

August 28, 2011

To: Academic Council

From: Research Board

Subj: Research Entities Report, 2010-2011

## **Research Entities**

The Research Board received the reports of the formally established research entities: Centre for Evaluation & Survey Research (CESR), University-Community Link Unit (CLU), and the Health Education Technology Research Unit (HETRU). Each entity submitted a report on their activities for 2010-2011 and proposed activities for 2011-12. This report summarizes 2010-11 activities. It is important to note that CESR and CLU are in a start up mode.

The University also has a number of Faculty-based and interdisciplinary research groups as well as informal research labs.

## Centre for Evaluation & Survey Research (CESR): CESR

Established in 2009, CESR provides qualitative and qualitative survey research and evaluation services for faculty researchers, administration and non-university clients. CESR also provides undergraduate and graduate researcher students with hands-on training in survey and evaluation design, implementation and analysis.

In 2010-2011, the primary activities of CESR included solidifying a governance and management structure, creating promotional materials, building a physical location at 61 Charles Street, and implementing a number (4) of studies.

For 2011-12, CESR will (i) expand its call centre capabilities, (ii) revise governance structure, (iii) finalise infrastructure development at 21 Charles Street, and (iv) expand project attraction and implementation.

Health Education Technology Research Unit (HETRU): Now entering its 5<sup>th</sup> year, HETRU has a strong membership base with some 43 members from the Faculties of Health Sciences, Business and IT, Education, Engineering and Applied Science and Humanities and Social Sciences as well as Durham College. The HETRU membership

maintains a productive publication and HETRU hosted an inter-professional event for the community.

The impact of HETRU on university scholarship and research development remains significant. HETRU publishes a monthly "FHS Research News" as a tool to keep members informed of research opportunities. HETRU continues to evolve, with a particular focus on interdisciplinary education and research, particularly interprofessional care, research and education.

For 2011-12, HETRU will host a workshop, sponsored by Pfizer Canada, on interprofessional education/community care, building on the success of the 2010 workshop. HETRU also plans on reaching out to other UOIT Research Centres and Units, in particular to CLU and the serious gaming and health informatics research groups.

Community Link Unit: CLU evolved out of the planned Observatory Unit on Sustainable Cities and Urban Communities and was conceived to address the need for links with urban communities and affirm UOIT's commitment to community economic development. In 2010-11, the primary activities of CLU included solidifying a governance and management structure, developing communication/promotional materials, organizing and official opening with an international keynote speaker, signing an MOU with the Northumberland Poverty Reduction Action Committee (NPRAC), establishing an office at 55 Bond Street, and implementing a number of university-community and inter-Faculty projects.

CLU received one external grant.

For 2011-12, CLU will (i) continue its research project with NPRAC, (ii) develop research grant applications in the field of literacy and seniors and migrant workers, and identify other areas for university-community research and program cooperation; (iii) seek broader engagement of undergraduate and graduate research students in projects.

Respectfully submitted,

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