



Research Board Minutes

Date: January 9, 2020
Time: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Place: ERC 1058
Attendees: K. Atkinson, B. Chang, C. Davidson, G. Edwards, S. Forrester, J. Freeman, L. Jacobs (Chair),
H. Kishawy, J. Li (phone), L. Roy, V. Sharpe (secretary), A. Slane
Guest(s): None
Regrets: M. Lemonde

1. **Approval of the agenda**

Motion to approve by S. Forrester. Seconded by H. Kishawy. Approved by consensus.

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

Approved by consensus.

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

L. Jacobs welcomed everyone back from the holiday break and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He noted that he has been touring many labs (aprox 40) recently. He noted that there are opportunities for cross-faculty collaborations (e.g. Forensic Science and Forensic Psychology). A recurring theme is the aging of facilities and equipment, how we can share equipment, how we can fund labs and equipment and do it strategically.

L. Jacobs shared that an important goal would be to aim for a major research grant that each faculty could put together, to think about how they could connect with other researchers on campus, and how the university can work toward achieving large scale research grants.

C. Davidson requested examples of collaborative projects that could be inspirational. L. Jacobs gave an example of something UofT is doing on their Mississauga campus and noted that NRC is going to collaborate better with universities. Another example UNB and Quantum Computing.

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

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

- Staffing – Hired: Raluca Dubrowski as Grants Officer, Graham Sue (contract) as Research Partnerships Officer, and Queena Zhang (1 semester) as LLP Candidate. Still in process: Research Contracts Officer and Intellectual Property Officer (Joe Miller resigned). The Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusive Engagement has been hired and will be starting in the summer.
- Funding Statistics – J. Freeman noted that G. Edwards is working on Tri-Agency Financial Guide.
- Undergraduate Research Awards - L. Jacobs inquired as to whether faculty contribution increase has been a barrier. J. Freeman – Only one or two researchers noted that they missed seeing the increase of funds and they were feeling many costs were being downloaded to them (such as thesis costs). The other option is that the Dean or Faculty could put in additional funds. She noted that there aren't funds in ORS to off-set any funding. It would have to be born centrally. If there was a real hardship we might be able to find funds to support a student.
- REB – annual report coming soon.
- Radiation – compliance reports are due Feb 28, 2020.
- Biosafety – we are now licenced so doing more to educate faculty about the regulations etc.

- Futures Forum – Wednesday May 20 – Topic: Energy: Data driven decision making.
- City Idea Lab – Review of Fall 2019 and look ahead to Winter 2020.
- TeachingCity Oshawa – two projects under development: Patrol Robot and Traffic Monitoring.

J. Freeman also reported on an opportunity with Canarie regarding what software is existing at the institution and how it can be better utilized and about opportunities for more open-sourced software. B. Chang asked if there will be a selection committee and does Canarie supply the staffing. J. Freeman replied that Canarie would provide the funding and we would hire the developers. L. Roy noted that it would be good to see the pilot projects. J. Freeman confirmed that that will be done in parallel. **ACTION:** ORS will circulate the Canarie slidedeck to the Research Board once received. **ACTION:** J. Freeman will communicate through the Deans/Associate Deans Research to communicate the program and seeking feedback and project proposals. **Action:** V. Sharpe to distribute J. Freeman’s PowerPoint presentation.

5. Business Arising

None.

6. Strategic Research Plan (SRP)

L. Jacobs noted that he’s started drafting the SRP using feedback from the survey, consultations and feedback but does not have a draft today. He noted that one recurring theme of the feedback was determining sectors and asked for suggestions for sectors where each faculty has research strengths. He noted that energy is a research area but energy is a large sector of the economy. Another example is Automotive Manufacturing.

The Office of Institutional Research and Analysis (OIRA) has offered to analyze the survey results. **ACTION:** J. Freeman is meeting with them next week.

B. Chang noted that the Stock index in Toronto has 11 sectors:

Financials	Information Technology	Consumer Staples
Energy	Communication Services	Real Estate
Materials	Utilities	Health Care
Industrials	Consumer Discretionary	

A. Slane noted that another listing would be employment sectors.

7. New Business

None.

8. Other Business/Faculty Exchange

A. Roundtable on issues that impact research in Faculties

A. Slane noted that it would be good to have a discussion about collaborative grants and what infrastructure or equipment would be needed to be successful. There is a need to be able to facilitate teams of people and support for them to develop large grant proposals.

L. Roy inquired about the Director, Creativity & Entrepreneurship hired recently. L. Jacobs reported that he’s doing well and some Brilliant teams have been launched. **ACTION:** L. Jacobs will ask O. Hamid to attend a future RB meeting to provide an overview of Brilliant Catalyst.

J. Freeman reported that in the last academic year she brought a draft Terms of Reference for Research Data Management committee to the Research Board. The committee is comprised of representatives from ORS, IT and Library and is working to create a strategy for the university including plans for a research data repository.

9. Next meeting – February 6, 2020, 2:30 – 4:00, ERC 1058 UB 1055.

10. Adjournment – 4:01 pm.