

RAC Minutes
September 12, 2019 | 1:30pm-3:30pm | A225

Present: Jerri-Lynne Cameron, Irwin Cohen, Mai Anh Doan, Christine Elsey, Garry Fehr, Paul Fontaine, Sandra Gillespie, Mary Higgins, Everett Igbowa, Selena Karli, Masud Khawaja, Marcella LaFever, Lucy Lee, Zina Lee, Olav Lian, Mariano Mapili, Amanda McCormick, Danielle Mijo-Burch, Sylvie Murray, Ian Rockborough-Smith, Joanna Sheppard (Vice-Chair).

Recorder: Tracy Morrison.

Regrets: Satwinder Bains, Sue Brigden, Shelley Canning, Keith Carlson, Dieter Geesing, Cindy Jardine, Lenore Newman, Jon Thomas (Chair), Noham Weinberg.

Welcome and Introductions

Joanna Sheppard (vice-chair) welcomed new members and introductions were made around the room.

1. ITEMS FOR ADOPTION

1.1 Agenda: 2019 SEPT 12

MOTION: THAT the agenda from the September 12, 2019 RAC meeting be approved as presented

Lucy Lee, Marcella LaFever CARRIED

1.2 Agenda: 2019 MAY 09

MOTION: THAT the agenda from the May 9, 2019 RAC meeting be approved as presented

Marcella LaFever, Irwin Cohen CARRIED

1.3 Minutes: 2019 MAY 09

MOTION: THAT the minutes from the May 9, 2019 RAC meeting be approved as presented

Marcella LaFever, Irwin Cohen CARRIED

1.4 Agenda: 2019 MAR 14

MOTION: THAT the agenda from the March 14, 2019 RAC meeting be approved as presented

Marcella LaFever, Irwin Cohen CARRIED

1.5 Minutes: 2019 MAR 14

MOTION: THAT the minutes from the March 14, 2019 RAC meeting be approved as presented

Marcella LaFever, Irwin Cohen CARRIED

1.6 Minutes: 2019 JAN 17

MOTION: THAT the minutes from the January 17, 2019 RAC meeting be approved as presented

Marcella LaFever, Irwin Cohen CARRIED

2. BUSINESS

2.1 Best practices in working with student research assistants - presentation

- Three former and current student research assistants presented on what they felt were the main aspects to be considered by faculty members when hiring and working with research assistants.

- Cassandra Shewchuk and Travis Gingerich are both students in Olav Lian's Luminescence Dating Lab. They stated that the research needs to be relevant and relatable to students' interests and educational journey.
- Training needs to be provided to students, especially when working with sensitive materials.
- Providing background information on the research can assist students immensely in their work by providing context.
- Kenton O'Donnell was a kinesiology student working with children with FASD. He gained multiple experiences from his research with Kathy Keiver and Alison Pritchard Orr, and his participation on their project, gave him the experiential learning that lead him to his current career in working with special needs children.
- Both Linus Chiang and Lucy Lee presented from a researcher perspective and said they recruit students in their classes and through the Work Study program. Students usually begin as volunteers, then they are paid from grants and external funding. Students gain valuable experience through the research, apply for their own grants, and work towards entry into graduate programs.

2.2 Sub-committee for RAC researcher meet and greet event

- There was a request from the co-chair for volunteers from RAC to form a sub-committee to plan a meet and greet event for new faculty and researchers.
- The event will be a way for everyone to learn and hear about what research is going on at UFV, and what resources exist to support their research. It will be particularly valuable for faculty who are research curious.
- Teaching and Learning will be able to provide a new faculty list for invitations.
- The subcommittee will consist of Joanna Sheppard, Danielle Mijo-Burch, Paul Fontaine and Mai Anh Doan.

3. INFORMATION ITEMS

3.1 Research Office report – Jerri-Lynne Cameron

- SSHRC Insight grants – 3 or more submissions in the works
- NSERC Discovery grants – 3 or more submissions in the works
- SSHRC Insight Development grants – 5 or 6 submissions in the works
- There is one Genome grant and a CHIR grant being submitted
- ROSA applications are due through ROMEO by midnight, Oct 31
- Sabbatical applications are due through ROMEO, or previous electronic email submission by midnight, Nov 30
- The Research Office welcomes their new, and very talented Communications and Events Coordinator, Danielle Mijo-Burch. She will be organizing and promoting research activities and events at UFV.
- For more information and tutorials on ROMEO, the new research administration tool for submitting and tracking funding and ethics applications, please see our website: <https://www.ufv.ca/research/ufv-romeo-information/>

3.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – Attached to agenda package

3.3 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council Report – Everett Igbwa

- The new faculty kickstart had 32 new faculty attend.
- Outcomes for the needs of new sessional faculty included indigenization, pedagogical merit, and technological services.
- CityStudio initiative with the City of Abbotsford, is now expanding to Chilliwack and Mission.
- Teaching and Learning is looking for a Director for the new Centre for Experiential and Career Education.
- The **Festival of Learning** is happening:
May 11, 2020 - May 13, 2020
The Pinnacle Hotel, Harbourfront
1133 W Hastings Street, Vancouver

3.4 Senate Research Committee Report

No report

3.5 Romeo Workshop – [September 25, 2019, room A225 at 10:00 am – 11:30 am](#)

3.6 Join us Sept 17 at 4:00pm in F124 for a lecture on [“Smart Agriculture: Potentials, Challenges & Solutions”](#) by Dr. Qin Zhang from Washington State University. Light refreshments to be included

3.7 Student Graduate Scholarship Grant Writing Workshop - [September 25, 2019, room A203b at 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm](#)

4. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

4.1 RAC Terms of Reference revision, i.e. membership definition

- There were various discussions surrounding RAC membership. