

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 13, 2021

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MS Teams Online

Voting Member Quorum 7 members		
Paul Adams	Joel Murray	
Daniel Bernstein – Chair	Mandeep Pannu	Non-voting
Deepak Gupta	Sundeeb Varaich	David Burns
Deborah Henderson	Diane Purvey	
Victor Martinez	Mark Vardy	
Karen Meijer-Kline	Elizabeth Worobec	
Regrets	Senate Office	Guests
Paul Ohler	Meredith Laird	Tara Lyons

1. Call to Order

The Chair opened the meeting with a Territorial Acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

The committee approved the agenda as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes, April 8, 2021

The committee approved the minutes as circulated.

4. Chair's Report

Daniel Bernstein provided a verbal report. He noted that this is Victor Martinez's final meeting as a member of the committee and thanked him for his contribution. The Chair advised members that they may keep their videos on during meetings over Teams, as the technical issues that had prevented this have been largely resolved. He also advised the committee that all Senate and Senate Standing Committee meetings will continue to be held over Teams through the Fall of 2021. The Chair noted that a Senate orientation meeting will be held on the morning of June 17th and the Senate Office will circulate a calendar invitation to members.

The Chair recommended that members watch the Research Impact Canada videos available through the links included in the minutes from April.

The Chair highlighted the recent announcement of the establishment of two new KPU endowed chairs, and hoped that the KPU Foundation would use this model going forward.

The Chair noted that he will provide a brief update about the committee's White Paper action items to share with Senate in June and that the committee will review its own mandate and membership in September.

Diane Purvey shared an update on the action item from the White Paper. She initiated a discussion at the Deans' Council about how Faculties would report on their plans for research. She shared that the Provost had circulated a template with detailed prompts for Faculties about their research planning and the committee discussed the utility of creating other templates that might be used to record plans and achievements on a regular schedule.

The Chair thanked members of the committee for bringing items forward for discussion and action, such as the Definition of Post-Doctoral Fellow, and hoped the example of the successful passage of this definition at Senate would encourage members to use the committee to advance other initiatives.

5. Associate Vice-President, Research, Innovation and Graduate Studies Report

The committee received the written report. Deepak Gupta highlighted that the generous donation will allow competitions to fill the two research chairs and his office will use HR's new talent acquisition system to solicit and review applications. The funds announced will become available in September, 2021. He noted that the University has also made an investment from its operating surplus, income from which will be made available starting in 2022/23 and may be used to fund multi-year research projects.

He highlighted the subject guide on graduate program development noted in his written report and asked members to share any information that could be added to this resource.

He noted that it is important for all faculty performing research to be familiar with the Tri-Agency framework on Responsible Conduct of Research.

He informed the committee that four Research Advisor positions will be created following the model of Education Consultants in the Teaching and Learning Commons. These positions will be externally funded and provide an opportunity for faculty members to mentor colleagues and may be helpful in advancing action items from the White Paper.

He noted the settlement of the case before the Canadian Human Rights Commission in the Canada Research Chair Human Rights case and the effect this will have in funding through CRC grants. He encouraged researchers to request assistance with their grant applications, particularly in Tri-agency resubmissions, as his team can assist with grant writers to address any gaps identified by reviewers.

6. Chair, Research Ethics Board Report

The committee received the written report. Tara Lyons shared the number of applications received and in process through April and that the majority were multi-jurisdictional applications in that month. She highlighted recent training taken by members of her office through Research Ethics BC, and Scholarship of Teaching & Learning on Research Ethics which will be helpful as work related to the scholarship of teaching and learning increases at KPU. She

shared that Douglas College, Royal Roads University, and Vancouver Island University have joined Research Ethics BC, which will result in a more streamlined process for researchers working in collaboration with researchers at those institutions. Planning is also underway for the development of a harmonized national system which will assist with submissions undertaken with collaborators outside the province.

7. New Business

7.1. Policy RS6 Animal Use and Ethics in Teaching and Research at KPU

Deepak Gupta received the feedback and comments of the committee, and encouraged members to continue to share any feedback or comments with him or with Layne Myhre, even though the draft Policy's posting on the Policy Blog is now complete.

The committee discussed the definitions of "principal investigator" and how co-PIs may fit within this definition, time limits on renewals of project protocols for multi-year projects, and suggested that it might be helpful to note in the Procedures that the site visits will be performed by the Animal Care Committee.

7.2. Research Associate Positions

Paul Adams provided background and context to the discussion, sharing that he and Deborah Henderson received feedback from Deepak Gupta and Kent Mullinix on the draft of the letter they submitted for discussion. The committee discussed the appropriate steps to advance this initiative and Deepak Gupta agreed to bring the motion to the attention of the Provost and President.

Paul Adams moved THAT the Senate Standing Committee on Research and Graduate Studies recommend that senior administration prioritize the creation of term-limited Research Associate positions with regular benefits at KPU.

The motion carried.

7.3. Sharing Ongoing Research at KPU

Paul Adams shared a presentation about research currently being conducted in the Applied Genomics Centre (which was previously known as the KPU Bio-Innovation Lab). The committee discussed how to share this presentation with Senate and the Board. The Chair took an action item to communicate with the Chair of Senate about this possibility.

7.4. Request for volunteers: Sharing Ongoing Research at KPU

Deborah Henderson agreed to describe her research to the committee at the June meeting and Victor Martinez at the September meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.