**Uniqueness, Quality and Stature:**

These programs must have international recognition and acclaim, high impact, and make major contributions from original and innovative research.

*Evidence of recognition:*

- international awards
- research scholar awards (stipends)
- membership on editorial boards
- expert committees
- scientific review panels

To maintain strength and credibility in increasingly competitive research fields, we focus efforts on areas that are inherently *unique and distinctive to Guelph*. We choose programs based on the training of our researchers, availability of unique research models or reagents, distinctive networks of collaboration etc.

Based on our highly qualified faculty, we look for new evolving research programs that have a high potential for growth and success. Faculty focus on unaddressed existing problems or potential new emerging issues of great need and importance, while developing collaboration and exploiting unique models or expertise.

Institutional recognition is essential for sustaining existing programs and for nurturing new evolving programs.
Productivity

These high quality programs show consistent and successful high levels of productivity in three areas.

a) Training of HQP: timely completion, international recognition e.g. awards

b) Dissemination of research:

- peer-reviewed publications in high impact journals, article citations
- invited presentations at international scientific meetings,
- media presentations and other professional outreach.
- IP, patents and licenses and contributions to science policy,

c) Ability to sustain productivity by securing:

- extramurally sponsored research operating and equipment grants and contracts,
- funding for clinical trials etc from regional, national and international granting agencies,
- career scholar awards (e.g. CRC, CIHR scholar, Heart and Stroke career awards etc),
- contract research grants,
- grants from industry and commodity groups,
- clinical trials, and
- graduate student awards, stipends etc.
Capacity Building:

These programs show evidence of added, or potential to add, research capacity and critical mass. They are integrated with the strategic research plan and have institutional commitment and support. These programs meet the following criteria:

- Two or more faculty are actively working in the area of emphasis
- The research program champion is present, or the ability to recruit is feasible
- Strong graduate programs exist, or there is potential to generate new programs
- Access to existing infrastructure or new infrastructure is attainable
- Evidence exists of the following: interdisciplinary integration, collaboration with other faculty and research groups, governmental and non-governmental agencies, industry working in the same or related areas within the university, regionally, nationally or internationally.
- Evidence exists that the program of research contributes to the college's and university's strategic research plan. The program's output attains the college's or university's research objectives as described in the plan (includes affiliated hospitals or research institutes.)
- The Institution is committed to supporting the program by providing protected time for research, additional funds, office space, administrated support, hiring of other faculty members and conducting research in the field.