

Thursday, January 16, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
Meeting #79

A167/Zoom

Voting Members

Sheri Madigan, Academic Co-Chair
Ayan Chanda* – arrived during Item 3
Jessie Dinh*
Michael Hill* – arrived during Item 5
Kris Innanen
Yrjo Koskinen* – left during Item 7
Daniel McGrath* – left during Item 5
Dongyan Niu
Alexandria Poppendorf*
Raylene Reimer DeBruyn
Mary-Jo Romaniuk*
Shelly Russell-Mayhew*
Rudiger Tscherning*

Secretary

Courtney McVie

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Robert Thompson, Co-Chair
Aamir Jamal
Katrina Milaney
Alex Ramirez-Serrano
Lorraine Venturato

Non-Voting Members

Alyona Belikova*
Hamid Habibi*
Cristina Rai*

Guests

Victoria Fast, Academic Co-Lead, Cities and Societies ITS Area of Focus – present for Item 6
Ian Gates*, Associate Vice-President (Research and Innovation) – present for Item 5
Michael Hart, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (Indigenous Engagement) – present for Item 3
Megan Lee, Managing Director, Quantum City – present for Item 7
Rineem Saleh, Senior Specialist, ITS, Cities and Societies Area of Focus – present for Item 6
Barry Sanders, Scientific Director, Quantum City – present for Item 7
Joshua Taron, Academic Co-Lead, Cities and Societies ITS Area of Focus – present for Item 6
Stephanie Warner, Manager, Knowledge to Impact – present for Item 4
Ajwang' Warria, Academic Co-Lead, Cities and Societies ITS Area of Focus – present for Item 6

**Attended virtually*

Secretary's Note: In accordance with the General Faculties Council (GFC) Bylaws Section 8.2, the motion box and "Carried" denotation serves as the entry in the minutes that the Chair of the meeting declared the motion carried.

The Academic Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Meeting Opening

1.1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the January 16, 2025 Research and Scholarship Committee meeting be approved.

Carried

1.2. Remarks of the Academic Co-Chair

The Academic Co-Chair welcomed Dongyan Niu, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, to her first Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) meeting.

2. Approval of the November 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Research and Scholarship Committee meeting held on November 21, 2024 be approved.

Carried

3. Indigenous Engagement - Research Update

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Michael Hart, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (Indigenous Engagement), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter gave a presentation on Indigenous engagement within research at the University, reporting that activities include: aligning *ii' taa'poh'to'p* (the University's Indigenous Strategy) with the institutional Research and Innovation Plan, providing support to new Canada Excellence Research Chair holder Deborah McGregor, working with the Institutes for Transdisciplinary Scholarship to incorporate Indigenous research into every pillar, developing a land-based research site at Barrier Lake, involvement with the One Health initiative, involvement with the Research Data Management Committee and development of the Data Sovereignty Committee/Indigenous Data Management Committee, and coordinating research and learning opportunities through the Indigenous Research Support Team, One Child Every Child parallel paths initiative, and Office of Indigenous Engagement.
- The presenter indicated that key areas of focus for the immediate future include continued coordination of *ii' taa'poh'to'p* and Research and Innovation Plan implementation, continued efforts to increase the number of Indigenous researchers at the University, development and coordination of training materials, the strengthening of pathways to students becoming researchers, and expanding connections with Indigenous organizations to coordinate research efforts.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - The Tri-Council is working on updating its policy statement regarding Indigenous peoples. It is not known when this will be done and released.
 - It is necessary to move carefully on matters relating to people identifying as Indigenous. The University

is working on updating its processes relating to this, but requiring documentation can be challenging as, for example, Indigenous Services Canada does not recognize one of the Cree groups in Alberta.

4. Declaration On Research Assessment (DORA) and Research Impact Update

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Stephanie Warner, Manager, Knowledge to Impact, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter gave a presentation on research impact initiatives at the University, including:
 - Research impact is defined as the higher-level and ultimate long-term effects or changes resulting from an ‘intervention’, and such impact can be intended and unintended, positive or negative. Impact is a journey, with diverse pathways. Impact goes beyond what research has, does, and produces to the difference it makes downstream.
 - The DORA Declaration on Research Assessment, of which the University is a signatory, affirms commitment to societal impact, a broader range of outputs and impact measures, focus on the content of output and not simply journal-based metrics, quantitative and qualitative indicators of research quality and impact, and transparent criteria.
 - The DORA principles have been incorporated into the GFC Academic Staff Criteria and Processes Handbook, the Faculty Guidelines, and the Academic Selection Toolkit for hiring. There remains varied awareness and uptake of the DORA principles across the University.
 - Funding agencies are changing their practices to align with their own commitments to DORA. The Tri-Agency is developing a narrative-style curriculum vitae (CV) that will ultimately replace the Canadian Common CV.
 - The Knowledge to Impact team’s primary goals for this year are to develop a toolbox for the University to guide assessing and communicating about research impact, provide educational opportunities, and implement campus-wide research impact reporting.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - A one-pager handout will be produced to introduce researchers to the research impact toolbox, and this will be revised over time as researchers’ needs are identified.
 - The Tri-Agency will provide guidelines for applicants for preparing their narrative-style CV. Researchers already write narratively about their research to some extent, so it is considered that this will not fundamentally change how researchers present their research.
- Discussion included:
 - The DORA principles could be incorporated into metrics the University currently uses or new, less traditional, metrics could be developed.
 - The research system is in a transitional phase during which all people involved, including researchers, reviewers, policy makers, and others, are learning about narratively expressing research impact.
 - There are overlaps between research outcomes and research impacts. The presenters indicated that writing narratively will allow a researcher to make these connections, and that examples of narrative work will be provided.
 - It can be posited that the supervision of students or postdoctoral scholars can lead to impact, as these persons move on to other positions. The presenters agreed that there can be overlap between research and service and the perception of this will be dependent on context and how the effort is assessed.

