



## Research Committee Minutes

Date: November 19, 2024  
Time: 11 a.m. to noon  
Place: Microsoft Teams

### Attendees:

Les Jacobs  
Susanne Brown  
Catherine Davidson  
Sean Forrester

Jennifer Freeman  
Amanda Goddard  
Amy Leach  
Peter Lewis

Robyn Ruttenberg-Rozen  
Shahram ShahbazPanahi  
Nick Wattie

### Guests:

JoAnne Arcand  
Ahmad Barari

Carol Rogers  
Janice Moseley

### Regrets:

1. Welcome
2. Land Acknowledgements
3. Approval of the Agenda  
Move: R. Ruttenberg-Rozen  
Second: S. ShahbazPanahi

The Agenda was approved as presented.

4. Approval of previous meeting's minutes  
Move: R. Ruttenberg-Rozen  
Second: N. Wattie

The minutes were approved with an amendment to Item 8 to better reflect the discussion on the proposal's name change.

5. Report of the Vice-President Research & Innovation.

L. Jacobs updated the committee on the Strategic Research Plan and Recognition of Research Excellence:

1. Strategic Research Plan Progress:

- Faculty councils have been engaged for feedback on research strengths as part of the strategic research planning process.
- Individual faculty input is being collected to shape the plan.
- Significant progress and intensive efforts are anticipated in December and January, representing critical phases in the plan's development.

2. Recognition of Research Excellence:

- INFOSOURCE will announce next week that the institution has been named Research University of the Year among smaller universities for the second year in a row.
- This achievement places the university in esteemed company with institutions like the University of Toronto and the University of Waterloo, recognized in their respective categories.
- Acknowledgment was given to all contributors for their efforts in advancing the university's research enterprise.

6. Mindful Artificial Intelligence Research Institute (MAIRI) Proposal

Presenter: P. Lewis

Proposal discussed in detail, including:

- a. Filling prior gaps identified by the committee.
- b. Highlights of interdisciplinary faculty involvement across all six faculties.
- c. Focus on three research themes: self-aware machines, responsible AI development, and societal impact of AI.
- d. Call for broad participation and inclusion of diverse research areas.

Motion to approve the institute for the next phase was passed unanimously, to be presented at the November Academic Council meeting.

7. Advanced Manufacturing Research Center (AMRC) Proposal

Presenter: A. Barari

Key Highlights:

- a. Focus on modular, sustainable, and intelligent manufacturing systems.
- b. Emphasis on engaging industry partnerships, including automotive and nuclear sectors.
- c. Significant potential for student engagement and training.

Discussion on budget allocation and potential integration with material science and other faculties.

Proposal was approved unanimously, with final submission planned for the January Academic Council meeting.

8. Centre for Interdisciplinary Nutrition Research & Innovation (CINRI) Proposal

Presenter: J. Arcand and C. Rogers

Proposal Highlights:

- a. Aims to address critical nutrition challenges with technology integration.
- b. Key research areas include chronic disease management, lifespan health, and policy implementation.
- c. Collaboration across multiple faculties and external partners.

The committee formally requested a name change for the Centre for Interdisciplinary Nutrition Research & Innovation (CINRI) to better reflect its integration of technology in addressing critical nutrition challenges. The Centre's key research areas include chronic disease management, lifespan health, and policy implementation, strongly emphasizing collaboration across multiple faculties and external partners.

The proposal for the name change was approved unanimously, with the final submission scheduled for the January Academic Council meeting. The name change will be formally adopted prior to submission to Academic Council.

9. Updated Terms of Reference

Presenter: J. Mosley

Key Points:

- a. Updated policies align with the Tri-Council Policy Statement 2 (TCPS2).
- b. Expanded REB composition to address increasing application volume, including indigenous research.
- c. Clarifications provided on data usage involving deceased individuals and public data access.

J. Mosley will provide document with track changes as requested by S. Forrester – A. Goddard to distribute to Committee Members. Consultation feedback encouraged before submission to Academic Council.

10. Faculty Roundtable

Deferred due to time restrictions.

11. Other Business

Deferred due to time restrictions.

12. Upcoming meetings

January 22, 2025, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

February 19 1 to 2:30 p.m.

March 19 11 a.m to 2:30 p.m.

April 16 1 to 2 p.m.

May 21 11-12:00

June 18 1 to 2:30 p.m.

July 23 1 to 2:30 p.m.

13. Adjournment - Unanimous adjournment at 12:06 p.m.

DRAFT