

## ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

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**SESSION:**

Public   
Non-Public

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Decision   
Discussion/Direction   
Information

**TO:** Academic Council

**DATE:** February 27, 2024

**PRESENTED BY:** Jennifer Freeman, Executive Director, Office of Research Services  
Sarah Trush, AVP Planning and Strategic Analysis

**SUBJECT:** Institutional Metrics – Strategic Research Plan Metrics

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**Background/Context:**

At its June 2022 meeting, the Board approved the proposed set of institutional metrics that would provide a basis for the University to track its progress towards its strategic goals as outlined in the Integrated Academic and Research Plan. At the same meeting, a commitment was made to engage in a process to develop and recommend meaningful targets to achieve for each metric that would culminate into an Institutional Metrics Annual Report dashboard. The Institutional Metrics Annual Report is part of evolving the integrated planning framework by systematizing the accountability of our progress towards our plans. Academic metrics were presented to the Board in June 2023 with a commitment to present research metrics in 2023-2024.

**Discussion:**

As part of this accountability, the Vice-President Research and Innovation in collaboration with the AVP Planning and Strategic Analysis, has developed metrics to illustrate progress towards the achievement of goals outlined in the Strategic Research Plan 2020-2025 as well as future Strategic Research Plans. These metrics will become a component of the Institutional Metrics Annual Report.

The attached document provides the proposed metrics for measuring the progress of the research and innovation enterprise at Ontario Tech University. These metrics reflect broadly the importance of research talent (graduate students, postdoctoral fellowships, faculty members, research chairs); research funding; entrepreneurship and commercialization; industry and community partners; and research capacity and facilities. The proposed metrics were shared with the Strategy and Planning Committee of the Board on February 8, 2024.

**SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:**  
Draft Research Metrics Summary (Excel)

Metric Area	Definitions	Source	Qualitative Reporting Element	Notes
Graduate Student Enrolment (Actual and Proportion)	Number and proportion of official Graduate student enrolment as reported by Ontario Tech University to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities (includes PhD, Research-based Masters, Course-based Masters, and Graduate Diploma).	Official Fall University Statistical and Enrolment Report (USER) - OIRA		
Postdoctoral Fellowships	Number of active Postdoctoral Fellowships per year.	Postdoctoral Fellowships: Official Employee Counts as of October 1 of each year - OIRA		
Graduate and Undergraduate Research Funding/Financial Support	Number and amount of External Scholarship, Internal Scholarship, TA/RAships, and other sources of funding, for Research-based Masters and PhD students annually.	* Working with SGPS to determine data available.	Highlight any major student awards from the reporting year	Fiscal Year or Ministry Reporting Year?
	Number and Amount of Undergraduate Research Awards provided annually	Annual USRF and USRA award data - Research Office		
Entrepreneurship and Commercialization	Number of Active Start-Ups. Number of students, alumni, faculty and other individuals participating in non-academic entrepreneurship programs. Number of active Patents.	Brilliant Catalyst and Office of Research Services.		
External Research partnerships and sponsorships	Count of external entities involved in sponsored research with Ontario Tech U. per fiscal year. Each entity is shown only once per year, regardless of how many projects they are involved in. However, an entity can be repeated in more than one fiscal year if they disbursed in more than one fiscal year.	Total number of active research agreement with external partners, by sector (i.e. not-for-profit, industry, public sector, etc.), per fiscal year - VPRI		
Local Partnerships and Opportunities	Number of external partnerships within the Durham Region and Northumberland County supporting research per fiscal year.	Partnership Data - Research Office & Experiential Learning Database (Undergraduate data) - OIRA	Highlight few partnerships and/or relationships of impact	
Research Intensity & Ranking	Amount of Research Funding per faculty member	Official Research Funding Received (Finance) & Official Employee Counts as of October 1 of each year (OIRA)		
	Year over year ranking in Research Rankings (Research InfoSource, McLeans).	Research Infosource Annual Report, McLeans University Rankings, etc.	Highlight significant changes.	
Ontario Tech Research - Major Awards Received	Total Number of grant applications submitted per Fiscal year, and number and amount of awards received Fiscal year.	Research Award application and award data (Research Office)	Highlight high profile/value awards received in the reporting year.	
Research Space	Total Research Space (COU inventory) year over year, in square meters.	Research Space Inventory as Measured by COU Space Standards (OIRA)	Highlighting core Research Facilities, and potentially key instrumentation/equipment, including any significant investment during reporting year	
Research Entities and Chairs	Number of active research entities, including institutes, centres, units) and external/Internal Research Chairs.	Count of Research Chairs, Institutes, Units, and Centres, by fiscal year, as provided by Office of Research Services. Includes internal, CRC, and industry chairs.		
EDI commitment and initiatives			Highlight key initiatives and work-done in the reporting year, to illustrate on-going commitment and forward-movement	Engage Office of Equity, Diversity and Belonging