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**Strategic Research Plan (2018-2023)**

**Advisory Committee**

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| **Meeting October 4, 2017**  **3:00pm- 5:00pm**  **956 Kaneff Tower**  **Present:** Rob Haché (Chair), Karen Drake, Barbara Edwards, Caitlin Fisher, Celia Haig-Brown, Fuyuki Kurasawa, Regina Lee, Thomas Loebel, Yvette Munro, James Orbinski, Graham Wakefield, Cora Young, Dessi Zaharieva  **Phone:** Sarah Flicker, Theodore Noseworthy, Paul Tsaparis  **Regrets:** Janice Chu , Donald Ipperciel, Jeremy Laurin, Henry Wu  Advisory Committee October 4th slides were distributed to members, along with SRP (2013-2018) and the Plan for the Intensification and Enhancement of Research (PIER) documents. | | |
| **Agenda Item** | **Notes** | **Action Item** |
| Chair Welcome | Chair welcomed and extended thanks to members for their interest in providing input in to this important planning exercise for the community. Stressed importance of Advisory Committee to process of shaping the new Strategic Research Plan, and emphasized the commitment to developing a plan in a collegial manner. Noted that advice and feedback throughout the development of the SRP is welcomed and highly valued as part of the consultation process. Highlighted the variety of constituencies represented by members of the Committee. |  |
| Review Current SRP, Progress to Date and Considerations for Development of SRP (2018-2023) | Questions & Comments  Member stressed that the Plan should be reflective of York’s comprehensive research excellence, and should speak to the undergraduate population along with the broader York community in attracting the best and brightest to York.  Within the discussion of how progress and new developments might have an impact on the new SRP, a member inquired about the particular research priorities within the new Markham campus. Chair clarified that there will be more professionally oriented programs, but at same time it will be an active research campus. Further the new Plan will provide an opportunity to integrate and develop the expectation of research engagement and research excellence within the Markham campus, helping to complement and enhance our research strengths as part of the larger institution.  Timelines: Chair explained that the Plan would encompass a five year time horizon; and should inform our research considerations within that scope as the research landscape is rapidly changing becoming more complex with a much more global perspective.  Plan Development: Chair emphasized that the Plan is about research scholarship and creative activity broadly defined- very central to the identity of the university. A consensus was expressed by members that the Plan should be updated rather than re-developed from scratch. It would be best to build on the existing strengths. Next steps would be seeking synergies on areas that have emerged as areas of competence. Suggested that it will be important to consider global social impacts, incorporating York’s engagements with multilateral agencies, smaller non-governmental organizations, developing multi-institutional networks and their impact on policy and practice of research agendas. Plan should also highlight not just science, but the idea of imagination that comes with science and how do we nurture that among our researchers broadly. Also, creating social science strengths- critical to the kind of impactful research that would propel York globally. Recommended a focus on further integrating research into undergraduate programs – as it is important in attracting students to York and making pedagogy relevant.  Members agreed that the Plan should consider synergies in areas where we have comparative advantages. Further interested in hearing from colleagues on how their research as evolved. |  |
| Consultation Process | Questions & Comments  Faculty Feedback: Chair asked members to conduct a one hour session within their home Faculty, sometime during the month of November, supported by Barbara Edwards, along with Faculty Associate Dean Research. VPRI via Barbara Edwards will be in touch with members to facilitate. Member commented on the previous participation process and the success of the inclusive structure, noting that faculty members could see and hear themselves within the document. Recommended that this SRP consultation process should maximize that similar structure. Members sought clarification on faculty sessions. Chair clarified that the sessions will be an opportunity to have an informal conversation and gain a more ground level sentiment from faculty members. Chair committed to attending sessions if needed. Members agreed that a more informal session would be welcome to garner a more genuine faculty response.  Chair described what is being sought within phase 1 of the SRP process- seeking out the missing pieces, pressing issues, what has the university done well and what has been overlooked, what needs to be evolved, what is the relationship between PIER and the SRP- really getting a sense of the pulse of the research community. Reminded members to circulate the existing SRP and PIER documents prior to the feedback sessions. Following this in phase 2, a draft document will be released integrating input from the feedback sessions in early 2018. Chair encouraged members to include post-docs within their Faculty sessions. Session coordination with each Faculty Associate Dean Research was encouraged.  Celia Haig-Brown noted that she would lead the consultation with the Indigenous Council of York University during the fall term. | **November: Feedback session to be facilitated within each member’s Faculty. VPRI to support**  **AVP Research C. Haig-Brown to lead consultation with the Indigenous Council of York University** |
| Overview of Research Metrics | Questions & Comments  Member inquired about York’s strong international co-authorship trend (slide #33) and wondered how we might emphasize this within the Plan. Chair remarked on the trending global nature of research as well as York’s global focus.  Chair noted the various limitations of the SciVal database, but cited the relative comprehensiveness versus the other publication databases available- highlighted the Institute for Social Research (ISR) comparison study that showed SciVal’s greater publication scope. Member noted that the ISR study found 50% or less publications captured by SciVal database (from sample)- cautioned there are certain discipline variations of the data.  Chair emphasized that this isn’t the only method of showing our strength/ leadership, so it is important to look at other activities. But the database is a resource we can utilize to help inform how we take advantage of opportunities. |  |
| Next Steps | Chair invited all members to attend Launch on Wednesday October 11th, 1pm-3pm, Senate chambers for an engaged conversation  Barbara Edwards will be in touch to schedule November and December meetings shortly. | **VPRI to canvass for next meeting dates** |