

RAC Minutes

November 8, 2018 | 1:30pm-3:30pm | B121

Present: Jon Thomas, Joanna Sheppard, Adrienne Chan, Selena Karli, Sandra Gillespie, Lenore Newman, Emilio Landolfi, Dieter Geesling, Kamal Arora, Cindy Jardine, Masud Khawaja, Yvette Fairweather, Erik Talvila, Irwin Cohen, Amanda McCormick, Jacqueline Nolte, Lucy Lee

Recorder: Kelly Tracey

Regrets: Linda Pardy, Marcella LaFever, Sue Brigden, Alastair Hodges, Mariano Mapili, James Bedard, Greg Schlitt, Mary Higgins,

Guests: Adrienne Chan, Elizabeth Cooper

Welcome and Introductions –

1. ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

1.1 Agenda: 2018 NOV 08

MOTION: THAT the agenda for the November 8, 2018 RAC meeting be approved as presented
Emilio Landolfi, Masud Khawaja CARRIED

1.2 Minutes: 2018 SEPT 13

MOTION: THAT the minutes from the September 13, 2018 RAC meeting be approved as presented
Emilio Landolfi, Sandra Gillespie CARRIED

2. BUSINESS ITEMS

2.1 Welcome the new Chair and Vice Chair – Jon Thomas and Joanna Sheppard

2.2 Welcome Amanda McCormick as the new College of Arts Social Sciences representative

3. PRESENTATIONS: Indigenous Research Methodologies

3.1 Cindy Jardine

Indigenous communities have experienced negative interactions with research in the past and current researchers need to be aware of this and work to overcome the past negativity associated with research.

Many books have recently been published discussing these methodologies such as:

Decolonizing Methodologies by Linda Tuhiwai Smith

Research Is Ceremony by Shawn Wilson

Indigenous Methodologies by Margaret Kovach

Indigenous Research Methodologies by Bagele Chilisa

Indigenous Pathways into Social Research by Donna Mertens, Fiona Cram and Bagele Chilisa

Indigenous Statistics by Maggie Walter and Chris Andersen

Research for Indigenous Survival by Lori Lambert

Southern Theory by Raewyn Connell

Cindy noted that it is important to consider context when deciding on what type of methodology to use, and that many times the process used to conduct research is more important than the research itself.

Constant reflection is required by the researcher as to why they are doing the research, as well as reflecting on the community and what is important to them, prioritizing Indigenous ways of knowing.

The method of two-eyed seeing was brought forward by Marshall – that research needs to use a western way and an Indigenous way of knowing, seeing through both lenses to bring things together.

The attached PowerPoint presentation outlines the different research approaches and methods used.

The Indigenous community must see the research results before they can be disseminated elsewhere.

3.2 Elizabeth Cooper

Knowledge translation is an important way to continue the knowledge after the research has completed. Examples of how to achieve this is to create posters that are laminated, create a board game based on the knowledge gained through the research, and create presentations that can be shown at public venues within the community regarding the research results. A board game was created from messages about health, happiness and safety by the youth involved in the research. All the children received a copy of the board game with the pieces at the end of the project. This is an example of how to give back knowledge and results to the community.

Flexibility is needed when working with Indigenous communities in order to keep the research focused on the community. Be willing to try new things and not to worry so much about if it works, flexibility is the key to this type of research.

Ownership of knowledge – giving the community the knowledge back because they created it, it is theirs.

Control of data is important as well – how will you share the data once you have it.

The attached PowerPoint presentation points illustrates some ways to share knowledge gained from research projects, as well as research methods used to collect data.

Most recently, the Abbotsford Metis community was putting on a summer camp and approached Elizabeth for a research component and help to organize and plan the activities.

Elizabeth worked together with the community grounded in Indigenous frameworks and policies. There is funding in place for the next 3 years for research opportunities and community benefits through this camp experience.

Pelican Press is publishing storybook from the camp on Dec. 5, 2018.

3.3 Adrienne Chan

Research Partners for the current project are Sumas First Nation, Sq'eweleets First Nation, Nuxalk First Nation, Mission Friendship Centre, and CIHR. Seabird Island was the initial partner and is still involved.

Adrienne was approached by Fraser Health and Seabird Island to join the research project.

It is important as a researcher to think about what we bring, why we are doing the research, in order to ensure research is community minded.

Reflective questions need to be thought about all the time. Others are involved because they are invested in the problem being researched, in this case youth suicide prevention.

Non-Indigenous members are paired up with an Indigenous person to ensure two-eyed seeing is met.

Check ins are important throughout the project, many of which were done through conference calls.

Land based resiliency, community led project, everything done is defined by the community. An Elder is always present at research meetings. The goal is to hire Indigenous research assistants, not always UFV students.

Community building is ongoing throughout the entire research process.

4 principles were defined in collaboration the community and are described on the attached PowerPoint.

Partners such as Fraser Health and First Nations Health Authority are hoping to continue work after the research project is complete, to support the communities after the researchers leave. The research is based on culture, belonging, children activities – land based activities, identity, and connection.

Knowledge is documented through a knowledge basket.

Adobe Pro in Kipp Lab can be used to develop a story with video, narration, text, music, and captions – a layering process to create a five-minute digital story.

Many different forms such as video, digital, oral and narrative are used to express knowledge created through the research.

Jon asked if there were resources available to assist with language pronunciation – Adrienne noted that the website

<https://www.firstvoices.com/explore/FV/sections/Data/Salish/Halkomelem/Halq'em%C3%A9ylem> is available to assist with language and pronunciation.

The Halq'emeylem Language is taught at UFV by Mary Stuart.

How to identify communities in the Indigenous communities – each community is diverse and don't communicate with each other as well. Parents need to be part of the process.

Communities have a governing structure like every other situation and there are communication issues to overcome. Relationship building with the focus of the specific research focus.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 Aboriginal Peoples in Canada Report – please read the executive summary

Issues around relevance were important in the presentations, and are important in all research.

Jon Thomas noted a recent New York Times article “Project Aristotle”

<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/28/magazine/what-google-learned-from-its-quest-to-build-the-perfect-team.html> which highlighted the benefits of feeling safe in a team and how it

enhances the creativity of a team when all people have a chance to speak. It is not easy to have in practice, but these principles are reflected well in the Indigenous research methodologies making their importance clear.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Research Office report – attached

4.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – no report

4.3 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council report – attached

4.4 Senate Research Committee report – attached

4.5 Article Processing Charge Discounts – attached

4.6 SASI – 2nd Annual Research Symposium November 30 – Kamal Arora

The South Asian Research Symposium will take place on November 30 from 8:30 am – 5:30 pm in F125. The event will draw faculty from across BC to attend and speak at this symposium.

6. ADJOURNMENT – 3:26 pm

6.1 Next meeting: Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 1:30pm, room B121.