

Strategic Research Plan (2018-2023) Advisory Committee

Meeting November 15, 2017 3:00pm- 5:00pm 902 Kaneff Tower

Present: Rob Haché (Chair), Janice Chu, Celia Haig-Brown, Fuyuki Kurasawa, Thomas Loebel, Yvette

Munro, Cora Young, Dessi Zaharieva, Barbara Edwards

Phone: Donald Ipperciel, Karen Drake, Theodore Noseworthy, Graham Wakefield

Regrets: Sarah Flicker, Jeremy Laurin, Henry Wu, Caitlin Fisher, Regina Lee, James Orbinski

Agenda Item	Notes	Action Item
Consultation	Chair briefly highlighted the planned fall consultation	
Engagement	sessions scheduled, both completed and upcoming.	
Ongoing/ Upcoming	Discussion included a report back from Advisory	
Sessions	Committee members on their individual Faculty/	
	community based feedback sessions.	
	Confirmed meetings include: Health (Nov. 1) James	
	Orbinski, Indigenous Council (Nov.21) Karen Drake,	
	Education (Nov.30) Celia Haig-Brown, Osgoode (Dec.8)	
	Karen Drake	
	Sessions to be scheduled: LA&PS (Fuyuki Kurasawa) will be	
	holding their meeting in January (date to be confirmed)	
	with members of the Committee on Research Policy and	
	Planning (CRPP) and the departmental/unit Research	
	Coordinators group. Chair advised that early January is	
	preference as draft completion target is later January.	
	Jane/Finch Community partners consultation (Yvette	
	Munro) is working toward scheduling the week of	
	November 27th	
	Science (Cora Young) will be confirming a time in early	
	December	
	External feedback sessions- Chair will be scheduling	
	consultation sessions to facilitate interaction with our	
	external stakeholder community in early 2018.	
Committee	Comments and questions from Committee members:	
Discussion on Slide	·	
presentation	Question on meaning of feedback bullet regarding	
·	Markham campus comment on slide #5 "Integrate and	
	develop the expectation of research engagement and	
	research excellence within the Markham	
	campusCommitments to be made instead of research	
	specifics" Chair explained that the statement was meant to	
	express commitment to research intensity and alignment	
	and focus on research rather than teaching.	
	Discussion on total sponsored research income- where is	
	Discussion on total sponsored research income- where is	

York placed in national ranking based on our 2017 income (\$96M), what accounted for the increase. Chair clarified York's #20 ranking and proximity to the \$100M grouping of schools, however noted that outside of medicine, York becomes comparable to many recognized universities in the U15. Research income increase is mainly due to the new Healthcare Ecosphere that started in 2016/17, further we are working with Advancement to qualify research donations as research income.

Inquiry about external research funding that isn't captured with research accounting. Chair advised that VPRI would be happy to work together to better help capture funding.

Discussion on PIER- inquired about using similar content from PIER to new SRP, suggesting that broad areas defined in PIER should be kept in the SRP. Chair noted that PIER specific recommendations are meant to be complementary to the SRP. The SRP will include discussion on enabling research at York, as well as a synopsis of PIER content. Further noted that ground level research changes are to be enabled by the PIER plan.

Further discussion suggested that there be more concrete markers and resource commitments in the SRP to better reflect what we are trying to do as an institution with regard to research. However, other comments suggested only referencing PIER to achieve larger objectives rather than getting too focused on specific operational recommendations.

Discussion on Artificial Intelligence as SRP opportunity-agreement on importance of AI, but some initial questions as to whether it should be classified as a stand-alone goal. Chair clarified that York comes at AI with an advantage of an interdisciplinary approach. The new downtown institute 'Vector' has recognized that York has leadership in this space with certain expertise in computer vision as well as other interdisciplinary strengths we contribute. Recognizing that it is currently a placeholder, member suggested that the specific opportunity name identifying AI might be re-thought to capture a more multidisciplinary approach with a reference to social engagement. Agreement that we need to express AI in a different way as described.

Chair noted an upcoming interdisciplinary meeting VPRI is leading to establish a task force to further engage the university in developing a strategy that would inform the new SRP.

Discussion on Innovative Partnered Research as SRP opportunity- recommended including Indigenous research there. Agreement from members that this is a great direction. Stressed that wording is important herelanguage should be more inclusive- define the right

phrasing that captures all the energy of new relationships, partnering and social engagement, along with creativity and innovation. Suggested "innovative partnerships", but include language of socially engaged research, as well as aspects of social justice. Other suggestions included 'reciprocal partnerships', 'socially responsible' instead of 'socially engaged' Discussion on Markham campus-What should we be saying about research there? Noted an upcoming meeting with the program development group in the Provost office for consultation and feedback. Stressed that there needs to be connectivity with Keele research, and understanding that interaction is key within the disciplines as well as with other colleagues on campus. Remarked that there doesn't seem to be a clear vision for what shape research should take on the new campus or at least it is not yet being communicated to the community. Recommended some best practices may be taken from recent development of Canadian urban campuses- cited Simon Fraser University as example. Program development – recommended that program development should maximally integrate with Keele so that new campus will be an innovative campus on both the research level and program level. Suggested having Glendon integrated in the program discussions- noted their biology program. Commented on how the new campus will bring a significant presence of excellence for research and teaching to York Region – with a real opportunity to do new and innovative programming. Stressed the need to provide some forward thinking when planning for the Markham campus. Need to establish a large visionary document where there is articulation which research, programming, relationships with the community flow. Suggested that the established partnerships with industry and other community groups would be keen to see a strong focus on research- will also be key to capacity

Other Business

Barbara Edwards will be in touch to schedule the December meeting shortly

building in the community, in the Region and beyond.

VPRI to canvass for next meeting dates