



Request for Proposals

For

Laboratory Equipment for Acadia University

Issued: **June 12, 2017**

Submission Date: **June 23, 2017**

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PART 1 – INTRODUCTION

1.1 Invitation to Proponents

This Request for Proposals (“RFP”) is an invitation by Acadia University to prospective proponents to submit proposals for the **acquisition of Laboratory Equipment**

For the purposes of this RFP the contact for Technical Information shall be:

Dr. Anthony Tong.
Professor, Department of Chemistry
Tel: (902)585-1355
E-Mail: anthony.tong@acadiau.ca

.For the purposes of this RFP the contact for the procurement process shall be:

Garry McIver
Purchasing Services
Tel: (902) 585 1624
E-Mail: garry.mciver@acadiau.ca

1.2 Type of Contract for Deliverables

The selected proponent will be requested to enter into negotiations for an agreement with Acadia University for the provision of the Deliverables. It is Acadia University’s intention to enter into an agreement with only one (1) legal entity. The term of the agreement is to be for a period sufficient to complete the deliverables. It is anticipated that the agreement will be executed on or around June 29, 2017.

Acadia University retains the option to extend the agreement on the same terms and conditions for an additional term to facilitate additional work, to be determined following the completion of the deliverables.

1.3 No Guarantee of Volume of Work or Exclusivity of Contract

Acadia University makes no guarantee of the value or volume of work to be assigned to the successful proponent. The Agreement to be negotiated with the selected proponent will not be an exclusive contract for the provision of the described Deliverables. Acadia University may contract with others for the same or similar Deliverables to those described in the RFP or may obtain the same or similar Deliverables internally.

1.4 Trade Agreements

Proponents should note that procurements falling within the scope of Chapter 5 of the Agreement on Internal Trade are subject to that trade agreement, but that the rights and obligations of the parties shall be governed by the specific terms of each particular tender call. For further information on the Agreement on Internal Trade, please see the Internal Trade Secretariat website at http://www.ait-aci.ca/index_en.htm.

PART 2 – THE DELIVERABLES

2.1 Description of Deliverables

The RFP is an invitation to submit offers for the acquisition of laboratory equipment for Acadia University. Refer to the Specifications as further described in Appendix E – RFP Particulars – Section A. The Deliverables.

2.2 Material Disclosures

Proponents should refer to Appendix E – RFP Particulars – Section B. Material Disclosures.

PART 3 – EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

3.1. Timetable and Submission Instructions

Proponents should submit their proposals according to the following timetable and instructions.

3.1.1 Timetable

Issue Date of RFP	June 12, 2017
Deadline for Questions	June 19, 2017
Deadline for Issuing Addenda	June 21, 2017
Submission Date	June 23, 2017 4:00 pm (ADT)
Rectification Date	June 26, 2017

The RFP timetable is tentative only, and may be changed by Acadia University at any time.

3.1.2 Proposals Should Be Submitted in Prescribed Manner

Proposals should be submitted to
:

**Garry McIver
Purchasing Services
Business Office
3rd Floor University Hall
Acadia University
15 University Avenue
Wolfville, Nova Scotia
B4P 2R6**

Proponents should submit **two** (2) hard copies and **one** (1) electronic copy in a sealed, opaque package.

Proposals are to be prominently marked with the RFP title (see RFP cover), with the full legal name and return address of the proponent, and with the Submission Date.

In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between the hard copy and the electronic copy of the proposal, the hard copy of the proposal shall prevail.

3.1.3 Proposals Should Be Submitted on Time at Prescribed Location

Proposals should be submitted at the location set out above on or before the Submission Date. Proposals submitted after the Submission Date will be rejected.

A proponent may, at its option, email the Acadia University Contact prior to the Submission Date with delivery details, including the anticipated arrival time of its proposal. In the event a proposal does not arrive as scheduled, Acadia University may provide those proponents who have given such prior notice one additional Business Day to effect the delivery of their proposals. The Submission Date shall be deemed to be adjusted accordingly for the purpose of accepting those proposals. For the purposes of this Section, "Business Day" means any working day between

8:30 a.m. and **4:30** p.m., Monday to Friday inclusive, but excluding statutory and other holidays that Acadia University has elected to be closed for business.

3.1.4 Withdrawing Proposals

At any time throughout the RFP process, a proponent may withdraw a submitted proposal. To effect a withdrawal, a notice of withdrawal must be sent to the Acadia University Contact and must be signed by an authorized representative. Acadia University is under no obligation to return withdrawn proposals.

3.2 Stages of Proposal Evaluation

Acadia University will conduct the evaluation of proposals in the following three (3) stages:

3.2.1 Stage I

Stage I will consist of a review to determine which proposals comply with all of the mandatory requirements. Proposals failing to satisfy the mandatory requirements as of the Submission Date will be provided an opportunity to rectify any deficiencies. Proposals failing to satisfy the mandatory requirements as of the Rectification Date will be excluded from further consideration.

