

## SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

**2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**MS Teams Online**

<b>Voting Member Quorum: 7</b>		
Brett Favaro Daniel Bernstein, Chair Deborah Henderson Ishant Goyal June Kaminski	Shelley Boyd Sue Fairburn	<div style="background-color: #d3d3d3; padding: 2px;"><b>Non-voting</b></div> Catherine Schwichtenberg Taranum Sultana
<b>Regrets</b>	<b>Senate Office</b>	<b>Guests</b>
Alan Davis Amit Shukla Gayle Bedard Karen Meijer-Kline Leeann Waddington Mandeep Pannu Paul Adams	Michelle Molnar Sonia Orlu (recorder)	Cathy Parlee Fabricio Telo Jackie Au Keith Leung Mariana Gatzeva Melissa Cuthill Tara Lyons

### 1. Call to Order and Territorial Acknowledgement

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

### 2. Approval of Agenda

**Shelley Boyd moved the agenda be confirmed as circulated.**

**The motion carried.**

### 3. Approval of Minutes, January 23, 2024

**Deborah Henderson moved the minutes be accepted as circulated.**

**The motion carried.**

### 4. Chair's Report

The Chair, Daniel Bernstein, noted an upcoming conflict between the next month's meeting on March 19th and the research showcase hosted by the Office of Research Services. He proposed keeping the March 19th meeting brief to allow attendance at the showcase.

Bernstein highlighted the year's top priority, the Research Advancement Strategy, emphasizing its importance and development progress. He mentioned a team, including himself, Bernadine Sengalryan, and Victor Martinez, has been actively engaging with various groups to discuss and advance this strategy. The team plans to consult all faculty councils and their subcommittees on research, including a representative from the Arts Research Scholarship Committee present at the meeting.

SSCR, as stated by Bernstein, holds the responsibility for the Research Advancement Strategy, with ongoing consultations and drafting by the designated team. Additionally, the committee is tasked with addressing responses to recommendations from a former White Paper on research concerning faculty development plans. A working group is compiling these responses, with contributions expected from faculty councils, the President, the Provost, and the AVP of research.

Bernstein concluded by mentioning productive meetings with the Arts faculty research and its partners, leading to a motion to be presented later in the meeting.

A committee member inquired about the possibility of further input from the Wilson School of Design's research and design group, to which Bernstein responded affirmatively, noting scheduled meetings, including a retreat and a faculty council meeting.

## **5. Regular Reports**

### **5.1. Associate Vice-President, Research and Innovation**

Taranum Sultana, Research Compliance Manager at the Office of Research Services, presented a written report on behalf of Amit Shukla, the Acting Associate Vice-President for Research and Innovation.

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1. Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliation of Concern (TRAC)**

Taranum Sultana discussed the Policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliation of Concern (STRAC), which addresses the Canadian government's recent policy on sensitive technology research areas and organizations that pose security concerns. This policy, effective from May 1st, specifically targets technologies such as biophotonics, biomanufacturing, genomic sequencing, genetic engineering, and nanomanufacturing, some of which are CPU-related. It also highlights institutions indirectly connected to military, national defense, and state security entities.

Sultana emphasized the policy's two main areas of concern: its impact on researchers collaborating on grant applications and those applying for funding through programs like the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The policy necessitates attention to joint publications and authorship with listed institutions, visiting scholars, researchers, guest speakers, and students at all levels.

To address these concerns, the Research Security Center plans to release training and guidance for the research community and administrators to ensure compliance with the policy to maintain

eligibility for federal funding. Sultana mentioned upcoming webinars and advised staying updated through announcements and emails.

The committee inquired about the importance of attending these webinars, given their scheduling. Sultana clarified that while there's no immediate direct impact, recordings of the webinars would be available, and additional guidance sessions are planned to introduce and explain the policy details further.

## **6.2. Arts Research Survey Report Presentation and Endorsement of a KPU-Wide Survey**

Mariana Gatzeva shared findings from a survey conducted by the Arts Research Scholarship Committee, highlighting that a significant portion of respondents are interested in or are already engaged in research activities. The survey, with a response rate of about 25-30%, identified time availability as the primary challenge faced by faculty in pursuing research, alongside difficulties in finding collaborators and accessing funding. The survey aimed to inform the Arts Research Plan and has led to discussions on addressing these challenges.

Daniel Bernstein noted the importance of the survey's findings, expressing curiosity about the broader KPU community's interest in research. The discussion acknowledged potential biases in survey responses but highlighted the strong interest in research among faculty members.

Fabricio Telo outlined next steps, including a motion that SSCR endorse the idea of the Research Advancement Strategy (RAS) working group running a KPU-wide survey, in collaboration with the KFA, on faculty members' preferences for appointment streams and academic designations. However, concerns were raised about the committee's mandate and the potential for survey fatigue. Suggestions were made to simplify the motion and ensure it aligns with the committee's governance role.

After much debate and suggestions for rewording, it was clarified that the motion aimed for the non-Senate working group, the Research Advancement Strategy Working Group, to create the survey in consultation with SSCR's Research Advancement Strategy Working Group and other relevant parties, adhering to university policies on surveys. The motion was eventually endorsed, with the understanding that this endorsement facilitates the survey's creation focused on research topics across KPU, contributing to the development of a Research Advancement Strategy.

**Shelley Boyd moved the Senate Standing Committee on Research endorse that the Research Advancement Strategy (RAS) Working Group create a KPU-wide survey on the topic of research in keeping with University policies and procedures related to surveys of this scope.**

**The motion carried.**

## **7. Items for Discussion**

None.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.