

General Faculties Council
RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

Meeting 32
October 17, 2017, 2:15 – 4:00 p.m.

A167

Voting Members

John Reynolds, Co-Chair Designate
Nancy Arthur, Academic Co-Chair
Thomas Hickerson
Tom Keenan
Andy Knight
Alan McLuckie – left during Item 6
Tina Miller
Joseph Sparling
Annette Timm
Run Ze Yang

Non-Voting Members

Andre Buret
Jeremy Haasdyk
Hamid Habibi
Rose Tobias

Secretary

Susan Belcher

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Eric Donovan
Jasmine Girgis
Hermann Schaetzel
Karen Then
Roger Thompson
Alain Verbeke
Lisa Young
Gerald Zamponi

Guests

Jeff Bowes, Manager, Enterprise Systems – present for Item 7
Mark Hanssen, Analyst - IT Business – present for Item 7
Kimberley Neutens, Executive Director, Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking – present for Item 6
Ravi Thaker, Master of Business Administration student, Haskayne School of Business – present for Item 6

The Academic Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:16 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

The Co-Chair reported that he, in his role of Associate Vice-President (Research), will be speaking to Items 4 (Recommendation of the Establishment of the Institute of Energy) and 5 (Renewal of the Research Plan) on behalf of Ed McCauley, Vice-President (Research).

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the October 17, 2017 Research and Scholarship Committee meeting be approved, with the reported amendments.

Carried

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

The Co-Chair included the following in his remarks:

- The application deadlines for a variety of funding programs were highlighted
- Two applications to the national Networks of Centres for Excellence program were recently reviewed by the University's Institutional Programs team, and feedback was provided to the applicants
- Commercial software products are currently being tested at the University: 1) Dimensions software, which is used to manage data relating to funding opportunities and to track successful applications in order to identify prominent research areas, and 2) Over-the-top (OTT) metrics software, which allows for the evaluation of the effectiveness of digital and non-traditional communication tools, such as social media
- The implementation of the University's Research Management System continues

In response to a question, the Co-Chair confirmed that the University is aware that some analysis tools are not appropriate for some disciplines, and that the University is investigating different ways to evaluate communication.

The Academic Co-Chair included the following in her remarks:

- Recruitment of the University's Canada Research Chairs (CRC) will normally be limited to candidates external to the University, and only in special circumstances will an internal candidate be considered
- The consultation process for the renewal of the Academic Plan and the Research Plan continues this term, with the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) and the Vice-President (Research) consulting broadly with stakeholders, including through visits to Faculty Council meetings
- The Associate Deans Research Council recently discussed the laboratory audit report, and it was interesting to learn how the University protects its assets (e.g. freezers) in an emergency
- Members of the Committee are welcome to suggest items of business to the Co-Chairs

In response to a question, the Co-Chair confirmed that the University's Tier 1 and Tier 2 CRC are both now only renewable once. The University has committed to attempting to retain these individuals through other means and is exploring options to do so.

3. Approval of the September 19, 2017 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 September 19, 2017 be approved, with the requested amendment.

Carried**4. Recommendation of the Establishment of the Institute of Energy**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. John Reynolds, Associate Vice-President (Research), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee reviewed the proposal to establish the Institute of Energy
- Discussion included:
 - That retention of scholars is important, and the University should strive to retain Chair holders once their terms have ended
 - That, in keeping with the priorities of the University's Research Plan, there will be ways for students to be involved with the Institute of Energy
 - What the phrase "confederation of scholars" means
- The Committee suggested that the title of the fourth theme described in the proposal could read "Planning for the Sustainable Future", if this title is not taken directly from the Energy Strategy

Moved/Seconded

That the Research and Scholarship Committee recommend that the General Faculties Council establish the Institute of Energy, as set out in the proposal provided to the Committee.

Carried**5. Renewal of the Research Plan**

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. John Reynolds, Associate Vice-President (Research), presented this item.

Highlights:

- The proponent reviewed the process and overarching model to renew the Research Plan, and the Research Plan's three priorities: 1) Matching Strengths with Opportunities, 2) Increasing Research Capacity, and 3) Driving Innovation. The Committee learned that the 6 themes in the 2011 Strategic Research Plan will continue to evolve, and that new themes may also be identified.
- The Committee discussed:
 - That it is important that the Research Plan be clearly inclusive of all areas of research across the University, as the community has traditionally associated Science, Medicine, and Engineering research with innovation, and there are many forms of research innovation in the Arts and Humanities
 - How the Research Plan and Academic Plan relate

- The University's aspirations to be recognized as having global prominence
- The Committee suggested that:
 - The concept of critical thinking be referenced in the document
 - The concept of entrepreneurial thinking be explained in more detail
 - That the inclusion of students in research, which is identified as a priority in the Academic Plan, be described in more detail in the Research Plan
- The Co-Chair reported that the Research Plan will return to the Committee at a future meeting, for recommendation to the General Faculties Council

6. Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Kimberley Neutens, Executive Director, Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee received a presentation on the history, current structure, and operational model of the Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking. The presenter reported that the priorities of the Hunter Hub are: 1) research and scholarship, 2) the student experience, and 3) community engagement, and that the Hunter Hub currently has a space in the MacEwan Student Centre and will have a future home in the rebuilt MacKimmie Block.
- The presenter reported that, after the Hunter Hub's Advisory Committee has met with the Deans and others later this term, it will be possible to gauge the interests and needs across the campus and to make plans to expand the reach of the Hunter Hub. There are plans to fundraise as the Hunter Hub expands.
- The Committee discussed:
 - That many faculty, undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral scholars could be involved with entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial initiatives in some form
 - That there are opportunities for the Hunter Hub to align with Libraries and Cultural Resources
- In response to questions, it was reported that:
 - Involvement in the Hunter Hub is not limited to courses that will apply toward a degree program. Other initiatives include a certificate program.
 - The University's Intellectual Property Policy is in need of review to ensure that it aligns with current ideas relating to entrepreneurialism
 - The Hunter Hub has an incubator and internship program for students who develop ideas for entrepreneurialism during the course of their research
- The Academic Co-Chair remarked that the Committee will look forward to receiving updates on the Hunter Hub in the future

7. Institutional Video Content Management Initiative

Documentation for this item was circulated with the Agenda. Mark Hanssen, Analyst, IT Business, and Jeff

Bowes, Manager, Enterprise Systems, presented this item.

Highlights:

- The Committee received a presentation on the Video Content Management Initiative, and learned that focus groups are being established in order to gather information on the diverse needs of potential video content management system users. The Committee further learned that, once the video content needs are identified, a budget will be proposed and a request-for-proposals to vendors will be issued.
- The Committee discussed that video uses can include lecture capture, distance learning and teaching, flipped classrooms, event webcasting, training and professional development, marketing, and research and leadership communications
- In response to a question, the presenters confirmed that functionality to manage copyright compliance is being explored
- The presenters requested assistance in reaching out to the campus community about this initiative, and asked that anyone for whom video content management is relevant contact them directly with feedback
- The Committee suggested that the presenters could reach out to the Associate Deans Research and Department Heads for assistance in populating the focus groups, and that researchers known to be currently using video content could be personally invited to participate

8. Other Business

There was no other business.

9. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Research and Scholarship Committee adjourn the October 17, 2017 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.