3.2.2 Stage II

Stage II will consist of a scoring by Acadia University of each qualified proposal on the basis of the rated criteria.

3.2.3 Stage III

Stage III will consist of a scoring of the pricing submitted. The evaluation of price will be undertaken after the evaluation of mandatory requirements and any rated requirements has been completed.

3.2.4 Cumulative Score

At the conclusion of Stage III, all scores from Stage II and Stage III will be added and the highest ranking proponent will be selected for contract negotiations in accordance with Part 4.

3.3 Stage I – Mandatory Requirements, Submission and Rectification

3.3.1 Submission and Rectification Date

Other than inserting the information requested on the mandatory submission forms set out in the RFP, a proponent may not make any changes to any of the forms. Proponents submitting proposals that do not meet the mandatory requirements will be provided an opportunity prior to the Rectification Date to rectify any deficiencies.

3.3.3 Submission Form (Appendix B)

Each proposal must include a Submission Form (Appendix B) completed and signed by an authorized representative of the proponent.

3.3.4 Rate Bid Form (Appendix C)

Each proponent must include this form completed according to the instructions contained in the form as well as those instructions set out below:

- (a) rates shall be provided in Canadian funds, inclusive of all applicable duties and taxes except for sales taxes, which should be itemized separately; and

- (b) rates quoted by the proponent shall be all-inclusive and shall include all labour and material costs, all travel and carriage costs, all insurance costs, all costs of delivery to Acadia University, all costs of installation and set-up, including any pre-delivery inspection charges, and all other overhead, including any fees or other charges required by law.

3.3.5 Reference Form (Appendix D)

Each proponent must complete the Reference Form (Appendix D) and include it with its proposal.

3.3.6 Rectification Date

Proposals satisfying the mandatory requirements before the Rectification Date will proceed to Stage II. Proposals failing to satisfy the mandatory requirements will be excluded from further consideration.

3.4 Stage II – Evaluation of Rated Criteria

Proponents should refer to Appendix E – RFP Particulars – Section D. Rated Criteria for a breakdown of the Rated Criteria.

3.5 Stage III – Evaluation of Pricing

Proponents should refer to the Rate Bid Form at Appendix C and Appendix E – RFP Particulars – Section D. Pricing.

3.6 Cumulative Score and Selection of Highest Scoring Proponent

At the conclusion of Stage III, all scores from Stage II and Stage III will be added together and the highest ranked proponent will be selected for negotiations in accordance with Part 4 – Terms and Conditions of the RFP process.

PART 4 – TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE RFP PROCESS

4.1 General Information and Instructions

4.1.1 Proponents to Follow Instructions

Proponents should structure their proposals in accordance with the instructions in the RFP. Where information is requested in the RFP, any response made in a proposal should reference the applicable section numbers of the RFP where that request was made.

4.1.2 Proposals in English

All proposals are to be in English.

4.1.3 Institution's Information in RFP Only an Estimate

Acadia University and its advisers make no representation, warranty or guarantee as to the accuracy of the information contained in the RFP or issued by way of addenda. Any quantities shown or data contained in the RFP or provided by way of addenda are estimates only and are for the sole purpose of indicating to proponents the general size of the work. It is the proponent's responsibility to avail itself of all the necessary information to prepare a proposal in response to the RFP.

4.1.4 Proponents Shall Bear Their Own Costs

The proponent shall bear all costs associated with or incurred in the preparation and presentation of its proposal, including, if applicable, costs incurred for interviews or demonstrations.

4.2 Communication after Issuance of RFP

4.2.1 Proponents to Review RFP

Proponents shall promptly examine all of the documents comprising the RFP, and

- (a) shall report any errors, omissions or ambiguities; and
- (b) may direct questions or seek additional information;

in writing by email on or before the proponent's Deadline for Questions to the Acadia University Contact.

All questions submitted by proponents by email to the Acadia University Contact shall be deemed to be received once the email has entered into the Acadia University Contact's email inbox. No such communications are to be directed to anyone other than the Acadia University Contact. Acadia University is under no obligation to provide additional information.

It is the responsibility of the proponent to seek clarification from the Acadia University Contact on any matter it considers to be unclear. Acadia University shall not be responsible for any misunderstanding on the part of the proponent concerning the RFP or its process.

4.2.2 All New Information to Proponents by Way of Addenda

The RFP may be amended only by an addendum in accordance with this section. If Acadia University, for any reason, determines that it is necessary to provide additional information relating to the RFP, such information will be communicated to all proponents by addenda. Each addendum forms an integral part of the RFP.

Such addenda may contain important information, including significant changes to the RFP. Proponents are responsible for obtaining all addenda issued by Acadia University. In the Submission Form (Appendix B), proponents should confirm their receipt of all addenda by setting out the number of each addendum in the space provided.

