



General Faculties Council
RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes

March 16, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Zoom

Voting Members

Robert Thompson, Co-Chair Designate
Dora Tam, Academic Co-Chair
Faizal Abdul Careem
Shaziah Jinnah Morsette – arrived during Item 4
Claire Kamaliddin
Sheri Madigan
Raylene Reimer DeBruyn
Mary-Jo Romaniuk
Shelly Russell-Mayhew
Alberto de Salvatierra
Shane Sinclair
Piers Steel
James Steele – arrived during Item 4
Rudiger Tscherning

Non-Voting Members

Lindsay Tedds

Secretary

Courtney McVie

Scribe

Elizabeth Sjogren

Regrets

Ariel Ducey
David Eaton
Raafat El-Hacha
Michael Hill
Thomas Oldenburg
Cristina Rai

Guests

Steven Bryant, Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) and Chief Scientist, Creative Destruction Lab -
Rockies – present for Item 5
William Ghali, Vice-President (Research)
Benedikt Hallgrimsson, Cumming School of Medicine – present for Item 4
Michael Hart, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President Research (Indigenous Engagement) – present
for Item 4

The Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and confirmed quorum.

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved/Seconded

That the Agenda for the March 16, 2023 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 University is one of two institutions currently being considered for both Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) funding and Dimensions: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Canada Pilot Program recognition. The result of the CFREF competition will be publicly announced soon, and the interview phase of the Dimensions evaluation took place in January.
- The University's Research Data Management Strategy is now approved and officially adopted, and is posted on the University's website

The Academic Co-Chair welcomed Faizal Abdul Careem, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine representative, on this occasion of his first Research and Scholarship Committee meeting.

3. Approval of the January 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda.

Moved/Seconded

That the Minutes of the Research and Scholarship Committee meeting held on January 19, 2023 be approved.

Carried

4. Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) Application Update

Michael Hart, Benedikt Hallgrímsson, and William Ghali presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenters gave a presentation on the University's One Child Every Child Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) application, including:
 - An overview of the development of the application, description of the project's transdisciplinary nature, and the application process
 - The current status of the application
- Discussion included that:
 - Generally speaking, the data relating to Canada Research Chairs, studentships, etc. held by members of the University community would be useful when applying to programs

such as the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships. The presenters indicated that this data can be shared, and the presenters also observed that the University has foundational teams, including the Knowledge Engagement Unit, Social Innovation Unit, and Innovate Calgary, that could be referenced to strengthen applications, and that effort will be made to increase awareness of these.

- The University has an institutional database of publications, but it takes time and effort to turn this information into analysable data

5. Transdisciplinary Scholarship Update

Documentation was circulated with the Agenda. Steven Bryant presented this item.

Highlights:

- The presenter gave a presentation updating the committee on transdisciplinary initiatives at the University, including:
 - Focus on transdisciplinary scholarship at the University is not new. Cross-cutting strategic research themes were described in the 2012 institutional Research Plan, and the 2018 Research Plan and 2021 Framework for Growth expanded on these.
 - Transdisciplinary scholarship gatherings were held in November and December 2022 and February 2023, and there will be additional events before July 2023. These events are intended to facilitate deep conversations on the definition of transdisciplinarity and about a variety of transdisciplinary topics, and to enable the identification of specific topics and people for transdisciplinary activities.
 - A survey on defining transdisciplinarity will launch at the end of March 2023
 - A report on transdisciplinary scholarship at the University is anticipated to be complete in December 2023
 - Five Coordinators are being hired to support transdisciplinary efforts at the University, in the areas of Cities and Societies, Democracy and Change, Energy Transitions, Digital Worlds, and Health and Life.
 - Funding for transdisciplinary scholarship will come from the President's Strategic Initiative Fund, an internal chair program (UCalgary Research Excellence Chairs), an external hiring program that transcends disciplines, and Connector Grants
 - Teams and SharePoint sites have launched, and a transdisciplinary work website is in development
 - The Institute for Transdisciplinary Scholarship is being established, with a governance structure and terms of reference
 - A proposal for a University-wide transdisciplinary mega-project is being developed
- Discussion included that the University is succeeding with high profile transdisciplinary projects, and this will grow to even more investments and successes
- In response to a question, it was reported that the Transdisciplinary Scholarship team is not currently connected to the University's College of Discovery, Creativity and Innovation (CDCI), but it is intended to begin engaging more with students including by inviting students to upcoming transdisciplinary scholarship events

6. Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded

That the Research and Scholarship Committee adjourn the March 16, 2023 meeting.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Courtney McVie
University Secretary