
**Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) Annual Report for General Faculties Council
2020-2021**

DATE: 11 May 2021

SUBMITTED BY: Kenna Olsen, Chair of RSC

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

- RSC reviewed and approved its Charter.
- RSC accepted the 2019-2020 annual reports for MRU Institutes (as information).
- RSC approved the renewal of the Miistakis Institute (Affiliated Institute) for a 5 year period, and considered the Affiliation Agreement.
- RSC established Research Technologies (which will include Tri-Agency updates) to be a standing RSC agenda item (these are normally provided by the Vice-Provost and Vice-Chair of RSC), and began work to consider how MRU will fulfill new Tri-Council Research Data Management Policies (including learning from Brian Jackson, University Library, on the libraries data repository system, which will aid researchers in data management).
- -RSC began a preliminary review of the Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan.
- -RSC established presentations by Canada Research Chairs as standing agenda items. As such, it heard from Ranjan Datta (CRC, Community Disaster Research) and Mike Asmussen (CRC, Neuromechanics and Human Physiology)
- RSC finalised its Working Groups for the year ahead. These groups are listed below along with a summary of their work for the 2020-21 year:
 - **Undergraduate Research and Scholarship:** this group invited Cari Merkley (University Library) and Leah Hamilton (Bissett) as non-RSC members to support the continuing work on the Undergraduate Research Transcript Notation recommendation. Discussions on various aspects and options, including an e-portfolio model, have been pursued. The Chair and Vice-Chair of RSC, and Merkley and Hamilton, have met with Sarah Imran (Career Services) to learn about the e-portfolio model.
 - this group liaised with the University Library, in the organisation of the Library Awards for Research Excellence, and is working on establishing research and scholarship workshops to be hosted by the library.
 - **Research and Scholarship Days:** organised and held a very successful virtual Research and Scholarship Days, where students presented various research projects, and the Research Recognition Award winners were announced.
 - **Research Policies:** the following policies have been reviewed and are advancing through the development process: the Integrity in Research and Scholarship; and Institutes.
 - **Research and Scholarship Recognition Awards:** organised the call for nominations, performed the adjudication, and decided on the 2021 Research Recognition Award winners. 2020 Research Recognition Award winners were also recognised (postponed due to Covid-19 pandemic).
 - **International Research:** is working on a draft resource document that includes necessary policies faculty and students should be aware of when conducting international research (while some of

these areas include those considerations necessary for Field Schools, the document is targeted for individual or group research trips. The group has worked with Curtis Desiatnyk (Risk Management) to ensure the document will be thorough from a risk and policy position.

MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

1. RSC decided that an Indigenous Research Working Group be coordinated after the hiring of the AVP Indigenisation & Decolonisation, and after the organisation of the Academic Indigenisation Committee of GFC. RSC recommends that this working group should be established in Fall 2021.
2. RSC will review the Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan, beginning Fall 2021.
3. The continuing work (noted above) of each Working Group needs to continue in 2021-2022. Of special note:
 - **Undergraduate Research and Scholarship:** work on the Undergraduate Research Transcript Notation will continue, including exploring necessary resource options. Institutional consultation should be initiated.
 - **Research Policies:** the following policy reviews will need to be finalised: the Integrity in Research and Scholarship; and Institutes. This group will review necessary policies, as indicated.
 - **Research and Scholarship Days:** this event will need to be organised for Winter 2022.
 - **Research and Scholarship Recognition Awards:** these awards will need to be organised for Winter 2022 (call for nominations, adjudications, and celebration). The process for nomination should also be considered.
 - **International Research:** the draft International Research document will require review by individual Faculties, and a communication strategy needs to be developed (for instance, should the resource be hosted with ORSCE).
4. RSC will continue to invite current and new Canada Research Chairs to present on their research.
5. RSC should review the system for input and communication of the institutional “Good News Stories.”

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Kenna Olsen, Chair (GFC Academic Staff Member)

Michael Quinn, Vice-Chair (Vice-Provost and AVP, Academic)

Francine May, Designate for the Dean, University Library

Melissa Deane, Director, Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement

Karen Manarin, Vice-Chair of the Human Research Ethics Board (*July – December*)

David Ohreen, Chair of the Human Research Ethics Board (*January – present*)

Jennifer Pettit, Dean Representative

Michael Roberts, Associate Dean responsible for research

James Stauch, Institute/Centre Director

Kit Dobson, Academic Staff Member - Arts

Uthpala Tennakoon, Academic Staff Member - Business and Communication Studies (*July – December; Temporary leave*)

Tashfeen Hussain, Academic Staff Member - Business and Communication Studies (*January – June; Temporary replacement*)

David Legg, Academic Staff Member - Health, Community and Education

Trevor Day, Academic Staff Member - Science and Technology
Carolyn Willekes, Academic Staff Member - Teaching & Learning
Madelaine Vanderwerff, Academic Staff Member - University Library
Tala Abu Hayyaneh, Student Representative
Anna Dinh, Student Representative

Resources

Joseph Anderson, Associate Dean responsible for research
Maggie Quance, Associate Dean responsible for research
David Bird, Associate Dean responsible for research
Ray DePaul, Institute/Centre Director
Danah Duke, Institute/Centre Director
Lena Soots, Institute/Centre Director
Connie Van der Byl, Institute/Centre Director
Michelle Yeo, Institute/Centre Director
Marta Mankiewicz, Finance designate
Julia Thiessen, Marketing and Communications designate
Sheena Jensen, Recording Secretary (Governance Assistant, GFC)

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

RSC held eight (8) meetings:

- October 14, 2020
- November 17, 2020
- December 15, 2020
- January 19, 2021
- February 16, 2021
- March 16, 2021
- April 13, 2021
- May 11, 2021

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