4.2.3 Post-Deadline Addenda and Extension of Submission Date

If any addendum is issued after the Deadline for Issuing Addenda, Acadia University may at its discretion extend the Submission Date for a reasonable amount of time.

4.2.4 Verify, Clarify and Supplement

When evaluating responses, Acadia University may request further information from the proponent or third parties in order to verify, clarify or supplement the information provided in the proponent's proposal. Acadia University may revisit and re-evaluate the proponent's response or ranking on the basis of any such information.

4.2.5 No Incorporation by Reference

The entire content of the proponent's proposal should be submitted in a fixed form, and the content of websites or other external documents referred to in the proponent's proposal will not be considered to form part of its proposal.

4.2.6 Proposal to Be Retained by Acadia University

Acadia University will not return the proposal or any accompanying documentation submitted by a proponent.

4.3 Negotiations, Notification and Debriefing

4.3.1 Selection of Top-Ranked Proponent

The top-ranked proponent, as established under Part 3 – Evaluation of Proposals, will receive a written invitation to enter into direct contract negotiations with Acadia University.

4.3.2 Timeframe for Negotiations

Acadia University intends to conclude negotiations within thirty (30) days commencing from the date Acadia University invites the top-ranked proponent to enter negotiations. A proponent invited to enter into direct contract negotiations should therefore be prepared to provide requested information in a timely fashion and to conduct its negotiations expeditiously.

4.3.3 Process Rules for Negotiations

Any negotiations will be subject to the process rules contained in this Part 4 – Terms and Conditions of RFP Process and the Submission Form (Appendix B) and will not constitute a legally binding offer to enter into a contract on the part of Acadia University or the proponent. Negotiations may include requests by Acadia University for supplementary information from the proponent to verify, clarify or supplement the information provided in its proposal or to confirm the conclusions reached in the evaluation, and may include requests by Acadia University for improved pricing from the proponent.

4.3.4 Terms and Conditions

The terms and conditions found in the Form of Agreement (Appendix A) are to form the starting point for negotiations between Acadia University and the selected proponent.

4.3.5 Failure to Enter Into Agreement

Proponents should note that if the parties cannot execute a contract within the allotted thirty (30) days, Acadia University may invite the next-best-ranked proponent to enter into negotiations. In accordance with the process rules in this Part 4 – Terms and Conditions of RFP Process and the Submission Form (Appendix B), there will be no legally binding relationship created with any proponent prior to the execution of a written agreement. With a view to expediting contract formalization, at the midway point of the above-noted timeframe, Acadia University may elect to initiate concurrent negotiations with the next-best-ranked proponent. Once the above-noted timeframe lapses, Acadia University may discontinue further negotiations with that particular proponent. This process shall continue until a contract is formalized, until there are no more proponents remaining that are eligible for negotiations or until Acadia University elects to cancel the RFP process.

4.3.6 Notification to Other Proponents

Other proponents that may become eligible for contract negotiations will be so notified at the commencement of the negotiation process. Once a contract is executed between Acadia University and a proponent, the other proponents may be notified directly in writing and shall be notified by public posting in the same manner that the RFP was originally posted of the outcome of the procurement process and the award of the contract.

4.3.7 Debriefing

Proponents may request a debriefing after receipt of a notification of award. All requests must be in writing to Acadia University Contact and must be made within sixty (60) days of notification of award. The intent of the debriefing information session is to aid the proponent in presenting a better proposal in subsequent procurement opportunities. Any debriefing provided is not for the purpose of providing an opportunity to challenge the procurement process.

4.3.8 Bid Protest Procedure

If a proponent wishes to challenge the outcome of the RFP process, it should provide written notice to Acadia University Contact within sixty (60) days of notification of award, and Acadia University will respond in accordance with its bid protest procedures.

4.4 Prohibited Communications and Confidential Information

4.4.1 Prohibited Proponent Communications

The proponent shall not engage in any Conflict of Interest communications and should take note of the Conflict of Interest declaration set out in the Submission Form (Appendix B). For the purposes of this Section, “Conflict of Interest” shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Submission Form (Appendix B).

4.4.2 Proponent Not to Communicate with Media

A proponent may not at any time directly or indirectly communicate with the media in relation to the RFP or any contract awarded pursuant to the RFP without first obtaining the written permission of the Acadia University Contact.

4.4.3 Confidential Information of Institution

All information provided by or obtained from Acadia University in any form in connection with the RFP either before or after the issuance of the RFP

- (a) is the sole property of Acadia University and must be treated as confidential;
- (b) is not to be used for any purpose other than replying to the RFP and the performance of any subsequent Contract;
- (c) must not be disclosed without prior written authorization from Acadia University; and
- (d) shall be returned by the proponents to Acadia University immediately upon the request of Acadia University.

