McMaster Institute for Research on Aging (MIRA) & AGE-WELL Trainee Funding Information Session 2022

Dr. Gésine L. Alders, PhD
McMaster Institute for Research on Aging

McMaster University committed to amplifying its support for *aging research and education* by creating the McMaster Institute for Research on Aging (MIRA) in 2016.

MIRA is an umbrella organization that coordinates initiatives across McMaster’s *aging platforms* and *six Faculties*. MIRA encourages collaborative approaches to the research process, *supporting interdisciplinary projects* and cross-Faculty teams working alongside key *stakeholders and end-users* to ignite innovation and create human-centred solutions for the most pressing challenges facing our aging population.
About us

The MIRA Trainee Network includes graduate students, postdocs, and MIRA’s undergraduate research fellows. The network brings together trainees from across all six Faculties who share an interest in aging research.

JOIN US!
Our approach

MIRA combines three elements:

1. A coordinated, collaborative research agenda between clinicians and academics from all Faculties

2. Ongoing interaction with diverse groups of stakeholders

3. Use of design thinking to generate human-centred solutions
2022 MIRA Trainee
Funding Opportunities
MIRA Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowships (USRF)

Application deadline: April 1, 2022

- Undergraduate students in all Faculties
- The supervisor **must fund the remaining costs of the fellowship for the duration of the award**

Step 1: Connect with a McMaster supervisor
Step 2: If possible, apply for NSERC USRA
Step 3: Apply to MIRA USRF
### NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>March 20, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>February 4, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Sciences</td>
<td>February 18, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>February 23, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Varies by department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>March 18, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

https://research.mcmaster.ca/funding/nserc-undergraduate-student-research-award-usra/
MIRA Graduate Student Professional Development Award

**Deadline:** March 15, 2022

**Funding:** Up to 10 awards of $250*

Graduate students working with MIRA researchers may apply for funding to support professional development activities**, such as:

- completing an online course at a different institution
- presenting at an academic conference (virtual or in-person)
- attending a training program (virtual or in-person)

*Requires 1:1 match of external contribution toward activity
**Awards are tenable for up to one year after the application deadline
MIRA & Labarge Graduate Scholarships
sMAP & MIRA Graduate Scholarship

Application deadline: **March 15, 2022**

Master’s Awards $15,000 for one year
PhD Awards $18,000 for one year

- Application requires both a **MIRA supervisor** and a **mentor** from a Faculty outside of the supervisor’s
- Indicate which stream(s) you would like to be considered for
MIRA & Labarge Graduate Scholarships

MIRA Scholarship in Aging Research
1. The impact of exercise and physical activity on optimal aging
2. The impact of psychological, social and environmental factors on optimal aging
3. Causes and consequences of multimorbidity, frailty and/or polypharmacy
4. The role of caregiving, equity, economics, and transportation in optimal aging
5. The biological mechanisms of aging-related diseases and chronic conditions
6. Approaches to knowledge translation to improve optimal aging
7. The use of technology to promote optimal aging and aging in place

Labarge Mobility Scholarship
1. Understanding and defining mobility in aging
2. Maintaining and restoring mobility in aging
3. Environmental facilitators and barriers that influence mobility in aging
sMAP (Smart Mobility for the Aging Population) & MIRA Graduate Scholarship in Aging Research

sMAP | MIRA Scholarship in Aging Research

mobile technologies, artificial intelligence, embedded and sensing devices to address mobility challenges faced by the aging population.
MIRA & Labarge Postdoctoral Fellowships

Application deadline: **May 14, 2022**
Funding available: Up to 3 awards of $50,000 + $3,000 for expenses*

Prospective Postdoctoral Fellows are invited to submit a research plan that focuses on interdisciplinary, impact-driven approaches to the study of optimal aging.

The applicant and principal supervisor are expected to involve at least two other researchers from two different McMaster Faculties (outside of the principal supervisor’s Faculty) as mentors in the development of an interdisciplinary research plan.

*Requires supervisor match of up to $10,000 for benefits
Elements of a successful application

• Overall impression
• Quality of the design and research methods
• Anticipated outcomes and novel contributions
• Relevance to aging, potential benefits for older adults, inclusion of stakeholders or end users and their perspectives
• Supervisor/ Mentor and potential to stimulate interdisciplinary collaboration
• Equity, diversity, inclusion
• Candidate attributes
Questions?

Type questions in the chat box, and we will address all questions at the end of the webinar

Or, email mirafund@mcmaster.ca
What is Design Thinking?

Innovative Thinking

Need
People

Possibility
Viability

Potential
Innovations

Opportunity
Feasibility

Where would you place most academic research?