

Strategic Research Plan (2018-2023)
Associate Deans Research Council
December 13, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Agenda Item	Notes
Review current SRP -	VPRI gave members an overview of the SRP and the current process being undertaken. Referenced SRP website and encouraged members to provide comments through the website feedback portal following the meeting.
Audience Comments/ Discussion	<p>Feedback on research broadly- inquired about how difference in Faculty teaching loads would be addressed within the plan.</p> <p>Chair remarked that there should be a conversation at Faculty level on what continues to need to be done to allow for people to reach their full potential- to support research. Further suggested that there needs to be full communication of expectations to those that are being hired so that they have a good understanding of the resources that they will have once they come here.</p> <p>Commented on the SHARP budget model and stressed that it is important to ensure that York continues in the tradition of cross disciplinary research among Faculties.</p> <p>Chair agreed and added that an emphasized the need for Faculties to show leadership in supporting interdisciplinary research across Faculties</p> <p>Suggested we should be cautious with using the term Entrepreneurship as it is being perceived by some to express a changed approach to public/private partnerships and views it a threat to socially engaged research. The increasing focus on innovation and entrepreneurship was not desirable.</p> <p>Chair noted the strong divergence of opinion across the university on this. Suggested that the language describing the trend of entrepreneurship is where we get pushback. Perhaps articulate where we have evolved, instead of future opportunities.</p> <p>Commented on what types of research is included in the SRP – what is celebrated and emphasized within the text? Noted some research over others was ‘endorsed’ within the Plan, and perception was that more research that was commercially successful was featured.</p> <p>Chair clarified that research projects that are centrally supported tend to be those that VPRI is familiar with and therefore end up being featured. This is not intentional- only a reflection of our knowledge base. Encouraged Faculties to counter that by sending VPRI the other major research achievements that are on the fundamental side that we haven’t captured effectively. Underscored that VPRI has a strong desire for the Plan to be balanced</p> <p>Comment -recent market study found a need for bilingual offerings in innovation and entrepreneurship activities in Toronto.</p> <p>Chair acknowledged that bilingualism as well as work with a variety of multidisciplinary communities should be a focus for Innovation York.</p>

Suggested that Indigenous research wasn't strong enough within the current SRP and may want to consider framing it as a cross-cutting category. Further suggested proposed AI opportunity should be broadened and more inclusive.

Recommended that Libraries and commitment to open access should be more upfront within the document

Chair noted that VPRI has met with the Indigenous Council and we will consider all their recommendations. We are looking at an interdisciplinary approach to AI.

Comment- experimentation aspect of research to better enable external funding- should be better supported by the institution.

Inquired about what kind of lobbying is being pursued to assist with increasing funds to tri-council

Chair remarked on mentorship and help to better guide our researchers. Noted that tri-council applications have become a more iterative process with researchers not necessarily successful on first application. Further the Fundamental Science Review report which is seeking over \$4B to support research- the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance (FINA) has just released its pre-budget consultation report which recommends adopting this report as well as increased support for discovery research, support for research infrastructure via the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and expansion of the Canada Graduate Scholarships Program. We are encouraged.

Suggested the addition of a mention on the SciVal database being utilized for research output metrics- stressed the limitation of capturing social science and humanities outputs.

Comment noted that traditional metrics are not properly capturing research – is not countered by the development of altmetrics- but should focus on improving the traditional metrics.

Areas of Research Opportunity

Suggested that the opportunity area *Public Engagement for a Just & Sustainable World* be combined with *Innovative Partnered Research* as it cuts across all areas and it more of a method.

Recommended the area of Just and Sustainable but if combining then be sure to retain the Socially Engaged Research component.

Noted that the terms “innovative and partnered” may be negatively received as it sounds too business-like.

Noted that social innovation is important to Education and Libraries.

Comment was made that perhaps *AI* and *Digital Cultures* could be combined, which may help to fill out the AI topic out better, although acknowledging that Digital Cultures only partially crosses over to AI.

Commented that the research release program, moving towards a 2.0 load, will have the potential to help free up researchers time to dedicate to their research- this is a major new development.

Chair noted that it is an important achievement that will help to support research intensification at York