4.4.4 Confidential Information of Proponent

A proponent should identify any information in its proposal or any accompanying documentation supplied in confidence for which confidentiality is to be maintained by Acadia University. The confidentiality of such information will be maintained by Acadia University, except as otherwise required by law or by order of a court or tribunal. Proponents are advised that their proposals will, as necessary, be disclosed on a confidential basis, to Acadia University's advisers retained for the purpose of evaluating or participating in the evaluation of their proposals. If a proponent has any questions about the collection and use of personal information pursuant to the RFP, questions are to be submitted to the Acadia University Contact.

4.5 Procurement Process Non-binding

4.5.1 No Contract A and No Claims

The procurement process is not intended to create and shall not create a formal legally binding bidding process and shall instead be governed by the law applicable to direct commercial negotiations. For greater certainty and without limitation: (a) the RFP shall not give rise to any "Contract A"-based tendering law duties or any other legal obligations arising out of any process contract or collateral contract; and (b) neither the proponent nor Acadia University shall have the right to make any breach of contract, tort or other claims against the other with respect to the award of a contract, failure to award a contract or failure to honour a response to the RFP.

4.5.2 No Contract until Execution of Written Agreement

The RFP process is intended to identify prospective vendors for the purposes of negotiating potential agreements. No legal relationship or obligation regarding the procurement of any good or service shall be created between the proponent and Acadia University by the RFP process until the successful negotiation and execution of a written agreement for the acquisition of such goods and/or services.

4.5.3 Non-binding Price Estimates

While the pricing information provided in responses will be non-binding prior to the execution of a written agreement, such information will be assessed during the evaluation of the responses and the ranking of the proponents. Any inaccurate, misleading or incomplete information, including withdrawn or altered pricing, could adversely impact any such evaluation, ranking or contract award.

4.5.4 Disqualification for Misrepresentation

Acadia University may disqualify the proponent or rescind a contract subsequently entered if the proponent's response contains misrepresentations or any other inaccurate, misleading or incomplete information.

4.5.5 References and Past Performance

Acadia University's evaluation may include information provided by the proponent's references and may also consider the proponent's past performance on previous contracts with Acadia University or other institutions.

4.5.6. Inappropriate Conduct

Acadia University may prohibit a supplier from participating in a procurement process based on past performance or based on inappropriate conduct in a prior procurement process, and such inappropriate conduct shall include but not be limited to the following: (a) the submission of quotations containing misrepresentations or any other inaccurate, misleading or incomplete information; (b) the refusal of the supplier to honour its pricing or other commitments made in its proposal; or (c) any other conduct, situation or circumstance, as solely determined by Acadia University, which constitutes a Conflict of Interest. For the purposes of this Section, "Conflict of Interest" shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the Submission Form (Appendix B).

4.5.7 Cancellation

Acadia University may cancel or amend the RFP process without liability at any time.

4.6 Governing Law and Interpretation

4.6.1 Governing Law

The terms and conditions in this Part 4 – Terms and Conditions of RFP Process (a) are included for greater certainty and are intended to be interpreted broadly and separately (with no particular provision intended to limit the scope of any other provision); (b) are non-exhaustive (and shall not be construed as intending to limit the pre-existing rights of the parties to engage in pre-contractual discussions in accordance with the common law governing direct commercial negotiations); and (c) are to be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the province of Nova Scotia and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein.

APPENDIX A – FORM OF AGREEMENT

Proponents shall include a proposed terms of engagement document that Acadia University and the successful proponent will use as the basis of the negotiation phase of the contract development process.

APPENDIX B – SUBMISSION FORM

1. Proponent Information

Please fill out the following form, and name one person to be the contact for the RFP response and for any clarifications or amendments that might be necessary.	
Full Legal Name of Proponent:	
Any Other Relevant Name under Which the Proponent Carries on Business:	
Street Address:	
City, Province/State:	
Postal Code:	
Phone Number:	
Fax Number:	
Company Website (If Any):	
RFP Contact Person and Title:	
RFP Contact Phone:	
RFP Contact Facsimile:	
RFP Contact E-mail:	

2. Acknowledgment of Non-binding Procurement Process

The proponent acknowledges that the RFP process will be governed by the terms and conditions of the RFP, and that, among other things, such terms and conditions confirm that this procurement process does not constitute a formal legally binding bidding process, and that there will be no legal relationship or obligations created until Acadia University and the selected proponent have executed a written contract.

3. Ability to Provide Deliverables

The proponent has carefully examined the RFP documents and has a clear and comprehensive knowledge of the Deliverables required under the RFP. The proponent represents and warrants its ability to provide the Deliverables required under the RFP in accordance with the requirements of the RFP for the Rates set out in the Rate Bid Form and has provided a list of any subcontractors to be used to complete the proposed contract. The proponent encloses herewith as part of the proposal the mandatory forms set out below:

FORM	INITIAL TO ACKNOWLEDGE
Proposed Terms of Engagement	
Submission Form	
Rate Bid Form	
Reference Form	

Notice to proponents: There may be forms required in the RFP other than those set out above. See the Mandatory Requirements section of the RFP for a complete listing of mandatory forms.

