

Research Board Minutes

Date: May 1, 2019

Time: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Place: DTA 369

Attendees: P. Cote (phone), C. Davidson, B. Easton, G. Edwards, J. Freeman, D. Holdway, S. Karray (phone), A. Mamolo (phone), V. Sharpe (Secretary), A. Slane (phone)

Guests: L. Rendl (Research Equipment item)

Regrets: H. Kishawy, M. Piro, L. Roy

1. Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve by B. Easton. Seconded by C. Davidson.

2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Motion to approve by B. Easton. Seconded by C. Davidson.

Correction to Engage Grant for Khalil El-Khatib's, award – should read \$25, 000, Lennart Van Veen's should read no more than \$25,000. Correction that the funding from the Office of the Privacy Commissioner was a total of \$100,000 (\$50,000 per researcher).

3. Business Arising

None.

4. Report of the Vice President Research & Innovation

D. Holdway reported that

- he received results about the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion grant that we received and that we were ranked 2nd out of 51 applications and given the top ranking of "outstanding".
- the new Vice-President Research and Innovation will be hired soon
- the Futures Forum will be taking place on May 2 at 61 Charles and the theme is The Future of Tech With a Conscience. The keynote speaker is Bill Buxton, Principal Researcher, Microsoft Research, and panelists include our own researchers and external experts.
- the Research Excellence Awards Speaker Series (REASS) is taking place on May 8 in the ERC. Award recipients and speakers are Brad Easton (Science) speaking on *Are Metal Oxide Materials the Key to a Fuel Cell Future* and JoAnne Arcand (Health Sciences) speaking on *Maximizing Health Through Dietary Sodium Reduction Interventions*. D. Holdway encouraged attendance at both events.

5. Report of the Director, Office of Research Services

J. Freeman provided a presentation (attached) that included information on:

- UOIT grant funding performance
- C. Davidson asked about non –research funding as she is interested in looking for funding for the library.
ACTION: J. Freeman will clarify the funding breakdown by department.

Grants services slide – 17 – noted that this is an overview to demonstrate how we are increasing support to researchers.

- Decreased spending – J. Freeman noted that Principal Investigators are asking for deferrals for spending and extensions.
- The departure of Alison Burgess (Manager, Partnerships and Innovation). The job posting is up and interviews will be conducted this month.

6. New Business

a. Ontario Tech University branding transition

J. Freeman noted that ORS and the Library have worked together to put information about the branding transition for researchers online. **ACTION:** Please provide feedback to Jenn by Friday.

b. Research Data Management

J. Freeman noted that the Tri-Agency is trying to get a draft management policy in place; requiring data management plans for each project. A working group that includes ORS, IT and the Library are working on it. Consulted last summer but quick turnaround so not a wide consultation. At other institutions the VPR leads this initiative and creates a more formal working group.

B. Easton asked what the depth of this data storage is.

J. Freeman noted that the definition of data is quite broad and needs to be determined.

ACTION: If you are interested in joining this working group or know someone who is please let J. Freeman know.

c. Research Equipment

J. Freeman noted that L. Rendl (ORS) is working on the policy and procedures. **ACTION:** Send feedback to L. Rendl.

G. Edwards questioned why there was a policy that only covered research equipment and not all equipment.

L. Rendl noted that there is a Capital Equipment Policy.

B. Easton noted that in instances where equipment has a faculty member tied to it there are debates about whether or not the researcher can take the equipment with them when they leave or if the equipment belongs to the institution.

D. Holdway noted the difference in complexity if there is more than one person on the grant.

J. Freeman noted an issue about asset tagging.

The goal is to initiate procedures around research Equipment.

B. Easton noted that it would be useful to have data on what equipment is here to maximize faculty usefulness and noted that when researchers leave university assets should be repurposed to areas such as teaching labs or sold to another institution.

J. Freeman noted that all institutions seem to do it differently and that it would be good to clarify now so that when a situation arises we are prepared.

G. Edwards noted that researchers who leave are allowed to purchase their equipment at book value depending on the original funding source.

d. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion update

As Doug mentioned earlier we were a success with our application receiving close to \$400,000 to be used over 2 years for the EDI project to be moved forward at the university.

e. Summer Power Outages

B. Easton reported that the annual power outage is disruptive to research and asked for the Research Board to formally oppose this. D. Holdway supports this. Question about the using the microgrid to mitigate any service disruption. Noted that any delay can cause it to be necessary to recalibrate equipment. The power outage has a negative impact on all research. **ACTION:** D. Holdway bring this issue to SLT. **ACTION:** B. Easton to document examples (research productivity, damage and delays, etc.) Summer is the peak time for HQP research. D. Holdway noted that the Aquatic Toxicology lab technician comes in at 3 am to reset all of the switches after the power outage.

C. Davidson noted that Shannon Saunders (Office of Campus Safety) has come in to speak to the Research Board about business continuity so we could talk to her about this issue and should also talk to Jacque Dupuis regarding risk mitigation (e.g. every fume hood on campus is not running for 48 hours).

f. **Other Business/Faculty Exchange**

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

i. Grad students' IT accounts being locked in the summer

B. Easton noted that graduate students are being locked out of their network access at the end of their TA contracts even though they are still active grad students and need access to data and files. P. Cote noted that this is an issue for him as well. **ACTION:** J. Freeman will contact Paul Bignell.

ii. Availability of Research Board materials

S. Karray noted that faculty have asked to have access to the Research Board materials. It was noted that they are publicly available on the website but there is sometimes a delay in posting. C. Davidson suggested that perhaps there could be a standing item on the Academic Council agenda for the Research Board. J. Freeman noted that there are delays in process and requirement to report annually.

iii. Library of the 21st Century presentation

C. Davidson reported that she has been asked to give a presentation to the Administrative Leadership Team on May 14 on the Library of the 21st century and she would be willing to present to the Research Board. **ACTION:** V. Sharpe will schedule the presentation on a fall agenda. C. Davidson noted that she would be willing to present at faculty councils as well.

b. **Next meeting** – September – to be scheduled

c. **Adjournment** – 3:42 pm.