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**COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH**

Minutes of the Meeting of  
Thursday, March 7, 2019  
AH 527

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**Present:** R. Blake (Chair), C. Bradley, N. Jones, I. Al-Anbagi, S. Gray, T. Salm, K. Irwin, Y. Harrison, A. Pitariu, K. Irwin, B. Jeffery, I. Germani

**Resource:** P. Splett (Research Office), recorder

**Guest Speaker:** Jérôme Melançon, Special Advisor

**Regrets:** D. Malloy, K. McNutt, C. Yost, D. Candow, Raghavi Kemala Rajakumar, S. Zilles, C. Butz, K. Rasmussen, D. Meban, A. Miller, A. Henni

## 1. Introductions

## 2. Approval of Agenda

Jones/Harrison - *moved approval of the agenda* CARRIED

## 3. Approval of the Minutes from January 8, 2019

Harrison/Bradley - *moved approval of the minutes with minor revision* CARRIED

## 4. Chair's Report (Raymond Blake)

The Chair's report is attached. The Chair advised members that Pam Splett from the Research Office will continue to issue a call to Committee members for agenda items to consider at the upcoming meetings, and that the elected members of CCR will continue to set the agenda for each meeting. The Chair reiterated the importance of staying connected with External Relations and recommended that CCR make it a part of its regular schedule to invite representatives from External Relations to the January meeting of CCR to discuss the importance of including communications about research to the university community and beyond as part of its regular tasks. It is also important that research be an integral part of the University's communication strategy and the Chair advised that CCR remain vigilant and work to ensure that research activities be considered an important factor in the University of Regina's Strategic Plan. The CCR committee must have a voice on the ER Communication plan.

## 5. Business Arising – None.

## 6. Vice-President (Research) Report – Attached

The VPR's written report was circulated with the Agenda package and members had the opportunity to peruse the report before the meeting. The VPR's Report noted several points, including:



Other Tri-Council results will be considered in subsequent meetings as well as contracts and other contributions to research.

#### **10. Research Challenges - Update (C. Yost)**

It has been CCR's objective throughout the year to identify and report on challenges faced by researchers at the University. As part of that process, Dr. Chris Yost issued a call on the CCAM moodle site to Council Members to submit their experiences on research challenges occurring at the university. Researchers identifies several common challenges that impeded their research activities and output, including:

- The lack of support for graduate, undergraduate and postdoctoral funding opportunities;
- Time required to deal with the bureaucracy and reporting;
- The failure of the University to deal with issues of equity, diversity and inclusion;
- The absence of an adequate research communications strategy to promote the activities and accomplishment of researchers.

The full report is attached and, after discussion, it was agreed the CCR Committee will prioritize the research challenges that has been identified at the next meeting of CCR and prepare a report for the VPR.

#### **11. Direct Open Access Publishing (C. Yost, C. Bradley)**

CCR received a written report on Direct Open Access Publishing from C. Yost and C. Bradley. The goal of the report was to give University of Regina faculty, students, and staff an overview of the broader open access publishing landscape, as well as insight into the Canadian and University of Regina contexts, in order to generate discussion and debate about how the University might respond, and ideally lead, in a rapidly changing scholarly publication ecosystem. The report, which is attached, made the following points:

- In 2015, changes were made to publishing journal articles;
- Europe is a clear leader in the field, mandating that research council funding required open access publishing; Canada has not yet developed a policy but will have to do so soon;
- Libraries are aware of coming need for open-access publishing and the increased cost of such changes to publishing research outcomes;
- The implications of Direct Open Access could be costly:
  - Cost \$2,300 - \$2,500 per journal
  - President Publication fund is less than \$10,000
  - Library is working on developing a service;

The report highlighted a number of issues about which the University must be aware in regards to open-access publishing:

- It is an issue for which ACCRU and VP (Research) must begin to develop a policy;
- The University must be in communication with Tri-Agencies on the matter of open-access publishing and how provides funding;
- Similarly, the University must be in communications with Provincial Government to make them aware of the impact open-access publishing will have for researchers;
- The university must also educate non-academia community of this issue and how it may affect them.

The report also identified two issues that will require University attention:

- Violation of copyright
- Predatory publishing

Following discussion, there was a motion “To accept report on Direct Open Access, to append to the Research Challenges, and to forward the report to VP Research.”

Harrison/Irwin – *moved to send this report to the VP Research* CARRIED

## **12. Resource Research Impact preliminary report (Jones, Al-Anbagi, Irwin)**

The CCR Committee on Resource Research Impact presented a preliminary and oral report. It noted there was concern on acknowledging certain types of research, notably:

- Indigenous Research;
- Community-Based Research;
- Artistic research; and
- Undergraduate and Graduate student research

In its oral report, it noted the following:

- The necessity for further development of Indigenous Research which is part of the University’s Research Strategic Plan;
- The possibility of creating a subcommittee to consult with Human Resources to determine if the Annual Information Forms (AIF) could be used to create a systematic way of reporting research;
- The necessity of finding ways and means to report student research;
- The possibility of a creating a publication database within the new Grants Management System;
- The possibility of streamlining the AIF into the Grants Management system to include research impacts;
- The necessity of cataloguing research outputs in a meaningful way.

In the discussion that followed, it was noted that it is important that the Board of Governors understand the extent and quality of research the University and fully understand the general research culture at the University. It was noted that there might exist among the Board of Governors a lack of knowledge about the range and diversity of research at the University. It was noted in general discussion that CCR would like to work with the VPR to showcase research activities of faculty and students to the Board. It was noted, too, that the discussion of research performance presented to the Board was more quantitative than qualitative.

## **13. Volunteers for CFI-JELF review committee**

- Irfan Al-Anbagi and Adrian Pitariu volunteered for this committee.

## **14. New Business**

- There has been a sudden departure of Bruce Walsh as director of University of Regina Press and a new job posting for Director for U of R Press had been issued. CCR would be updated on the process at the next meeting.

## **Adjournment**

Irwin/Pitariu – *moved to adjourn.*