4. Non-binding Price Estimates

The proponent has submitted its Rates in accordance with the instructions in the RFP and in the Rate Bid Form set out in Appendix C. The proponent confirms that the pricing information provided is accurate. The proponent acknowledges that any inaccurate, misleading or incomplete information, including withdrawn or altered pricing, could adversely impact the acceptance of its quotation or its eligibility for future work.

5. Addenda

The proponent is deemed to have read and accepted all addenda issued by Acadia University prior to the Deadline for Issuing Addenda. The onus remains on proponents to make any necessary amendments to their proposal based on the addenda. The proponent is requested to confirm that it has received all addenda by listing the addenda numbers or, if no addenda were issued, by writing the word “None” on the following line: _____.
Proponents who fail to complete this section will be deemed to have received all posted addenda.

6. Conflict of Interest

For the purposes of this section, the term “Conflict of Interest” means

(a) in relation to the RFP process, the proponent has an unfair advantage or engages in conduct, directly or indirectly, that may give it an unfair advantage, including but not limited to (i) having, or having access to, confidential information of Acadia University in the preparation of its proposal that is not available to other proponents, (ii) communicating with any person with a view to influencing preferred treatment in the RFP process (including but not limited to the lobbying of decision makers involved in the RFP process), or (iii) engaging in conduct that compromises, or could be seen to compromise, the integrity of the RFP process; or

(b) in relation to the performance of its contractual obligations contemplated in the contract that is the subject of this procurement, the proponent’s other commitments, relationships or financial interests (i) could, or could be seen to, exercise an improper influence over the objective, unbiased and impartial exercise of its independent judgement, or (ii) could, or could be seen to, compromise, impair or be incompatible with the effective performance of its contractual obligations.

If the box below is left blank, the proponent will be deemed to declare that (a) there was no Conflict of Interest in preparing its proposal; and (b) there is no foreseeable Conflict of Interest in performing the contractual obligations contemplated in the RFP.

Otherwise, if the statement below applies, check the box.

- The proponent declares that there is an actual or potential Conflict of Interest relating to the preparation of its proposal, and/or the proponent foresees an actual or potential Conflict of Interest in performing the contractual obligations contemplated in the RFP.

If the proponent declares an actual or potential Conflict of Interest by marking the box above, the proponent must set out below details of the actual or potential Conflict of Interest:

The following individuals, as employees, advisers, or in any other capacity (a) participated in the preparation of our proposal; **AND** (b) were employees of Acadia University and have ceased that employment within twelve (12) months prior to the Submission Date:

Name of Individual:
Job Classification:
Department:
Last Date of Employment with Acadia University:
Name of Last Supervisor:
Brief Description of Individual's Job Functions:
Brief Description of Nature of Individual's Participation in the Preparation of the Proposal:

(Repeat above for each identified individual)

The proponent agrees that, upon request, the proponent shall provide Acadia University with additional information from each individual identified above in the form prescribed by Acadia University.

7. Disclosure of Information

The proponent hereby agrees that any information provided in this proposal, even if it is identified as being supplied in confidence, may be disclosed where required by law or if required by order of a court or tribunal. The proponent hereby consents to the disclosure, on a confidential basis, of this proposal by Acadia University to Acadia University's advisers retained for the purpose of evaluating or participating in the evaluation of this proposal.

Signature of Witness	Signature of Proponent Representative
Name of Witness	Name and Title
	Date:
	I have authority to bind the proponent

APPENDIX C – RATE BID FORM

TOTAL LABRAOTORY EQUIPMENT COSTS, PER SPECIFCATIONS:

\$ _____ (EX HST)

APPENDIX D – REFERENCE FORM

Each proponent is requested to provide three (3) references from clients who have obtained similar goods or services to those requested in the RFP from the proponent in the last **three (3) years**.

Reference #1

Company Name:	
Company Address:	
Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone Number:	
Date Work Undertaken:	
Nature of Assignment:	

Reference #2

Company Name:	
Company Address:	
Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone Number:	
Date Work Undertaken:	
Nature of Assignment:	

Reference #3

Company Name:	
Company Address:	
Contact Name:	
Contact Telephone Number:	
Date Work Undertaken:	
Nature of Assignment:	

APPENDIX E – RFP PARTICULARS

A. THE DELIVERABLES

The objective of this Request for Proposal is to receive proposals from interested proponents for the acquisition of Laboratory equipment identified below;

Specifications

Equipment #1: FTIR Wine Analyzer

Acadia University is looking for fast wine analyzer based on the FTIR technology.

