



# SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH & GRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, February 13, 2020

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Surrey Campus Boardroom, Cedar 2110

<b>Voting members present</b>	<b>Regrets</b>
David Burns [Chair] Deepak Gupta Elizabeth Worobec [via Skype] Deborah Henderson Philomena Kaan Daniel Bernstein Paul Ohler Sundeep Varaich [via Skype] Victor Martinez	Rajiv Jhangiani (acting) Diane Purvey Wei Li Mandeep Pannu Karen Meijer-Kline
<b>Guests</b>	<b>Non-voting members present</b>
Reza Khakbaznejad Gina Buchanan Jeremiah Kima Sukhpreet Dhinsa Kamaljit Bajwa	Steve Lewarne Natalie Shearer (administrative support)

## 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

## 2. Approval of Agenda

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

**The motion carried.**

## 3. Approval of Minutes, December 12, 2019

**Daniel Bernstein moved the minutes be accepted as circulated.**

**The motion carried.**

## 4. Items Arising from the Minutes

### 4.1. Chair's Report

The Chair shared news of Karen Meijer-Kline's resignation as Chair of SSC Research & Graduate Studies. A vote to replace the Chair will take place at a future meeting, and Dr. Burns will act as Chair in the intervening period.

In the absence of a Chair's report, the interim Chair shared the following: the former chair (and interim Chair moving forward) has been working with Senator Campbell of SCAPP to determine how best to coordinate on the approval of graduate programs.



#### **4.2 AVP, Research's Report (Jan and Feb 2020)**

Dr. Gupta presented reports for January and February 2020. From his January report, he highlighted:

- Changes to the annual Teach Learning & Research Symposium format. Dr. Gupta encouraged all SSC Research & Graduate Studies members to consider how they can participate. The committee expressed interest in developing a session involving representatives of a funding body (CIHR or Mitacs).
- Several updates from the tri-agencies, including their newly released financial guide for Universities, and the recent publication of findings from consultations on research data management policy

From his February report, Dr. Gupta highlighted:

- KPU's application to join the New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO), a federally-funded member-based organization that will coordinate and fund activities in advanced research computing, data management, and research software to ensure that Canada's researchers have equitable access to the necessary services, tools and infrastructure to support research across all disciplines.

**Action item: Chair to connect with Sundeep Varaich to follow up on discussion of potential proposals for KPU-May-Learn sessions and support from researchers in Faculty of Health.**

**Action item: Include a discussion San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) at a future meeting of SSC Research & Graduate Studies.**

## **5. Items for Discussion**

### **5.1 Procuring software & site licenses for research**

Reza Khakbaznejad, Chief Information Officer, joined the meeting to discuss site and software licensing for research. Mr. Khakbaznejad shared the current processes for requesting research infrastructure, both through facilities and through the IT service desk. These processes allow Mr. Khakbaznejad's team to review all requests and ensure the University is optimizing use of existing infrastructure. In future, a separate stream for research software and infrastructure requests may be established to differentiate from academic requests.

KPU's proposed NDRIO membership should provide us with computing power, storage and additional software.

**Action item: Office of the AVPR to look into a communication mechanism to disseminate information such as this.**

### **5.2 Pilot funding program for time release: "Komplement Program"**



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Dr. Gupta shared a proposal for the “Komplement Program”, a funding stream to support release time for researchers, a gap which currently exists for those projects funded by tri-agencies without time release costs.

The committee suggested that Dr. Gupta works with the office of advancement to support the development and funding of such a program.

The committee suggested that timing of deadlines needs to be a consideration.

**Action item: Dr. Gupta and Steve Lewarne to work together on this proposal**

**Deborah Henderson moved that the SSC Research & Graduate Studies endorse the “Komplement Program” proposal.**

**The motion carried**

### **5.3 2020 SSHRC Impact Awards Competition**

Dr. Gupta shared details on the 2020 SSHRC Impact Awards Competition and encouraged the committee to look at worthy colleagues to nominate for awards. The ORS will be available to support nominations.

### **5.4 Titles for educators providing intellectual leadership in research & scholarship**

Dr. Gupta shared background on discussions around titling mechanisms for employees providing intellectual leaderships for laboratories/research centres/research institutes at KPU. These roles are distinct from administrative leadership roles.

**Daniel Bernstein moved that the chair look into what SSC Research & Graduate Studies can do to address this question.**

**The motion carried**

**Action item: Chair to pursue the question of how we move this forward with University Secretary.**

### **5.5 Recommendations for Campus & Community Planning Team**

Following the presentation from the KPU Campus & Community Planning team at December’s meeting of SSC Research, the committee discussed recommendations to put forward regarding considerations for research space.

Recommendation: Consideration of accessibility for persons and equipment into all research centres/labs/institutes.

**Daniel Bernstein moved that this recommendation be brought forward to CCP team.**

**The motion carried**



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Recommendation: Planning for an innovation district at each KPU campus. An Innovation District is a physical complex intended to foster innovation, entrepreneurship and experiential learning opportunities. Plans for such districts should be built in to the future space plans at KPU.

**Martinez moved that this recommendation be brought forward to the CCP team.**

**The motion carried**

**Action item: Chair to share the above recommendations, endorsed by SSC Research & Graduate Studies, with the KPU Campus and Community Planning team.**

### 6.0 Other Business

A white paper on the topic of research at KPU was recently endorsed by a sub-committee of the Science Faculty Council and will be brought forward to SSC Research & Graduate Studies at a future meeting. The Arts Faculty Council & Design Faculty Councils have devoted time to discussing this paper as well.

### 7.0 Adjournment

**Daniel Bernstein moved that the meeting be adjourned.**

**The motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:25pm