 29, 2015

From: Cristina Amon, Dean, Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering
Trevor Young, Dean, Faculty of Medicine

Re: Appointment: Scientific Director, Translational Biology and Engineering Program

It is our pleasure to announce that Professor Craig Simmons has been appointed to the position of Scientific Director of the Translational Biology and Engineering Program (TBEP), a component of the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research. Craig's 5-year appointment started on July 1, 2015.

The Translational Biology and Engineering Program is the University of Toronto arm of the Ted Rogers Centre for Heart Research, and will initially house researchers from the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, the Departments of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering, Physiology, and Laboratory Medicine & Pathobiology, the Edward S. Rogers Sr. Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, as well as the Faculty of Dentistry. The Program will combine stem cell technologies with cellular and tissue engineering techniques, cell signaling, experimental platform development, and clinical research in heart regeneration.

Craig Simmons joined the University of Toronto in 2005, and is appointed in the Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering and the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, with a cross-appointment to the Faculty of Dentistry. He holds a Canada Research Chair in Mechanobiology, and has been the recipient of the McCharles Prize for Early Career Research Distinction (2010), and the McLean Award (2012). In 2014, he became a Fellow of the Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering. Craig has served as the Biomedical Option Chair in the Division of Engineering Science, and is currently the Associate Director, Research at the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering.

Craig's international reputation as a leading researcher in the area of stem cell mechanobiology and tissue engineering, along with his outstanding record of administrative service, make him an excellent choice for this important leadership role.

We would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to Professor Peter Zandstra, who completes his term as Interim Scientific Director of TBEP. Under Peter's leadership, TBEP has established a solid foundation upon which to build in the coming years.

Please join us in congratulating Craig on his new appointment, and thanking Peter for his vision and leadership.