



General Faculties Council  
**RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
Approved Minutes

Meeting 51  
November 19, 2020, 2:00 p.m.

By Zoom platform

***Voting Members***

Robert Thompson, Co-Chair  
Andy Knight, Academic Co-Chair  
Semhar Abraha – arrived during Item 2  
Lyndsay Campbell  
David Eaton  
Carolyn Emery  
Michael Hill – arrived during Item 5  
Claire Kamaliddin  
Tom Keenan  
Seok-Woo Kwon  
Alex Paquette  
Mary-Jo Romaniuk – left during Item 6  
Sylvie Roy – left during Item 5  
Cathryn Ryan  
Dora Tam  
Annette Timm

***Non-Voting Members***

Hamid Habibi  
Thomas Oldenburg

***Secretary and Scribe***

Elizabeth Sjogren

***Staff***

Tasha Hodzic

***Regrets***

Sabine Gilch  
Dawn Kingston  
Robin Yates

***Guests***

Keri Damen, Executive Director, Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking – present for Item 5  
Alice de Koning, Academic Director, Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking – present for Item 5  
Svetlana Farkas-Cubra, Specialist, Postdoctoral Initiatives, Office of the V-P (Research) – present for Item 6  
William Ghali, Vice-President (Research) – present for Items 4-6  
Angela Jackson, Director, Employee & Academic Labour Relations – present for Item 6  
Marcello Tonelli, Associate Vice-President (Research), Cumming School of Medicine – present for Item 4

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

**1. Approval of the Agenda**

**Moved/Seconded**

That the Agenda for the November 19, 2020 Research and Scholarship Committee meeting be approved.

**Carried**

## **2. Remarks of the Co-Chair and Academic Co-Chair**

The Co-Chair included the following in his remarks:

- The development of the Growth Through Focus (GTF) vision is continuing, and a committee has been struck to consider the operationalizing of the transdisciplinary areas of focus. Any thoughts on this can be shared with Rob Thompson, Associate Vice-President (Research), who is chairing this committee.
- The University is monitoring the COVID-19 situation and its impacts. There have been cases at the University but no on-campus transmission to date. The University had a Critical Research Designation process in the spring, then an Expanded Research Designation process, and now is operating under a safety plan structure. If the COVID-19 situation continues to worsen, the University may return to the Critical Research Designation process and researchers who operated under other processes will be no longer permitted to do on-campus work.
- Adjudication is complete and the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) funding announcement will be made soon. University researchers have been successful in receiving funding.

The Academic Co-Chair made no remarks.

In response to questions, it was reported that:

- The Co-Chair will enquire whether discussion of the GTF areas of focus by the Committee would be considered appropriate business for the Committee. It was reported that a broad consultation event is being planned for January.
- All of the CFI applications were submitted with expectation for provincial matching funding. If provincial matching funding does not occur, other options will be explored.

## **3. Approval of the October 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda.

### **Moved/Seconded**

That the Minutes of the Research and Scholarship Committee meeting held on October 22, 2020 be approved.

**Carried**

## **4. San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Marcello Tonelli and William Ghali presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent gave a presentation on the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), including that this focuses on the impacts of research in addition to metrics such as bibliometrics. The proponent reported that the Executive Leadership Team has recommended that the University become a signatory to the DORA.

- Discussion included:
  - That examples of non-journal outputs that are not STEM related only, such as public talks, consultancy, and community engagement, should be used
  - That the impact of a research project can be sensationalized, and this is a concern if research is being assessed for promotion and tenure
  - If and how unit reviews could use data gathered under DORA principles, as unit reviews do not currently use narrative data
  - That the principles of the University's in-development Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Handbook match well with the DORA principles, and that the Handbook will operationalize any commitment to DORA
  - That the signatories to DORA include the Canadian Tri-Agencies and other funding bodies
  - That dossiers are now being used in addition to surveys such as the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) to assess teaching, and the adoption of the DORA principles to assess research is congruous with this

## **5. Hunter Hub Mandate and Positioning**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Keri Damen, Alice de Koning, and William Ghali presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters gave a presentation on the Hunter Hub, including its vision, mandate, objective, governance, key successes in 2019-2020, key initiatives for 2020-2021, and plan for repositioning the Hunter Hub within the University's ecosystem
- Discussion included:
  - The embedded certificate in Entrepreneurial Thinking
  - The meaning and use of the words "entrepreneurial" and "innovation", and if these apply to all disciplines
  - The Committee suggested that the presenters visit the Faculty Councils, and that their presentation include a broad range of examples in order that members of the University community can connect themselves with the Hunter Hub

## **6. New Collective Agreement with the Postdoctoral Association of the University of Calgary**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Angela Jackson, Svetlana Farkas-Cubra, and William Ghali presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters gave a presentation on the recent first collective agreement between the University and the Postdoctoral Association of the University of Calgary (PDAC). The presenters reported that in 2017 the Alberta government passed a bill granting Postdoctoral Associates the right to representation by a bargaining agent, the right to collectively bargain, and the right to strike. The presenters noted that the University has postdocs in three different categories

(Postdoctoral Associates, Postdoctoral Fellowship Holders and Guest Postdoctoral Scholars) and that the new three-year collective agreement applies only to Postdoctoral Associates as the others are not employees of the University.

- In response to a question, it was reported that when a Postdoctoral Associate is successful in an application for external funding, their supervisor will maintain their Associate pay at a minimum of 5% of its original value, thus ensuring that the postdoc maintains the rights and benefits set out in the collective agreement

*Secretary's Note: A question relating to Tri-Council funding and the categorization of postdoctoral scholars was incompletely answered and is not minuted. The Collective Agreement between the PDAC and the Board of Governors should be consulted directly for information on this.*

## **7. Research Services Office Updates**

Robert Thompson, Associate Vice-President (Research), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter provided an update on the Research Services Office (RSO), including its recent leadership changes, the rollouts of the Research Management System and the Institutional Research Information Services Solution (IRISS) + Research Ethics Board (REB) Exchange, and recent changes to its structure including the addition of the Knowledge Engagement Unit and Indigenous Research Support Team
- The Committee discussed the process for having contracts signed, and the presenter reported that the RSO Legal Counsel should be able to assist with this

## **8. Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **9. Adjournment**

The November 19, 2020 Research and Scholarship Committee meeting was adjourned by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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Elizabeth Sjogren  
Meeting Secretary