- The FTIR analyzer can provide a fast and robust solution for simultaneous analysis of main chemical parameters in a variety of wines. These parameters include ethanol, glucose/fructose, malic acid, volatile acid, total acid, pH, free sulphur dioxide, total sulphur dioxide, tartaric acid, brix, and density.
- The FTIR analyzer must come with an autosampler that can handle at least 50 samples. Each analysis should be done in about 1 minute.
- The instrument must come with a computer and software that integrates calibrations for red wine, white wine, rose wine, grape juice, must, sweet wine, and port wine. The software can export results in excel format.

Equipment #2: GC-MS-MS

Acadia University is looking for a GC-MS-MS system to complement our analytical capability. The system would preferably come with compatible software and parts with our current Agilent system. All components must be provided from a single vendor to ensure compatibility. The service, installation and familiarization must be offered by the same company.

Triple Quadrupole specification

- The proposed instrument must be able to produce upon installation an EI MRM IDL of 4fg OFN.
- The instrument must be able to produce > 300:1 S/N at nominal m/z of 272 ion
- The instrument must have standard EI mode and upgradable to CI mode.
- The instrument must be non-coated inert EI source with combination of repeller and extraction lens for high sensitivity.
- The temperature source must be in the range from 106°C to 350°C
- The instrument must have dual filaments for EI
- The mass range must be in the range from 10 to 1,050
- The dynamic range of the proposed instrument must be at least 10⁶
- The scan rate of the proposed instrument must be up to 6,250 u/sec
- The minimum MRM Dwell time must be at least 1msec
- The Mass filters must be monolithic hyperbolic gold-coated quadrupole
- The temperature quadrupole must be in the range from 106°C to 200°C to avoid condensation
- The collision cell gas is N₂ with He quench
- The collision Energy must be selectable up to 60eV
- The proposed instrument must have autotune and user selectable manual tune

Gas chromatograph specification (GC)

- The GC must have standard Split/Splitless Inlet and be upgradable to MultiMode Inlet.
- Must be in the range ambient +4°C to 450°C

- Must have multiple ramps and plateaus. Negative ramps are allowed
- Must have auto pressure regulation and septum purge
- Must have constant pressure/flow modes and programmable pressure/flow modes.
- Must be upgradable with Capillary Flow Technology devices for effluent splitting, back flushing and column switching
- A Capillary Flow Purged Splitter, 2-way capillary flow 2-way purged must be included on the GC to allow column maintenance without venting. Valving system is not acceptable for this option.

Equipment #3 Capillary Electrophoresis (CE)

Acadia university is looking for a CE system. The CE must be equipped with a sampling/Injection, an electrophoretic separation system and detection system. It must also include a data acquisition, instrument control and data processing system. The proposed system preferably has the upgradability to be interfaced with our existing Agilent 6410 mass spectrometer and MassHunter Software. The system must also include all needed supply and an extra cassette. The proposed system has the specification described below:

- **Injection modes** - The CE system shall have a self correcting injection system with injection capability from either end of column with the following injection modes:
 - Programmable range: up to 10,000 seconds
 - Pressure: 0–100 mbar
 - Vacuum: 0–100 mbar
 - Electrokinetic: 0–30 kV
- **Buffer Replenishment System** – the CE system shall a buffer replenishment system with:
 - Satellite station for refilling anode and cathode buffer vials with fresh buffer for automatic continuous operation and buffer selectable buffer leveling automatic draining/filling of buffer vials
 - 100 and 500 ml (maximum) reservoirs
 - Automatic buffer leveling
- **Autosampler/fraction collector** – For reliable unattended operation the CE system shall have an autosampler/fraction collector with 48-position carousel. All vials are randomly accessible from cathode and anode end of capillary. Temperature control with external water bath with vial temperature from 10–40 C (non-condensing conditions)
- **Autosampler with vial sensor** – To ensure proper availability of vials versus empty positions for unattended operation the CE system shall have a sensor that is able to check all autosampler positions for load status upfront analytical runs
- **Totally Sealed Vials** – To eliminate sample evaporation and reduce the need for vial cooling the CE system shall use totally sealed vials
- **Electrophoresis Power** – In order to provide a safe, stable and flexible current system to effect electrophoretic separation the CE's power system must have the following capabilities:
 - Voltage range: settable 0 to \pm 30 kV supply
 - Current: settable 0–300 μ A
 - Power: settable 0–6 W
 - Operation under constant voltage, current or power
 - Programmable polarity switch
- **Capillary Electrochromatography Pressure System** – In order to prevent bubbles being formed in the capillary, the CE system shall have a pressure system that applies simultaneous pressure (2-12 bar) to both inlet and outlet vials.
- **High Performance Diode-Array Detector** – To provide maximum detection capability and flexibility the CE System shall be equipped with a High Performance Diode-Array Detector:
 - Real time UV-Visible diode-array detector (190–600 nm) with wavelength accuracy of 1 nm
 - Response time: 0.0625 s to 16 s (8 choices)
 - Signals: up to five signals simultaneously, full spectral acquisition with Data System
 - Up to 40 Hz sampling rate for data points providing high resolution UV data

Equipment #4 ICP-MS

In order to support the activities of Acadia University, our laboratory wishes to purchase an ICP-MS system for elemental analysis in various samples. Some elements will be present in high concentrations while other elements will be present in trace amounts. The instrument being considered must clearly demonstrate that it is capable of handling these matrices routinely and without excessive liquid dilution of the samples.

