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**MEMORANDUM**

**ATTENTION** Senate **DATE** February 13, 2023  
**FROM** Wade Parkhouse, Provost and Vice-  
President Academic, and Chair, SCUP **PAGES** 1/1   
**RE:** Revised Terms of Reference for the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science Endowment  
(SCUP 23-03)

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At its meeting on February 8, 2023, SCUP reviewed and approved the revised Terms of Reference for the Rajan Family Endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science.

**Motion:** That Senate approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Rajan Family Endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science.

C: Eugene Fiume (efiume@sfu.ca)  
Mohamed Hefeeda (mhefeeda@sfu.ca)  
Erin Morantz (vpaae@sfu.ca; vpaaesec@sfu.ca)



MEMO

Office of the Dean  
Faculty of Applied Sciences

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**TO:** Wade Parkhouse, Vice- President, Academic

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**FROM:** Eugene Fiume, Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences

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**RE:** Approval of Revised Terms of Reference for the Rajan Family Endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science

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**CC:** Erin Morantz, Vice- President, Advancement & Alumni Engagement

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**DATE:** January 11, 2023

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The Rajan Family Endowment was established in 2016 from a portion of a larger gift from Aymynmohamed Rajan. These terms were revised in 2022 at the request of the donor. These terms of reference replace any previous iteration.

**Purpose:** The Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science will recognize women SFU faculty member(s) in the School of Computing Science for their superior scholarly achievements in any sub-area of the field. The faculty member(s) will, as part of their duties, contribute to the promotion and continuous development of the undergraduate program and curriculum in the School of Computing Science. With the intention of keeping the School’s Undergraduate program and curriculum at the forefront of the evolution of technology, as well as encouraging and promoting the use of instructional techniques relevant to cultural and gender diverse audiences to support a more diverse undergraduate student population in the School of Computing Science.

Interest from the endowment will support the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science (formerly the Rajan Family Scholar) by providing a stipend to faculty members to encourage excellence in research and innovation in curriculum development and teaching in computing science. The funds will provide support towards other activities as mutually agreed upon by the scholar, the school director, and the Dean. The use of funds will be recommended by the Director, School of Computing Science, with approval by the Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences.

**Rationale:** The terms of reference have been amended to clarify their alignment with current university and/or faculty-level policies and practices.

**Request:**

**Terms of Reference Revision**

I request that you submit the following motion to SCUP:

***Motion: That SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the revised Terms of Reference for the Rajan Family Endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science.***



Sincerely,

Eugene Fiume  
Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences

Attached:

- *2022\_Revised Rajan Family Endowment TOR*
- *2017\_Signed Rajan Family Endowment TOR*



# **The Rajan Family Endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science**

**Endowment Terms of Reference**

**Revised – November 2022**

## **Terms of Reference Summary**

The Rajan Family Endowment was established in 2016 from a portion of a larger gift from Aymnmohamed Rajan. These terms were revised in 2022 at the request of the donor. These terms of reference replace any previous iteration.

The Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science will recognize women SFU faculty member(s) in the School of Computing Science for their superior scholarly achievements in any sub-area of the field. The faculty member(s) will, as part of their duties, contribute to the promotion and continuous development of the undergraduate program and curriculum in the School of Computing Science. With the intention of keeping the School's Undergraduate program and curriculum at the forefront of the evolution of technology, as well as encouraging and promoting the use of instructional techniques relevant to cultural and gender diverse audiences to support a more diverse undergraduate student population in the School of Computing Science.

Interest from the endowment will support the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science by providing a stipend to faculty members to encourage excellence in research and innovation in curriculum development and teaching in computing science. The funds will provide support towards other activities as mutually agreed upon by the scholar, the school director, and the Dean. The use of funds will be recommended by the Director, School of Computing Science, with approval by the Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences.

## **About Shein and Aymnmohamed Rajan**

The Rajan Family Endowment Fund was established at Simon Fraser University in 2014 through a generous gift from the Rajan Family, who came to Canada in 1973 from East Africa. As Shia Ismaili Muslims, the ethics of their faith very much include voluntary service and generosity. One area the family has felt very strongly about supporting has been Women in Technology. Aymnmohamed Rajan was the recipient of a \$12,000 Gordon Shrum Entrance Scholarship in 1986, which enabled him to earn a degree in computing science. He founded his first company, Orbital Technologies Inc., in Vancouver in 1997. Orbital continues to be a successful Vancouver software company. Aymn also helped grow both Simba Technologies and Bit Quill Technologies whose software is used by millions of people worldwide. In the family tradition of giving, they have set up this endowment to give back to the Simon Fraser University, in particular, and the Canadian Community, in general. The family's goal is to give back to Simon Fraser University 200 times what was originally given to Aymnmohamed with the Shrum Scholarship.

## **Scholar and Appointment**

The successful candidates for the scholar will be an internationally recognized scholar in computing science, or, for a junior scholar, have the clear potential to make disruptive contributions to the field. The scholar(s) will promote excellence in computing science and will carry out a collaborative program of teaching and research.

A number of senior or junior scholar(s) may be awarded depending on available funding. A candidate for a senior scholar will normally be an internationally recognized scholar who would merit the rank of senior-associate or full professor. They will have demonstrated a continuing commitment to the support and development of emerging scholars. They must have been recognized by their peers in the discipline through the receipt of grants, awards, or other honors.

