

**Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) Annual Plan for General Faculties Council
2025-2026**

DATE: September 24, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: Connie Van der Byl, RSC Chair

PRIORITIZED SUMMARY OF PROJECTED ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

As per the Charter:

1. Provide a forum where new research, scholarly initiatives and ideas can be discussed, reviewed in an inter-disciplinary context (RSC Charter Responsibility 4.3).
Chair meetings effectively, and encourage open and respectful discussion.
2. Advise on the contents, objectives and orientation of the University's Strategic Research Plan and review annually (RSC Charter Responsibility 4.1).
An update will be discussed at each meeting.
3. Establish, as required, subcommittees/work groups to address emerging issues as they relate to research, creative, and scholarly activities and develop proposals for addressing them. Provide advice on their content, interpretation and implementation (RSC Charter Responsibility 4.6).
New Working Group created for AI in Research. Continuing Working Groups include: Research Impact (including Community Engagement), Research Data Management (including Research Security), Research and Scholarship Days and Undergraduate Research.
4. Review existing research-related policies and proposed new ones, if necessary, and provide advice on their content, interpretation and implementation (RSC Charter Responsibility 4.2).
Plan to review existing policies and associated procedures: Animal Care Policy; Commercialization of Intellectual Property; Intellectual Property Policy.
5. Review and recommend to the GFC on all proposals for the establishment, continuation, discontinuation or requirement for independent review of institutes at Mount Royal University (RSC Charter Responsibility 4.5).
There will be 2 Institute 5 Year Renewals this year and the potential for newly established Institutes.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

1. September 24, 2025
 - *Establish working groups*
 - *MRU Institute Annual Reports*
2. November 19, 2025
 - *Working Group Updates*
 - *Update on [MRU Research Collaborations](#)*
 - *Institute for Community Prosperity 5 Year Renewal*

3. January 21, 2026
 - *Working Group Updates*
 - *Miistakis 5 Year Renewal*
 - *Draft IP and Commercialization Policies for Review*
4. March 4, 2026
 - *Working Group Updates*
 - *Research and Scholarship Days Focus*
5. April 15, 2026
 - *Working Group Updates and Final or near Final Reports*
 - *Committee Charter Review*
 - *RSC Annual Report*
 - *The Year in Review - Research and Scholarship Plan Implementation*

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Connie Van der Byl	AVP, Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement, CHAIR
Trevor Day	GFC Academic Staff Member, VICE–CHAIR
Francine May	Designate for Dean, University Library
Melissa Deane	Director, Office of Research, Scholarship & Community Engagement
Cass Foursha-Stevenson	Chair, Human Research Ethics Board
Kenna Olsen	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Ray DePaul	Institute/Centre Director
Lin Young	Academic Staff Member (Arts)
Reza Chowdhury	Academic Staff Member (Business, Communication Studies & Aviation)
Jared Fletcher	Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education)
Jeella Acedo	Academic Staff Member (Science and Technology)
Brian Jackson	Academic Staff Member (University Library)
Noor Bata	Student Representative
Celine Dixon	Student Representative
<u>Resources</u>	
Leah Hamilton	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Gwen O’Sullivan	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Sonya Jakubec	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Danah Duke	Institute/Centre Director
Lena Soots	Institute/Centre Director
AnneMarie Dorland	Institute/Centre Director
Monazza Shabbir	Finance designate
Scott Corner	Marketing and Communications designate
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

For additional information and meeting minutes, visit the [RSC webpage](#).