

**2022-2023
General Faculties Council Standing Committee Annual Report
Research Committee (RC)**

1. MEETING DATES IN 2022-2023

The RC met seven times in 2022-2023.

2022: September 28th, October 26th, November 23rd

2023: January 25th, March 22nd, April 12th, May 24th

2. COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP

Composition

a. Voting Members:

- i) Chair: Associate Dean, Research, Internationalization and Graduate Studies
- ii) Director, Academic Resources or Designate
- iii) Director, Learning and Instructional Services or Designate
- iv) Four (4) Academic Staff Members, appointed by the Dean, Academic Programs and one of these members must also be a member of the MFA in Craft Media Committee
- v) One (1) Graduate Student, appointed by the Student Association

b. Non-Voting Members:

- i) Secretary, General Faculties Council

Membership

- Dr. Rob Stone, Committee Chair and Associate Dean, Research, Internationalization and Graduate Studies
- Carissa Cameron Matthews, Director, Academic Resources
- Dr. Benedict Fullalove, Academic Staff Members
- Mike Kerr, Academic Staff Members
- Jamie Kroeger, Academic Staff Members
- Dr. August Klintberg, Academic Staff Members
- Kate Ritchie, Graduate Student, Student's Association Representative
- Andrea Power, Secretary, General Faculties Council

Meeting Resource

- Cassandra Paul, Exhibitions and Programs Coordinator, IKG Gallery
- Kanwal Baluch, ORAA meeting resource

3. ITEMS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL

- That the Research Committee recommend the draft Research Committee Terms of Reference to the General Faculties Council (GFC) Steering Committee for recommendation to the GFC to be effective immediately.
- That the Research Committee recommend the draft Research Ethics Board (REB) terms of reference to the GFC Steering Committee for approval, effective immediately.
- That the Research Committee recommend the draft Research Ethics Board policy and the revised Research Ethics Board Procedure to the GFC Academic Policy Committee for review and recommendation to the General Faculties Council for approval, effective immediately.

4. ITEMS DISCUSSED

RC Governance Documents:

- The RC reviewed and discussed its Terms of Reference (ToR), specifically membership, its annual Work Plan and the 2021-2022 RC annual report. The Committee recommended changes to the membership section in the ToRs

Research Funding:

- The Committee discussed the Faculty Professional Affairs fund and the process for reviewing applications.
- The Committee discussed the Rawlinson Fund, the RRIG ToR and Adjudication Criteria document. The Committee provided feedback on the application guidelines which includes eligibility, criteria and committee composition for the adjudication, noting that equity, diversity and inclusion principles should be considered to create a fair and equitable process.
- The Committee discussed and planned for a visit with representatives from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), including the Vice President: Stakeholder Engagement and Advancement of Society, and Senior Policy Advisor. The visit occurred in November 2022. The Committee debriefed on the visit with SSHRC representatives, including learnings about Connection grants.
- An update was provided to the Committee about the Tri-councils, which is made up of three agencies: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

The Committee received updates on the Faculty Professional Affairs Fund and the Rawlinson Fund outcomes.

Research Administration Working Group:

- Dr. August Klintberg expressed interest and put their name forward to attend the next meeting.

Research Website

- The Committee provided feedback on the Research website design and content prior to its launch
- It was noted that the tri-agency support funds this year were used for research webpage development.

Research Initiatives in AUArts (Research Clusters/Centres; Exhibitions spaces, talks)

- The Committee discussed the plan for establishing Research Centres, and the need for institutional support and that it would be good to consult with the MFA Committee and School Councils to get a sense of what faculty are working on.
- Exhibition spaces for research.
- Brainstormed ideas for developing new research initiatives/research clusters.
- The Committee discussed the current Heather Hart exhibition and the programming around it.
- The potential for new graduate programming, including a doctoral program or a joint inter-institutional doctoral program.
- Research and studio practices and how to think about the two in a holistic sense.
- Intersections between curriculum and research
- Introducing a Research Week, which would include presentations, panel discussions and an exhibition.
- Increasing the number of Research Soirees in 2023-4.
- Completing Tri-Council eligibility.

Update: Research Ethics Committee:

- The Committee received an update on the work being done on the research ethics documents including the Research Ethics Board (REB) ToR, and policy and procedure. The Committee learned that the consultation with students in classes is expected to wrap up by January 2023.
- The Committee suggested to provide research ethics training in 100 level classes. The Chair noted the need for developing what research ethics intentions are and providing mentorship.

REB Documents:

- The REB Administrative Hub will be responsible for collection of records and maintenance should there be an appeal.
- The Committee were provided with an overview of the revised REB ToR, which set out responsibilities, composition, reporting, and the draft Research Ethics Policy and Procedure and that further development. These document went through committee stages for review and were approved and adopted by the University.
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- The Committee discussed that further clarity in the procedures is needed to eliminate confusion of variables/exceptions and that to assist students and faculty, detail is needed on what projects will need to be submitted to REB for review/approval. This will be determined through a self-assessment form. The REB FAQ page has been updated and will be subject to ongoing review.
- Research integrity and enforcement statements, policies, procedures should be produced in 2023-4.

Terms of reference for the RC can be found [HERE](#).

Submitted by: Dr. Rob Stone, Chair
Research Committee

Date: September 5, 2023