A candidate for a junior scholar will be a scholar at the rank of assistant or associate professor who has a record of scholarly achievements well beyond that normally seen for a faculty member in that rank and who, based on their accomplishments to date, has the clear potential to make a disruptive contribution to their discipline.

The appointment will be in accordance with the SFU/SFUFA Collective Agreement and will be for a three (3) - five (5) year renewable term.

Advancement and Alumni Engagement (AAE) is responsible for maintaining documentation that demonstrates that the fund supports historically disadvantaged or marginalized groups.

## **Reporting**

The Scholar will submit an annual report to the Director of the School of Computing Science and Dean of Applied Sciences no later than September 1.

## **Selection Process**

The Rajan Family Scholar(s) in Computing Science may be granted to external candidates or existing faculty members in the School of Computing Science. For external candidates, the School of Computing Science's Faculty Search Committee will review all applications and identify potential candidates, based on their records of scholarly achievements. For internal candidates, a call for applications will be sent to all women faculty members in the School inviting them to apply. The Director of the School may also nominate women faculty member(s) to be considered for the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science. In both cases, all internal applicants will be reviewed by and follow the School's Tenure and Promotion Committee processes.

Upon recommendation of the School's Tenure and Promotion Chair, the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science will be awarded by the Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences.

## **Fund Administration**

The Fund will be invested and the annual spending allocation of the Fund, defined in the University's Endowment Management Policy GP20, will be used each year to support the Purpose. Any unspent spending allocation may be carried forward to another term or academic year, or reinvested in the Fund to protect its value over time. The capital of the Fund will be held in perpetuity.

The Purpose may be amended or supplemented by a document in writing signed and delivered by the parties hereto. For clarity, a personal representative of the Donor will be considered to be a party hereto in the event the Donor is unable for any reason to undertake the amendment of this Purpose.

In the event that the Purpose for which the Fund is established is fulfilled or frustrated and the University, despite its best efforts, is unable to contact the Donor, or his/her representatives, to amend the Purpose, the University may alter the Purpose provided that any such alteration will be in keeping with the original spirit and general intention of the Purpose.

## Approved by:

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Amynmohamed Rajan  
Donor

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Date

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Shein Rajan  
Donor

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Date

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Eugene Fiume  
Dean  
Faculty of Applied Science  
Simon Fraser University

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Date

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Mohamed Hefeeda  
Director  
School of Computing Science  
Simon Fraser University

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Date

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Erin Morantz  
Vice-President  
Advancement and Alumni Engagement  
Simon Fraser University

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Date



# The Rajan Family Endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science

Endowment Terms of Reference



## **Terms of Reference Summary**

The Rajan Family Endowment was established in 2016 from a portion of a larger gift from Mr. Aymnmohamed Rajan. The endowment will provide a stipend to a faculty member to encourage excellence and innovation in curriculum development and teaching in computing science. The value of the endowment in 2016 is \$300,000.

## **The Rajan Family**

The Rajan Family came to Canada in 1973 from East Africa. Aymnmohamed Rajan was the recipient of a \$12,000 Gordon Shrum Entrance Scholarship in 1986, which enabled him to earn a degree in Computing Science. Aymn has built two very successful software companies in Vancouver- Orbital Technologies Inc. and Simba Technologies Inc. In the family tradition of giving, they have set up this endowment to give back to the Simon Fraser University in particular and the Canadian community in general. The family's goal is to give back to Simon Fraser University 100 times what was originally given to Aymnmohamed with the Shrum Scholarship.

## **The Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science**

The endowment supporting the Rajan Family Scholar in Computing Science will generate revenue to provide a stipend or pay program expenses to the Rajan Scholar, a faculty member who will, as part of his or her duties, continuously revise first year curriculum for Computing Science, in order to ensure that SFU's Computer Science course offerings keep abreast of the rapid evolution of technology and coding languages, as well as encourage diversity in the undergraduate student population by ensuring course materials and teaching methods are relevant to a cultural and gender diverse audience. The Rajan Scholar will be a full-time faculty member in Computing Science, who will be recruited and appointed in accordance with all applicable university policies. The stipend will be offered by the Director, Computing Science, with the approval of the Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences. A faculty member may receive the stipend for an up-to five-year term, with the possibility of renewal.


## **The Rajan Family Endowment**

The Rajan Family Endowment Fund will be held in perpetuity by Simon Fraser University. The fund administrator will be the Vice-President, Academic or designate.

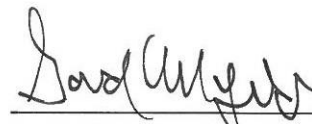
A portion of the interest earned on the Endowment, as described in Simon Fraser University's Endowment Management Policy GP 20 will be used each year to provide a stipend to the Rajan Scholar or to pay curriculum development expenses.

In the *event* that circumstances make the specified use of the Endowment no longer practicable or desirable, the Board of Governors of Simon Fraser University is hereby authorized to make any changes it may deem necessary in the terms or use of the Rajan Family Endowment. Such changes, however, are to be in keeping as far as possible with the original spirit and general intent of the Endowment.

**Approved by:**

  
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Aymn Mohamed Rajan  
Donor


2017/08/18  
Date

for   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Keller  
Vice-President and Provost  
Simon Fraser University


Aug 9/17  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike den Haan  
Vice-President, Advancement and Alumni  
Engagement  
Simon Fraser University

Aug 11, 2017  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eugene Fiume  
Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences  
Simon Fraser University

Aug 11, 2017  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Mori  
Director, Computing Science  
Simon Fraser University

Aug 2, 2017  
Date