

Research Board Minutes

Date: October 22, 2018

Time: 9:30 am – 11:00 am

Place: DTB 524, Bordessa Hall

Attendees: J. Arcand (for P. Cote), D. Bonetta (for B. Easton), G. Edwards, J. Freeman, S. Karray, H. Kishawy, A. Mamolo (for A. Eamer), M. Piro, L. Roy, V. Sharpe (Secretary), A. Slane

Regrets: C. Davidson

1. Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve H. Kishawy. Seconded by D. Bonetta.

2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Motion to approve by H. Kishawy. Seconded by A. Slane.

H. Kishawy asked to have more of the discussion showing in the minutes. Addendum to the minutes re: section

7b. GRA encumbrances to include that the board discussed the options and agreed to #2 which is to accrue.

Correction to 7c that should show the fund name as the John Evans Leadership Fund.

A. Slane joined the meeting at 9:40.

L. Roy joined the meeting at 9:47.

3. Report of the Vice President Research & Innovation

D. Holdway reported that he, J. Freeman and G. Crawford attended an NSERC Partnership Engagement Session. A big change is that NSERC is going to have a sliding scale at least for one project where one partner could have a larger commitment of support than the other(s). NSERC is creating shorter forms and an easier process.

No start date has been determined. All programs are still active until the new program starts.

Strategic grants can still be applied for that are unmatched with NSERC however you can only hold one and wait for that to end before applying for any other grants.

NSERC Design Chair remains unchanged.

D. Holdway noted that the Ministry is driving this initiative and listening to the feedback.

D. Holdway noted that the proposed new Indirect Costs of Research policy will be 60% central, 40% to Research Office. J. Freeman noted that ORS was asked, by the CFO, with AVP Planning, Research Finance and the Provost, to review the Indirect Costs Policy. The draft policy has gone to the Senior Academic Team (SAT).

L. Roy noted that the meeting happened quite fast and Deans may not have had time to react. J. Freeman noted that the amount of funds are probably a lot less than what one might think. G. Edwards noted that the funds aren't going to operating and that the funds weren't really being used.

J. Freeman explained how the Indirect Costs were being used as contingency funds while operating asks were still ongoing. This new system should make the budgeting process clearer.

H. Kishawy noted that there's not an incentive to researchers if they aren't going to be receiving additional funds and suggested that it isn't healthy for UOIT as there should be accountability and incentives, and should demonstrate growth and success in order to get the funding. He suggests waiting until the Provost and VPRI are hired and the President has had some time to settle in. D. Holdway noted that the President would like action to continue in the interim while the searches are ongoing.

J. Freeman agreed that there should be recognition and incentives for high performance. H. Kishawy clarified that he was not looking for individual incentives but rather faculty performance and incentives. J. Freeman noted that we need to be more competitive in order to get grants and funding.

4. Report of the Director, Office of Research Services

J. Freeman

- reported that ORS has received 37 NSERC grant applications and 15 RTI applications. 14 SSHRC Insight applications were submitted and there are a few CIHR proposals going in as well as a few SSHRC Partnership Grants.
- provided an overview of the NSERC Partnership Programs and the consultations.
- Provided an internal funding update:
 - Research Excellence Award – closed – will go to committee for decision next month
 - SSHRC Small Research Grant – next competition is Spring 2019
 - Deb Saucier Early Researcher Award – next competition is Spring 2019
 - Research Excellence Chairs – only every 3 years. Next competition is in 2020
 - RIF – next competition is in Spring 2019
 - There are no additional OPG funds
 - CFI IF – a call is coming up; no feedback received from the Research Board; our envelope has been \$2.4 million and the assumption is that our envelope will be in this ballpark this year (due this fall/winter). We are anticipating the initial call this winter/early 2019. They had proposed 2 IF calls back to back in 2019-2020. Another call in 2021/2022. Information session coming up for researchers. Pitch competition and internal proposal submitted and selected will create a full proposal.
- thanked the board for their suggestions for membership on the Futures Forum planning committee and noted that the a committee has been formed (Patrick Hung, Andrea Slane, Hossam Gaber, Roland van Oostveen, Christopher Collins, and Khalid El-Ghazzar as well as staff Lindsay Coolidge, Yvonne Stefanin, Amy Neil, Samantha Cook, and Alison Burgess. The first meeting is scheduled for November 8 and monthly meetings will follow. The date of May 8, 2019 was selected for the date of the forum and the topic is The Human-Technology Interface.

5. Business Arising

NSERC Partnership - Once they get the information and updates we'll share it. They will have two additional consultations sessions. If you have comments based on the revisions sent out, if you want us to submit a UOIT response based on the responses, send feedback to J. Freeman.

6. **New Business**

None.

7. **Other Business/Faculty Exchange**

i. **Roundtable on issues that impact research in Faculties**

M. Piro noted an issue with support for research equipment re: making material samples/machining. He noted that he sends a research student to McMaster on a weekly basis as UOIT does not have facilities and queried whether this is an area where we can partner with Durham College? J. Freeman noted that we have sent things to the college in the past.

Other universities have a central machine shop for each faculty with a senior technician. L. Roy suggested that the ACE machine shop be upgraded. H. Kishawy noted that OPG had been planning to throw out a lot of equipment, and UOIT took some of it (some has been thrown out, some never used).

L. Roy noted that the AVIN had some funding that might be able to be directed to creating a shop that would be useful for this purpose.

Discussion on research metrics (S. Karray) – deferred – as per S. Karray.

ACTION: V. Sharpe will note for a future agenda.

Discussion on the Research External Review Report (B. Easton). The consensus was to put this on a future agenda to give time to prepare for discussion.

ACTION: V. Sharpe will note for a future agenda.

Incentives for faculty to submit research funding applications

S. Karray asked for feedback for incentives for Business Faculty to apply for grants as they may not need funds to conduct research (labs, pay grad students, etc.). As they may have no financial obligations they aren't incentivized to apply for grants. Some suggestions were to assist with securing tenure, course release as part of a research award and no service requirement until researcher has secured grants. Other suggestions were: to speak to the Dean as it is in his/her purview to change the researcher's service and teaching workload if s/he has a larger research portfolio; to incentive before the grant is obtained (identify faculty members and give them more time to prepare quality applications); and pre-tenure research leaves (eg. ½ year research leave after their successful third year review). Another option expressed was to put faculty funds toward an editor to review failed grants, improve them and resubmit in the next round.

J. Freeman noted that ORS has partnered with faculties for grant development and we have seen cases where they were given teaching release and didn't put in grants. (VPRI has co-funded.) Also, some universities provide funding toward trainees, additional PD and travel funds, seed funding for pilot data, etc. Another place to build in incentives is in the annual performance review.

8. **Next meeting** – November 28, 2018, 2:30 pm, ERC 3023

9. **Adjournment** – 10:44 am.