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2021 CSC Vice-President Candidate – Muralee Murugesu

Statement of Interest

Please find my attached application for the role of Vice-President for the CSC. I am currently a full Professor and University Research Chair in the Department of Chemistry and Biomolecular Sciences at the University of Ottawa. Since joining the Canadian academia in 2006, I have greatly benefitted from the Canadian Society for Chemistry by receiving awards (STREM) and continuous support and visibility (many invited presentations) from the community. Therefore, I believe it is time for me to roll up my sleeves and serve the CSC and the Canadian chemistry community. Over the years, I have performed departmental, university service with distinction but more importantly, I have served as Treasurer for the inorganic chemistry division for CSC and many other committee memberships at the national level (NSERC, RSC).

I have extensive experience in fundraising and organizing several national and international symposia and conferences. These leadership roles have prepared me to take on further management and governance roles at the national level as part of my career's next stage. Thus, this position of Vice-President is extremely appealing to me to apply as I believe I can bring my scientific communication, project- and team management and strategic planning skills to bear in this critical leadership role. Finally, I believe in bringing different talents, skills and experiences from various backgrounds, cultures and ethnicities to promote education and science in Canada. My bilingual (English and French) international background and experience will enable me to better serve and contribute to CSC in this leadership role. For all these reasons, I am extremely well-suited to the VP position for CSC.

Biography

Muralee Murugesu, B.Sc. (Paris Diderot University-Paris 7, France), M.Sc. (University of East Anglia, UK), Ph.D. (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany) is the University Research Chair in Nanotechnology at the University of Ottawa. After completing his postdoctoral training at the University of Florida (Prof. G. Christou) and subsequently at the University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco jointly (Prof. J. R. Long, S. B. Prusiner-Nobel Laureate), he started his independent career in 2006 at the University of Ottawa. In 2011, Murugesu was tenured and he became a full Professor in 2015. Murugesu is one of the University of Ottawa's best educators; actively teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in both official languages and since 2006, has trained over 100 Highly Qualified Personnel. Murugesu's research focuses on the design and development of new synthetic methods towards novel nanoscale magnetic, optical, porous and energetic materials. Aided by a newly funded CFI-IF research program on light-matter-interaction, Murugesu has focused his recent research interest on manipulating and harnessing magnetic properties of materials via luminescence. He has published 185 articles in top chemistry and physics journals with over 11,000 citations (H index 50). Over the years, his work has been recognized by several prestigious awards including the Strem Chemicals Award for Pure or Applied Inorganic Chemistry, Early Researcher Award, Young Researcher of the Year Award, an elected member of the prestigious RSC "College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists" and he has been appointed as a University Research Chair in Nanotechnology.