



Y6 (2024-25 Academic Year)

HeRo Program Trainee & Supervisor Agreement

This document outlines the Program Requirements for the NSERC CREATE in Healthcare Robotics Graduate Training Program. Both the trainee and their supervisor must sign this Agreement before the trainee is formally accepted into the program. Please read this Agreement carefully before signing.

About HeRo NSERC CREATE

The NSERC CREATE in Healthcare Robotics (HeRo) is the first robotics-focused graduate training program to cover the entire continuum of care from hospital to home. The program requirements described in this Agreement have been designed to ensure that trainees will master an interdisciplinary skill set that intersects robotics, medicine, and artificial intelligence (AI), while building the soft skills needed to contribute effectively to industry.

Timeframe

The HeRo program is meant to complement a students' training. The training is designed to be completed within a year, however some trainees may complete the program within a shorter or longer time frame. To enable trainees to complete the HeRo Program requirements within the timeframe of their degree, most HeRo trainees will enter the program within the first year or two of their degree program.

Funding & Renewal

Trainees accepted into the program will be eligible to receive a stipend of \$10,000/year for **up to 2 years per trainee**. Funding renewal is contingent on the trainee's attendance, participation and progress in the program, which will be reviewed every six months. Annual funding will be paid in installments, contingent on interim milestones being met. **Trainee attendance and participation is tracked** and will be reported to NSERC as part of the NSERC CREATE funding agreement.

Thesis & Supervision

Trainees must be registered in a graduate program (Masters or PhD) at the University of Toronto or the University of British Columbia, and be actively engaged in healthcare robotics-related research under the supervision of a [HeRo Investigator](#). While publication or acceptance into a conference is not a requirement of the CREATE, **research impact is actively tracked** and will be reported to NSERC as part of the CREATE funding agreement. Trainees will be required to share their publication and conference record with the HeRo Program Manager annually.

HeRo Program Requirements

Mandatory	<p><u>HeRo Coursework: MIE1080: Introduction to Healthcare Robotics (winter, online only)</u></p> <p><i>MIE1080 provides students with practical knowledge on healthcare robotics including surgical, assistive, and rehabilitation robots through a series of guest lectures and trainee presentations. Students will learn both fundamentals and state-of-the-art advances in healthcare robotics while touching on design, co-collaboration, patents and ethical issues. See Course Syllabus for details.</i></p> <p>All HeRo trainees must participate in MIE1080 as part of their HeRo program requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainees who have not yet completed their coursework and who are entering the HeRo program within the first year or two of their degree are expected to enroll in MIE1080 for credit • Trainees who have already completed or nearly completed their coursework when they enter the HeRo program may opt to audit MIE1080 (no-credit). Auditing trainees are expected to participate in the course through regular attendance and by giving a brief presentation on their thesis work to the class. <p><u>Attendance of all for-credit and auditing trainees will be tracked and reported to NSERC under the terms of the CREATE program.</u></p>
Mandatory	<p><u>Toronto Robotics Conference: Annual two-day workshop</u></p> <p><i>The Toronto Robotics Conference (formerly called the HeRo Summit) is a two day workshop including talks and panel discussions across healthcare robotics.</i></p> <p>All trainees must attend the Toronto Robotics Conference each year, where they will be expected to present their research as appropriate. <u>Attendance will be tracked.</u></p>
Mandatory	<p><u>HeRo Summer School: Summer training</u></p> <p>For this summer, we are planning two to three hands-on field trips. This will likely not happen consecutively.</p> <p><i>HeRo Summer School programming may vary from year to year to take advantage of unique training opportunities and conferences.</i></p>
Mandatory	<p><u>HeRo Seminar Series: Given throughout the year</u></p> <p><i>HeRo Seminars will take place about once every few months and will feature speakers across our three healthcare robotics themes (surgical, assistive, and rehab). HeRo seminars are part of the Robotics Institute Seminar Series, and are identified on the Robotics Institute seminar page with the HeRo logo. Past</i></p>

	<p>HeRo seminars are viewable on YouTube.</p> <p>All HeRo trainees must attend and participate in HeRo seminars, whether in person or online. The majority of seminars will be recorded and made available online for post-event viewing if a trainee has a scheduling conflict.</p>
Mandatory	<p><u>Professional Development Training: Self-directed or timing varies</u></p> <p><i>HeRo trainees must engage in professional development. This will be tailored to the trainee's individual needs.</i></p> <p><i>Examples include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Robotics Leadership Program, a one year program with a series of workshops, culminating in developing an outreach event. Self-nominations accepted through May 1, 2023.</i> ● <i>MyGDP, an online professional skills development program with numerous course offerings through the School of Graduate Studies Centre for Graduate Professional Development (CGPD).</i> ● <i>Entrepreneurship 101, a five-week, on-demand online course that offers mentorship from experts, and all the tools you need to launch your startup from MaRS.</i> ● <i>Professional skills courses offered through Mitacs (must be currently registered graduate student or post-doc at a Canadian university).</i> ● <i>Workshops, courses and summer training offered by Troost iLead, the home of engineering leadership research and training at UofT</i> ● <i>Trainees have the opportunity to tap other professional skills programs at UofT, including the Entrepreneurship, Leadership, Innovation and Technology in Engineering (ELITE) program, and access to the AGE-WELL EPIC program or SMRTS program.</i> <p>Trainees must complete a core professional development course that will build career-relevant skills (e.g., communications, project management, networking, leadership), and are strongly encouraged to tailor this training to suit their individual professional development needs. Trainees may take advantage of the above listed options, or make alternate training arrangements through discussion with their supervisor or the HeRo Program Coordinator.</p>
Mandatory	<p><u>Collaboration: Internships, lab exchanges, and clinically-relevant mentorship</u></p> <p><i>All Trainees are required to participate in some form of exchange, internship or research collaboration.</i></p> <p>To ensure alignment with the trainee's thesis work, supervising faculty are expected to organize clinically-relevant mentorship, internship opportunities or lab exchanges for their HeRo trainees. Whenever feasible, such opportunities will include interaction with patients and/or international exchange.</p> <p>The HeRo Program Coordinator will inform students and faculty of any additional pre-approved opportunities as they arise.</p>

	<p>Trainees may be reimbursed for travel related to internships, exchanges and attendance at a conference that is pertinent to their research. Eligible requests include conference fees and travel to and from the conference. Requests for travel expenses must be approved in advance by the faculty supervisor and eligibility verified by the Program Manager.</p>
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I have read and agree to the terms of participation in the Healthcare Robotics graduate training program (HeRo).

Trainee: Siddarth Narasimhan



Date: 09/16/2024

Please enter the anticipated internship or collaboration placement opportunity for this trainee:
University Health Network

Supervising Faculty: MIE

Date: 09/16/2024