General

- An integrated interface system (US patent 7,671,329B2) situated before the plasma that dilutes the sample with dry high purity argon, and must be capable of automatic optimization of the plasma operating conditions for good sensitivity and interference reduction.
- A collision/reaction cell consisting of an octopole that controls the transmission of the ion beam and can be automatically tuned for optimal sensitivity according to the analytical mass range.
- The system should be equipped with a cell capable of interference reduction by kinetic energy discrimination using pure helium and chemical reaction using pure hydrogen.
- Service support preferably come from service engineers located in Eastern Canada.

Vacuum and Cooling system

- The three-stage vacuum system should consist of one floor mounted rotary pump for better heat dissipation, and a split flow turbo-molecular pump.
- Coolant to the ICP-MS mainframe must be supplied by a non-refrigerated heat exchanger to reduce capital and maintenance cost.

Plasma and ion optics

- One piece quartz torch with an injector of 2.5 mm internal diameter, for fast, easy replacement and high matrix tolerance.
- Torch position should be fully computer controlled and fully auto-tunable via the software in all three axes. The movement in each axis should be independent of other two. Torch position and reproducibility should be 0.1mm in all three axes. Computer readout of torch position is required for method and data audit purposes.
- For tolerance to changes in sample matrices, the system must include a high power-transfer efficiency and maintenance-free solid state digital drive 27 MHz RF generator with variable-frequency impedance matching.
- The ICP-MS must be able to perform semi-quantitative analysis in any mode especially helium since helium handles most spectral interferences. Only one semi-quant standard is required and a quantitative method does not have to be used.
- The cell must show effective interference removal by achieving guaranteed detection limits of 20ppt As and 40ppt Se in Helium mode in a matrix of 1%HNO₃, 2%HCl and 100ppm Ca, demonstrating the effective removal of both ArCl⁺ and CaCl⁺.

Quadrupole mass filter and detection:

- The quadrupole rods must be truly hyperbolic in cross section to generate the ideal true-hyperbolic field. Ceramic or metal rods are acceptable but not with round cross-section.
- Must be able to analyze from 2 to 260 amu
- Ions transmitted by the quadrupole mass analyzer should be deflected 90° into the detector.
- In order to analyze fast transient signals from all major and trace elements, we require a system capable of a linear dynamic range of 10 orders of magnitude.

Instrument Control and Data System:

- The instrument should come with the software for data acquisition, processing and reporting. The appropriate computer should be included.
- The software preferably is MassHunter to reduce training time and leverage synergies within the laboratory as MassHunter software already exists within our infrastructure.

Equipment #5 HPLC upgrade

Acadia University is looking for a new HPLC system to complement our existing Agilent 1200/1260 HPLC. The new HPLC must be compatible with our current system. A software upgrade must be included. The company must have service technician trained for the service and maintain of the instrument. Preference will be with companies offering a local service person in NS.

Pump

The proposed isocratic pump must be dual piston in series with servo-controlled variable stroke drive, power transmission by gears and ball screws, floating pistons and must have the characteristics below:

- Settable flow rate range: the pump must have a settable flow range of 0.001 – 10 ml/min, in 0.001 ml/min increments
- Retention time / flow precision: $\leq 0.07\%$ RSD or ≤ 0.02 min SD, whatever is greater
- Operation pressure range: the instrument must have an operation pressure range of 0 – 60 MPa
- Flow accuracy: must be $\pm 1\%$ or 10 μ l/min whatever is greater
- Compressibility compensation: compressibility must be user selectable based on the solvent in use
- The pump must include an integrated degasser and an Active Seal Wash

Autosampler

- Operation pressure range: the instrument must have an operation pressure range of 0 – 60 MPa (0 – 600 bar, 0 – 8700 psi)
- Injection range: reliable injections from 0.1 to 100 μ L
- Precision: $<0.25\%$ RSD of peak areas from <5 μ L to 100 μ L
- Vial Capacity: up to 132 vials (2 mL) or up to 36 vials (6 mL)
- Carry over: $<0.004\%$
- Minimum sample volume: 1 μ L from 5 μ L sample in 100 μ L microvial, or 1 μ L from 10 μ L sample in 300 μ L microvial.
- Tray: 100 x2ml vials

