
**Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) Annual Report for General Faculties Council
2024-2025**

DATE: April 30, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: Connie Van der Byl, Chair of RSC

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

The Research and Scholarship Committee (RSC) of GFC is consistently a group of passionate and dedicated MRU scholars who care deeply about advancing knowledge, undergraduate research and community engagement.

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).

Discussions this year centered on EDIA and Research, DORA, Research and Scholarship Plan Implementation and approaches to formalized research collaborations.

DORA was signed by MRU on March 27, 2025.

2. Advise on the contents, objectives and orientation of the University's Strategic Research Plan and review annually (RSC Charter Responsibility 4.1).

This year was dedicated primarily to executing on the Research and Scholarship Plan that was approved at the May 17, 2024 GFC 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).

2024/25 Working Groups:

- Community Engaged Research
- Research Data Management and Dissemination
- Research and Scholarship Days
- Undergraduate Research and Scholarship

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).

Biosafety Policy and Procedure

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).

Consideration of the Centre for Arts Care.

MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

For Discussion and/or Possible Working Groups for 2025/26:

- Undergraduate Research
- Community Engaged Research
- Research Impact
- Research and Scholarship Days - with consideration of how to manage the increasing scale
- **Research Data Management separate from and/or coupled with Research Security (high priority).**
- AI in Research

For Discussion:

Research &... HR, Finance, Marketing & Communications, and Development

Mount Royal Research Policies and Procedures for Revision:

- Animal Care Policy
- Commercialization of Intellectual Property
- Intellectual Property Policy
- Research Overhead and Indirect Costs

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
Lynne Lafave	Chair, Human Research Ethics Board
Kenna Olsen	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Ray DePaul	Institute/Centre Director
Samanti Kulatilake	Academic Staff Member (Arts)
Reza Chowdhury	Academic Staff Member (Business, Communication Studies & Aviation)
Katherine Bright	Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education)
Jeella Acedo	Academic Staff Member (Science and Technology)
Brian Jackson	Academic Staff Member (University Library) <i>(Jan-Current) (Sara Sharun – Sept-Dec)</i>
Isabella Carinelli	Student Representative
Annie Swenson	Student Representative

Resources

Leah Hamilton	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Gwen O’Sullivan	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Mark Lafave	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research
Danah Duke	Institute/Centre Director
Lena Soots	Institute/Centre Director
Michelle Yeo	Institute/Centre Director
Marta Mankiewicz	Finance designate
Scott Corner	Marketing and Communications designate
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

1. October 2, 2024
2. November 6, 2024
3. December 11, 2024
4. February 26, 2025
5. April 30, 2025

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