



The VADA Program

Visual and Automated Disease Analytics
Graduate Training Program

Faculty Application Form for 2021/22 University of Manitoba & University of Victoria

Program Description: The Visual and Automated Disease Analytics (VADA) Program trains Master’s (e.g., MA, MSc) and PhD students to develop and use automated techniques and tools to collect, analyze, and visualize chronic and infectious disease data. The ***Analytics Stream*** emphasizes research in computational and analytic techniques for disease data; students should have a background or be enrolled in a graduate program in computational, statistical, and/or mathematical sciences. The ***Health Sciences Stream*** emphasizes epidemiology, biostatistics, bioinformatics, social dimensions of health, and health informatics; students should have a background in the health or social sciences (e.g., psychology, sociology) fields.

Thank you for your interest in joining the VADA Program Team. We welcome new members who meet the VADA Program requirements (Appendix B).

Application Requirements: Submit this application form, a cover letter, and current curriculum vitae.

Deadline for Submission of all Application Requirements: January 29th, 2021 at 11:59 pm CST
Please Submit Applications to: vada.program@chimb.ca

Applicant Information

Last Name	
First Name	
Department/School	
University	
Street Address	
City	
Province/State, Country	
Postal Code	
Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	

**Your personal information is being collected under the authority of The University of Manitoba Act. The information you provide will be used for the purposes of determining eligibility for admission, assessment of academic status, statistical analysis, and communication with the applicant. Your information may be disclosed to other educational institutions for the purpose of determining eligibility for admission into joint-programs and it may be disclosed to government departments and co-sponsoring organizations to determine eligibility for financial aid and awards. Your personal information will not be used or disclosed for other purposes, unless permitted by The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA). If you have any questions about the collection of personal information, contact the Access and Privacy Office (tel. 204-474-9462), The University of Manitoba, 233 Elizabeth Dafoe Library, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T2N2.*



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Student Applicants to the VADA Program

Please list the students who you are supervising or have agreed to supervise who submitted an application to the VADA Program for the 2021/22 academic year.

Student's Name	Program Level (MSc/PhD)	Department/School

What topic would you be interested in covering if presenting to the VADA Program cohort?

Please list 3 to 5 relevant publications (within the past 6 years)



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Please list 3 to 5 recent relevant presentations (within the past 6 years)

Please list your current relevant projects and sources of funding of which you are the Principle Investigator



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Why do you want to participate in this training program? What do you believe you can contribute?
Please address the requirements of participation in the VADA Program outlined in Appendix B.
(500 word maximum)



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Agreement and Signature

The undersigned hereby certify that:

1. I certify that all information contained in the application and all information I will provide later (electronically or otherwise) related to this application, including any amendments, are and will be accurate and complete.
2. I authorize VADA to exchange all information regarding my application for reporting purposes.
3. I agree to participate in bi-monthly VADA Program team meetings.
4. I agree to join and actively participate in one of the VADA Program subcommittees:
 - a. Internship/Lab Exchange Committee
 - b. Summer School Committee
 - c. Recruitment and Selection Committee
5. I agree to supervise one of more VADA Program trainees
6. I agree to serve on a VADA Program trainee's thesis committee if requested
7. I agree to lead a class in the Foundations of Disease Analytics course in the 2020/21 academic year and/or I agree to lead a session in the 2020 VADA Program Summer School.

Signature:	
Date:	

Please submit your application to:

VADA Program Coordinator
George and Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation
Third floor, Chown Building
753 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3E 0T6
Email: vada.program@chimb.ca





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Faculty Terms of Reference

October 7th 2020

What is the VADA Program?

The Visual and Automated Disease Analytics (VADA) Program is a graduate training program funded by the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) as part of its Collaborative Research and Training Experience (CREATE) grants program.

The goal of the VADA Program is to train Master's and PhD students to develop and use automated techniques and tools to collect, analyze, and visualize chronic and infectious disease data. The objectives of the VADA Program are to:

1. Advance student **technical skills** in the development and integration of interactive data visualization, visual analytics, and automated approaches for data mining, mathematical and statistical modeling, and predictive analytics;
2. Improve student **knowledge of applied problems** relevant to the detection, prevention and management of infectious and chronic diseases;
3. Develop student **professional skills** in communication and relationships, entrepreneurship, responsible conduct of research, and project management.

In brief, the VADA Program will assist students to develop technical and problem-solving skills to address the challenges of working with complex health data, as well as professional skills that focus on collaboration, project management, career development, ethics and privacy, and entrepreneurship.

What are my obligations as a VADA Program faculty member?

1. I have agreed to participate in bi-monthly VADA Program team meetings.
2. I have agreed to join and actively participate in at least one of the VADA Program subcommittees:
 - a. Internship/Lab Exchange Committee
 - b. Summer School Committee
 - c. Sustainability Committee
 - d. Research Excellence Committee
 - e. Recruitment and Selection Committee
3. I have agreed to supervise one or more VADA Program trainees.
4. I have agreed to serve on a VADA Program trainee's thesis committee if requested.
5. I have agreed to lead a class in the Foundations of Disease Analytics course and/or I agree to lead a session in the VADA Program Summer School and/or present as part of the VADA Program seminar series.

Failure to fulfill the obligations listed above can result in faculty (and associated students) no longer being affiliated with the VADA Program. If faculty members are unable to meet the above outlined obligations they are asked to discuss any mitigating factors with VADA Program leadership.

Committee Structure and Term

For each committee, membership will be re-evaluated annually and one committee chair must be identified. No more than five faculty members will sit on any given committee.



What are the responsibilities for each subcommittee?

Internship/Lab Exchange Committee – Works to identify potential partners, build and maintain relationships with them and match them to interested students. This subcommittee is also involved in evaluating the processes around and outcomes of the internship.

Summer School Committee – Works to organize and oversee the annual summer school, liaising with the George and Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation at the University of Manitoba as needed. This includes recruiting speakers, setting up time tables and schedules, identifying the big data challenge and deciding on which technical/professional skills should be developed through the summer school. After the summer school has been completed, the committee also gathers to evaluate the summer school.

Sustainability Committee – Gathers on an as needed basis and works to find and discuss potential opportunities to sustain the VADA Program after funding from NSERC has finished in 2023.

Research Excellence Committee – Works to plan and execute a new VADA Program seminar series to feature students and faculty within the program. Also disseminates information about thesis committees, candidacy exam and dissertation news in order to facilitate cross-disciplinary appointments of VADA Program faculty members onto student thesis committees. This committee also oversees the journal club that the 2nd year PhD students participate in and works to establish terms of reference for the journal club and faculty leads for each of the sessions.

Recruitment and Selection Committee – Works to identify venues for recruiting students and faculty to program. This committee also establishes processes and criteria for evaluation of candidates and recommends new and existing students to the leadership team with whom the final decision rests. For students who have received another major funding award, a top-up amount will be determined by the VADA Program Recruitment and Selection Committee.