Thermostated Column compartment (TCC)

- The instrument must have an operation Temperature range 10 degrees below ambient to 80 °C or greater
- The temperature stability must be ± 0.15 °C
- The temperature accuracy must be ± 0.8 °C with calibration ± 0.5 °C
- The TCC must have a column capacity Three 30 cm columns
- The Heat-up/cool-down time must be 5 min from ambient to 40 °C and 10 min from 40 °C to 20 °C

Software

- Software controlling all component of the instrument must be included.
- Software must run on Windows 7 64 bit or Windows 8 or windows 10

Detector

- A DAD detector must be included (1024-element diode array)
- Simultaneous acquisition of up to 8 compound specific wavelength
- Max-Light cartridge cell with 60 mm optical path length
- Noise level typically $<\pm 0.6 \times 10^{-6}$ AU/cm at 230/4 nm, slit width 4 nm
- Signal drift must be equal or smaller 0.5×10^{-3} AU/h after adequate warm up.

Equipment #6: PAL3 RSI 120 Autosampler

Acadia is looking for a PAL autosampler that can perform liquid injection, head space and SPME.

- 120cm rail with Headspace capability and SPME with Fiber Conditioning Module
- All necessary trays and connecting cables must be included
- Head spave vial, DB-WAX 30m, 0.25mm, 0.25um column SPME Fiber, PDMS,100um,A/S,23Ga, Pk/3 must also be included. Ferrule and Column nut, Self Tightening Inlet/Detect must also be included in the offer

B. MATERIAL DISCLOSURES

- 1) Acadia University is planning to renovate the interior of the KCIC to install this Laboratory Equipment. The work is being phased to align with space availability and funding as per the 2 of the project specification package. The facility will remain operational for the duration of the project using alternate entrances and routing as required and agreed upon between the owner and the proponent.
- 2) All university policies for parking, smoking and noise must be adhered to by the proponent during the execution of this work.

C. OTHER MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Terms of Engagement (Appendix A)
Proponents shall include a proposed terms of engagement document that Acadia University and the successful proponent will use as the basis of the negotiation phase of the contract development process.

D. RATED CRITERIA

- 1) Experience and Qualifications, including project team
Each proponent should provide the following in its proposal:
 - i) a brief description of the proponent;
 - ii) a description of the goods and services the proponent has previously and/or is currently delivering, with an emphasis on experience relevant to the Deliverables;
 - iii) the roles and responsibilities of the proponent and any of its agents, employees and sub-contractors who will be involved in providing the Deliverables, together with the identity of those who will be performing those roles and their relevant respective expertise. Proponents shall include CV's related to the personnel that will be assigned to this project. Respondents shall outline the percentage contribution that is anticipated from each team member;
 - iv) its knowledge, skills and expertise as it pertains to the Deliverables;
 - v) a Reference Form in accordance with the instructions set out in the Form attached as Appendix D to the RFP.
- 2) Scope of Work
The respondent shall clearly indicate what components are within the scope of work and clearly indicate any optional components. Cost saving alternatives proposed by the proponent will be evaluated and included in the rating of this component if they are deemed in accordance with the University and project objectives.
- 3) Timeline
The proponent shall define the proposed timeline and key milestones associated with the proposed scope of work.
- 4) Pricing
The proponent shall clearly indicate the project costs. If the respondent includes a provision for reimbursement of expenses, the proponent shall include a budget for anticipated expenses and a recommendation for cost management and approvals process.
Proponents should review and complete the Rate Bid Form at Appendix C.

Pricing will be scored based on a relative pricing formula using the Rates set out in the Rate Bid Form.

Each proponent will receive a percentage of the total possible points allocated to price for the particular category it has bid on by dividing that proponent's price for that category into the lowest bid price in that category. For example, if a proponent bids \$120.00 for a particular category and that is the lowest bid price in that category, that proponent receives 100% of the possible points for that category (120/120 = 100%). A proponent who bids \$150.00 receives 80% of the possible points for that category (120/150 = 80%), and a proponent who bids \$240.00 receives 50% of the possible points for that category (120/240 = 50%).

Lowest rate
 ----- x Total available points = Score for proposal with second-
 lowest rate
 Second-lowest rate

Lowest rate
 ----- x Total available points = Score for proposal with third-lowest
 rate
 Third-lowest rate

And so on, for each proposal

The following is an overview of the categories and weighting for the rated criteria of the RFP. Proponents who do not meet a minimum threshold score for a category will not proceed to Stage III of the evaluation process.

Rated Criteria Category	Weighting (Points)	Minimum Threshold
Experience and Qualifications, including project team	30 points	20
Scope of work	20	12
Timeline	20	12
Pricing	30	N/A
Total Points	100	N/A

N/A – Not Applicable