



**CHSS
Data Center**

**CONGENITAL HEART
SURGEONS' SOCIETY**

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Announcement of Fellowship Opportunity

May 2016

The Data Center of the Congenital Heart Surgeons Society is pleased to request applications for the John W. Kirklin/David Ashburn Fellowship to begin in **July 2017**. This Fellowship was created for young surgeons interested in congenital heart surgery and in participating in the activities of the Congenital Heart Surgeons' Society (CHSS) Data Center. The Fellowship is a prestigious, two-year non-clinical appointment to the Data Center at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. The Fellow will be also be a member of the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery there and may participate in clinical conferences and research meetings.

The focus of the Fellowship is outcomes research, primarily of the many multiinstitutional prospective cohort studies of the CHSS. The Fellow will become expert in database management and in all aspects of biostatistics and epidemiology. Particular emphasis is placed on the research methods, presentation at national meetings, and manuscript preparation and publication. The Fellow will also have substantial exposure to the field of congenital heart disease and its clinical management. Previous Fellows have made important, high profile contributions to the field, obtained advanced degrees, and gone on to residencies and faculty positions in cardiothoracic surgery. A review of current activities of the Data Center can be found at www.chssdc.org.

During his/her tenure, the candidate is expected to complete a Postgraduate Degree (Masters or Doctorate) in Biostatistics & Epidemiology or a related field through the University of Toronto. Tuition for degree completion will be provided and a surgical advisor appointed to guide thesis development. The ideal candidate has completed some or all of his/her general surgical training and intends to pursue a career in congenital cardiothoracic surgery. Although not required, some prior experience with data analysis software (Excel, SPSS, SAS, or R) is recommended.

Candidates should send a letter of interest outlining their previous training, personal objectives for participating in the Fellowship, and a curriculum vita. They should request two recommendation letters from faculty who know them well. These letters should be sent by email to chss.dc@sickkids.ca, attention William M. DeCampli, M.D., Ph.D. The candidate should also request that a separate letter be sent to Dr. DeCampli by the candidate's surgical residency Program Director indicating that a hiatus from surgical residency to obtain research experience at the CHSS Data Center would be consistent with their programmatic educational objectives. The Program Director should also address the availability of institutional funding support for the candidate's tenure at the Data Center as Research Fellow. This is distinct from tuition support for an advanced degree from the University of Toronto, which is provided by the Division of Cardiovascular Surgery at the Hospital for Sick Children. All materials must be received no later than September 1, 2016. Candidates may be offered an interview to take place between September and November 2016, and will be notified of the final decision on or about December 1.

William G. Williams, M.D.
William M. DeCampli, M.D., Ph.D