

Research and Scholarship Committee

November 19, 2025 at 3pm – 5pm

University Boardroom A341

IN ATTENDANCE:

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
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

Resources

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-Haley	Institute/Centre Director
AnneMarie Dorland	Institute/Centre Director
Scott Corner	Marketing and Communications designate
Sheena Dyer	Assistant University Secretary, GFC, RECORDING SECRETARY

Guests

Zenith Bose	Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement
Meagan Bowler	Co-Chair, AI Steering Group
Rabia Haider	Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement
Michelle Hu	Co-Chair, AI Steering Group

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

Ray DePaul	Institute/Centre Director
Celine Dixon	Student Representative
Kenna Olsen	Associate Dean/Vice Dean responsible for research

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

1. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Agenda for the November 19, 2025 Research and Scholarship Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**2.1. Minutes from September 24, 2025*****Moved and seconded:***

THAT the Minutes of the September 24, 2025 Research and Scholarship Committee meeting be approved.

Motion carried**2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes**

There was no business arising from the minutes.

3. Framework for Responsible AI – Presentation for feedback (AI Steering Group)

Meagan Bowler and Michelle Hu, Co-Chairs of the AI Steering Group, presented the draft Framework for Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI) to RSC for feedback, and responded to questions.

M. Bowler and M. Hu left the meeting.

4. Institute for Community Prosperity 5 Year Renewal

Lena Soots-Haley, Executive Director of the Institute for Community Prosperity, delivered a presentation that highlighted the 5 Year Review 2020-2025 renewal report for the Institute.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the GFC Research and Scholarship Committee recommend to General Faculties Council for approval the continuation of the Institute for Community Prosperity for 5 years (2030).

Discussion:

- Comments were made in support of the 5 Year Review 2020-2025 renewal report
- Questions were responded to for clarification about the institute's budgeting process and funding for the next 5-years.

Motion carried**5. Update on MRU Research****6. Updates on Implementation of Research and Scholarship Strategic Plan 2024-30**

C. Van der Byl provided a presentation in the meeting package on Research and Scholarship at MRU, and gave updates on the Research and Scholarship Plan implementation activities. Updates were also shared on EDIA related research initiatives. Questions were discussed with respect to hiring and managing Research Assistants.

Updates included:

- RAs in the MRSA CA - [new process](#) in place for hiring RAs that reflects this shift.
- MRFA CA Article 14.8.4 - new procedure [External Research Grant Holders - Reduction of Instructional Load](#)
- Research presentations to MRU Foundation Board and British Consulate
- EDIA and Research - Parliamentary Standing Committee on Research and Science request of Tri-Agencies for data - only aggregate, public data provided

- Federal budget support for international researcher hiring
- One time research funding from ORSCE for short term expenditures to the faculties

7. Working Group Updates

7.1. Research Impact

The working group provided a proposed definition of Research Impact for RSC members to provide feedback.

7.2. Research Data Management

The working group's main focus for this year will be a research data risk classification framework.

7.3. Research and Scholarship Days

The 2026 Research and Scholarship Days will be held from March 30 to April 2. The student research poster presentations will be held on Tuesday, March 31 and Wednesday, April 1.

7.4. Undergraduate Research and Scholarship

The focus will be with Research Assistant support to create a report outlining the state of undergraduate research.

7.5. AI In Research

The working group met recently with discussion about what could be feasible to address this academic year and their potential role, given how large this topic is. The focus will be a possible survey to capture information about how AI in research is being used for or could be used for.

8. Committee Chair Report

A copy of the most recent Committee Chair's Report to GFC was provided for information.

9. New Business

There was no new business.

10. Adjournment 4:52PM