5. Global Research Initiative for Sustainable Low-Carbon Unconventional Resources Update

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Ian Gates, Associate Vice-President (Research and Innovation), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter gave a presentation on the Global Research Initiative for Sustainable Low-Carbon Unconventional Resources (GRI), including:
 - The \$75 million Canada First Research Excellence Fund GRI was established in December 2016 and ends November 2026. The GRI has a focus on developing technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and are more sustainable. The key themes are heavy oil and bitumen, hydraulic fracturing, and low carbon solutions including CO₂ capture and storage, CO₂ conversion, hydrogen, and bioenergy.
 - The key achievements of the GRI include: funding research projects at the University; establishing collaborations and partnerships; publishing to advance knowledge in the field; building state-of-the-art lab facilities; supporting highly qualified personnel (HQP) educationally and in transitioning to careers in industry, academia, and public sectors; securing additional research funding from international and other sources; innovation and technology development; creation of startup companies and commercialization; and leadership development.
 - The University ranks #1 globally for citation counts in the top 30 of Energy research topics, and 32 University researchers are in the top 2% globally for Energy/Environmental researchers.
 - The University's Energy Research Strategy, which was informed by GRI learnings, launched in 2023. The principles of this transdisciplinary strategy are that it be impactful and relevant, open to all, and for the common good. Under the strategy, teams focus on challenges to produce solutions to benefit society.
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - The University's Institute of Energy was created in 2016 but is currently dormant. This is going to be reactivated in 2025 by combining the Institute and the GRI.
 - The provincial government's moratorium on pursuing renewable energies does not appear to be impacting research funding opportunities.
- Discussion included observation that Stanford University's Annual Assessment of Author Citations list is a useful tool and that it is positive to see so many University of Calgary names on the list.

6. Institutes for Transdisciplinary Scholarship (ITS) Spotlight on Cities and Societies

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Victoria Fast, Academic Co-Lead, Cities and Societies ITS Area of Focus, Joshua Taron, Academic Co-Lead, Cities and Societies ITS Area of Focus, Ajwang' Warria, Academic Co-Lead, Cities and Societies ITS Area of Focus, and Rineem Saleh, Senior Specialist, ITS, Cities and Societies Area of Focus, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters reminded the RSC that there are five areas of focus within the Institutes for Transdisciplinary Scholarship (ITS), each of which have formed a community of scholars, and then gave a presentation on the Cities and Societies area, including:
 - The area will focus on ways to design, plan, and build sustainable and healthy communities to ensure all societal members thrive. The area will consider technology, innovations in smart cities, transportation,

infrastructure, biodiversity, healthy cities and populations, and designing for equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility. The area's themes have been identified as Equitable Cities, Empowered Actors, and Community Centred.

- The Cities and Societies area Academic Co-Leads will serve three-year terms and will work to: 1) help establish connections including with the campus community and external partners, including the City of Calgary; 2) support research teams to apply for funding, build capacity, and expand; and 3) support the consolidation of partnerships and the sustainability of long-term goals.
- The area will foster transdisciplinary work through a workshop series, walking tours, and a podcast, and will engage Indigenous perspectives through connection to the Faculty of Social Work's Indigenous Lodge (Kiipitakyoyis) and by encouraging reciprocal relationships between researchers and Indigenous communities. The area will map and establish connections to University undergraduate and graduate degree programs, support knowledge mobilization, and leverage resources and infrastructure including the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) downtown location.
- In response to a question, it was reported that all elements of the SAPL, including researchers and graduate and undergraduate programs, will be moved downtown by 2026.

7. Quantum Update

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Barry Sanders, Scientific Director, Quantum City, and Megan Lee, Managing Director, Quantum City, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters gave a presentation on quantum initiatives at the University, including:
 - The University's quantum ecosystem includes: research by faculty, postdoctoral scholars, and students; quantum education; facilities, including Quantum City's qLab nanofabrication centre, qHub collision space, and main campus labs and spaces; and partnerships. Quantum City is a network for quantum science and technology in Alberta and brings together researchers and developers, industry, and adopters of quantum technology and services. Quantum City establishes quantum enabling infrastructure, creates a pipeline for talent and experts, and narrows the gap between quantum technology and solutions.
 - Faculty with quantum expertise, including Canada Excellence Research Chair and Canada Research Chair holders, have been recently hired in the Faculty of Science, Schulich School of Engineering, and Haskayne School of Business.
 - Quantum City's Scientist in Residence program provides guidance to organizations that are exploring and adopting quantum technologies.
 - Recent activities include involvement in the Quantum Horizons Alberta research initiative, involvement in the Institute for Quantum Science and Technology, a partnership with QAI Ventures, continued collaboration with Mphasis, hosting the Quantum City Challenge for quantum innovators, supporting internship opportunities, planning for qLab and qHub construction, launching a Professional Masters in Quantum Computing, hosting the qConnect 2024 summit, holding the transdisciplinary workshop Quantum and Quantum Adjacent Computing for Natural Disaster Prediction, and pursuing business and other engagement.
 - Quantum City has received \$750,000 in Alberta Innovates funding for the qHub and \$4.1 million in Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan) funding for the qLab.
 - Plans for 2025 include delivering Canadian International Development Scholarships, hosting the qConnect 2025 summit, and launching two rounds of Consortia Funding.

- In response to questions, it was reported that the qLab construction will start in March 2025, on an existing parking lot site, and will be completed in 2027, and the associated Science A renovation will be completed in 2026.

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Research and Scholarship Committee adjourn the January 16, 2025 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Courtney McVie
University Secretary