



## Research Committee Minutes

Date: October 17, 2022  
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Place: Google Meet  
Attendees: C. Davidson S. Forrester, J. Freeman, L. Jacobs (Chair), C. McGregor, B. Murphy, V. Sharpe (secretary), N. Wattie  
Regrets: S. Brown, A. Leach, R. Ruttenberg-Rozen, S. ShahbazPanahi  
Guests: L. Rendl, K. Ross McGregor

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L. Jacobs welcomed everyone and commenced the meeting. C. Davidson provided the land acknowledgement. Les invited other members to provide the land acknowledgement for future meetings if they wish.

### 1. **Approval of the agenda**

Moved by B. Murphy. Seconded by S. Forrester. Approved by consensus.

### 2. **Approval of previous meeting's minutes**

Moved by B. Murphy. Seconded by N. Wattie. Approved by consensus.

### 3. **Report of the Vice President Research & Innovation**

L. Jacobs noted some significant developments for the university:

B. Perry has been awarded a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Chair in Hate Studies. The Centre for Hate, Bias and Extremism received a major grant of \$2-2.5 million from Public Safety Canada. L. Jacobs congratulated B. Perry and the active researchers in that centre.

J. Freeman, J. Hoornweg, L. Jacobs and some Faculty attended an all-day meeting at McMaster where Ontario Tech was really pushing forward our partnerships especially in the energy sector. Ontario Tech and McMaster are the two leading universities in the county in this sector and collaboration is essential. There is an immense amount of opportunity and it aligns with a large number of other initiatives including the IAEA Collaborating Centre. There will be an important workshop happening in the coming weeks brought about by our leadership role in UNENE over the past year. This is an opportunity to deepen the potential partnerships. This committee should be thinking about other universities in other research areas where we can push these research relationships.

S. Forrester asked if there are any updates on Mitacs. L. Jacobs noted that Caroline Konrad from Mitacs shared that they've reached a funding agreement they are happy about and they'll contact us in the next couple of days about the pause being lifted fairly soon for the province.

### 4. **Report of the Executive Director, Office of Research Services**

J. Freeman provided and circulated a presentation that included information on/about:

- ORS hiring in process for a Research Ethics Coordinator (FT), Research Ethics Officer (FT, to be posted), Partnerships Officer (LT), and Contracts Officer (LT)
- REB – new chair elected by the REB – Joe Eastwood, FSSH
- Radiation Safety – looking at succession planning for our Class II Nuclear Facilities to maintain our compliance with CNSC
- Subcritical Assembly (Reactor) project – process takes about a year for approval
- Research Ethics Board and the Animal Care Committee

### 5. SSHRC Internal Partnerships Pilot Consultation

K. Ross-McGregor provided a presentation on this funding, in particular the SSRCH Ignite Grant Pilot (short-term support to researchers for small-scale partnered research activities in the Social Sciences and Humanities that involves partnerships with non-academic organizations. The anticipated Ignite envelope for the upcoming round is \$49,000. The funding available per application is \$10,000 - \$15,000 (two-year funding period max).

There is also funding available from the SSHRC Institutional Grants (SIG) in two streams: SSHRC Exchange Grants (\$2000 grants for knowledge mobilization activities) and SSHRC Explore Grants (\$7000 grants for research projects).

The timeline for SSHRC Explore, Exchange, and Ignite Grants is:

Launch Internal Call for Proposals - Dec 1, 2022

Deadline for Internal Applications - Feb 15, 2023

Notification of Internal Competition Results - Last week of March 2023

N. Wattie asked if there's going to be a stipulation on in-kind contributions from partners. K. Ross-McGregor replied that yes, in-kind contributions are needed but there are no expectations of cash contributions.

L. Jacobs congratulated K. Ross-McGregor on her new appointment with the University of Toronto.

## 6. Research Data Management Strategy

J. Freeman noted that institutions are required by the tri-agencies to put in place requirements around Data Management. There has been a lot of discussion with VPRI, IT, Library, Faculty, to create templates for Data Management Plans. Tri-agencies are imbedding this into the application process. By March 2023 all institutions must have DM institutional strategies with sensitivities to things like IP, Indigenous data, REB, etc. The RDM committee is currently consulting with Faculty Members, the Research Committee, Ethics and Safety Committees, etc. looking for feedback on the survey, not completion of the survey. J. Freeman shared feedback about the survey.

B. Murphy asked that the REB Chairs not try to reinvent the REB process with each new Chair. J. Freeman noted that the goal is to have the components aligned and there is agreement. A Research Business Analyst has been hired and is working on the systems and databases. ORS is embarking on a process with IT to examine other enterprise-wide systems to replace the various systems we have now.

N. Wattie noted that a number of researchers have been submitting Research Data Management Plans for years so wondering if it's possible to share some of those.

J. Freeman asked for consent from the Research Committee to launch the survey. **ACTION:** Provide feedback to J. Freeman or C. Davidson.

## 7. Undergraduate Research Awards 2023 Program Updates Consultation

J. Freeman noted the need to consult with the Research Committee on the timeline and funding.

B. Murphy provided suggestions on the timeline that would be helpful to the students now when they are very stressed and have competing priorities. S. Forrester agreed that we have to put the students' needs first and therefore have a January application date. He acknowledged that for every student approved to participate in the program, there is an increased workload for ORS.

B. Murphy asked what the minimum GPA is. J. Freeman noted that the students provide their unofficial transcripts and that she would look up the minimum GPA and let the committee know.

J. Freeman noted that NSERC is trying to make the awards more financially competitive. There will be 12 awards this year, 2 per faculty. J. Freeman walked through the Funding Framework, noting the increases are intended to reduce disparity, and sought feedback. S. Forrester noted that he supports the funding framework

and asked to take this to Faculty for feedback. **ACTION:** J. Freeman will circulate the slides and requests feedback by Oct 24.

8. Contract Acknowledgement Process Consultation  
Deferred.

9. **Faculty Exchange**  
Deferred.

10. **Other Business**  
Deferred.

11. **Next meetings** – ~~November 15, 2022~~ Rescheduled to November 29, 2022

12. **Adjournment** – 2:00 p.m.