



# SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, November 14, 2019

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Surrey Arbutus, Room 2410

<b>Voting members present</b>	<b>Regrets</b>
Deepak Gupta Elizabeth Worobec (via Skype) Deborah Henderson Steve Lewarne Mandeep Pannu Philomena Kaan Victor Martinez Wei Li Paul Ohler	Karen Meijer-Kline (Chair) Daniel Bernstein Diane Purvey George Melville Alan Davis Sundeep Varaich Stephanie Chu
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Non-voting members present</b>
Natalie Shearer (administrative support)	David Burns (Acting Chair)

## 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

## 2. Approval of Agenda

Some discussion took place regarding the availability of software for researchers through KPU's Information Technology department. Determined this warrants further discussion at a future meeting.

**Action item:** The Acting Chair will reach out to the CIO to discuss the issue and invite him to join a future meeting of the SSC Research.

**Deborah Henderson moved the agenda be confirmed as circulated.**

**The motion carried.**

## 3. Approval of Minutes, October 17, 2019

**Victor Martinez moved the minutes be accepted as circulated.**

**The motion carried.**

## 4. Items Arising from the Minutes

### 4.1. Chair's Report

The acting chair gave a number of updates, including news that the recommendation to prioritize Research in the upcoming University budget was well received and passed at the November meeting of SSC University Budget and Senate. The SSC University Budget will be embarking on further conversation around the capital budget process, which will impact many research budget requests.

As a follow-up to the action items identified during the October SSC Research meeting, the Acting Chair outlined:

- The University President confirmed that the annual REB Report has not been formally shared with the Board of Governors in the past
- The Acting Chair's update to Senate on successful research grants was well received
- The Provost will be joining a future SSC Research meeting to continue the discussion started in October

#### **4.2 AVP, Research's Report**

The AVP, Research thanked the committee for its thoughtful and evidence-based decision making over the past year, and credited this with the success in obtaining support from Senate on research as a budget priority.

The AVP, Research highlighted the following items from his written report:

- The planning team for the Teaching, Learning and Research Annual Symposium is considering moving the event to a month long series of in-service learning opportunities in the month of May.
- At the Fall meeting of the BC Applied Research and Innovation Network, the AVP, Research was able to hear from NSERC on proposed changes to funding programs that will affect KPU, and to provide feedback. NSERC will present draft revisions to institutions which will eventually seal the new program structure.
- Several opportunities for collaboration on research & innovation initiatives may be coming through the Innovation Superclusters Initiative. The AVP, Research will keep this committee apprised of upcoming opportunities.

### **5. Items for Discussion**

#### **5.1 AVP, Research Report format**

The AVP, Research is soliciting feedback on the contents and format on his monthly report to SSC Research. Specifically, he asked the group if it would be useful for him to bring larger news (i.e. updated from major funders) into the report.

The committee was supportive of this approach and suggested promoting such news more widely and in a digestible format through Today@KPU, when applicable.

#### **5.2 Acting on recommendations from the 2018-19 TLSR Survey report**

The SSC Research received a report from Karissa Wall last meeting about the data collected within the TLSR Survey report. The committee discussed these findings and determined that a major limiting factor for researchers to engage at KPU is lack of funding to support time release for faculty participating in research. Other limiting factors include time and space to conduct research.

This discussion should continue at future meeting so the committee can develop a robust and comprehensive set of recommendations

**Mandeep Pannu moved that, as an action arising out of the TLSR Survey, the committee recommends that the University should invest in time release for persons who have procured external grants.**

**The motion carried**

**Action item:** The acting chair will report this motion to Senate, with the information that more recommendations will come forward following further discussion.

### **5.3 BC's Campus 2020 Report and the University Mandate**

The AVP, Research shared the BC Campus 2020 report with the committee, inviting discussion on the report and its influence on the University Act Mandate. Ultimately, this discussion pertains to how we interpret the University's mandate.

The AVP, Research provided the background on the language contained within the Universities Act mandate, with specific reference to Special Purpose Teaching Universities and their responsibility to participate in research, and the links between the BC Campus 2020 Report and the Mandate. The AVP, Research also shared a summary comparing the roles of both a "University" and a "Special Purpose Teaching University" as described in the mandate, with respect to their respective research agendas.

The AVP, Research has reached out to his counterparts at other Special Purpose Teaching Universities to get a greater understanding of where they are struggling or succeeding in the interpretation of this language. In collaboration with KPU's General Counsel, he is seeking legal clarification on the interpretation of the language.

More discussion needed with the committee to develop a fuller understanding.

### **5.4 Research Services Impact Assessment**

The Acting Chair provided some background on the processes and reviews used by Senate in approving new programs or changes to programs at KPU. These processes do not currently or historically include an assessment around a program's impact on or use of research resources. The committee discussed the benefits and opportunities of including a research impact assessment in the program review process or the course review process.

**Victor Martinez moved that the AVPR be asked to develop a research impact form or something analogous to it.**

**The motion carried**

**Action item:** Acting chair to report that SSC Research is working on this to Senate.

### **5.5 Research Vision Website + SharePoint strategy**

Natalie Shearer introduced the coming internal and public-facing research services websites. The Committee discussed the use of the public-facing site to celebrate success stories and possibilities for engagement. The internal site, conversely, would cite relevant policies, ORS guidance, forms, templates, etc. Natalie Shearer identified the structure for coming content in for both sites.

The Committee suggested a space on the website for informal research groups, links to research profiles (which need updates), and success stories.

Steve Lewarne identified complementary changes coming to the KPU Advancement page which will include a streamlined link to opportunities to give, as well as success stories and impact information. Steve Lewarne requests the aid of SSC Research in suggesting positive stories of impact.

Steve Lewarne indicated the possibility of using private fundraising to supplement public research funding. He invited members of the KPU research community to speak with their Dean about engaging in private fundraising supported by his office.

#### **6.0 Other Business**

None.

#### **7.0 Adjournment**

**Deepak Gupta moved that the meeting be adjourned.**

**The motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:39pm