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NEWS RELEASE

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Acadia Lands Two New Canada Research Chairs

(Wolfville, NS) - Acadia University today congratulated its two most recent Canada Research Chairs. Dr. Michael Leiter and Dr. Hugh Chipman will both begin work at Acadia on their successful research projects later this year.

“Acadia is proud of its researchers and pleased that the Government of Canada is supporting research at undergraduate institutions,” said Dr. Gail Dinter-Gottlieb, President of Acadia University. “Funding for Canada Research Chairs is an extremely important element in Acadia’s long term plan to increase its capacity for research and helps the University build its already strong reputation for attracting and retaining top scholars.”

Dr. Michael Leiter, Canada Research Chair in Occupational Health and Well-Being, will receive \$1,400,000 over seven years as a Tier I Chair. In addition, the government also announced Dr. Leiter will receive \$50,323 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. Dr. Leiter, one of the world’s top experts on job stress and burnout, will continue to design and assess interventions for enhancing the quality of work-life. The research will provide a better understanding of the relationship between people and their work, leading to interventions that can reduce exhaustion and cynicism.

Dr. Leiter has been a Psychology professor at Acadia for 26 years. Between 1998 and 2003 he was the University’s Vice-President Academic. Dr. Leiter is the Founder and Director of the Centre for Organizational Research and Development and co-author of the most widely-read book on occupational burnout “The Truth About Burnout.”

Dr. Hugh Chipman, Canada Research Chair in Mathematical Modelling, will receive \$500,000 over five years as a Tier II Chair. In addition, the government also announced Dr. Chipman will receive \$117,649 in funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. Dr. Chipman, a statistician with a specialty in predictive modelling, will

apply mathematical modelling techniques to various fields of study including drug discovery, manufacturing, security and genomics.

Dr. Chipman, currently at the University of Waterloo, returns to Acadia July 1. He hails from Wolfville and obtained his B.Sc. in Honours Mathematics from Acadia where the Chipman name is well-known and respected. Dr. Chipman has received numerous awards for his work in statistics and more recently has been developing flexible mathematical modelling techniques for large datasets through collaborative research.

“These are exciting times for research at Acadia,” says Dr. Thomas Ellis, Dean of Research and Graduate Studies at Acadia University. “Our researchers are achieving an unparalleled level of success. Our two new CRC Chairs, combined with the CFI funding, lay the groundwork for exciting, multidisciplinary research programs that will be competitive at the international level.”

Today’s announcement follows a March 2004 announcement by the Government of Canada which included Canada Foundation for Innovation funding for Dr. Sonya Symons and her team of researchers who will develop The Acadia Digital Culture Observatory. This facility will support inter-disciplinary research on the interactions of people and communities with information and communications technologies.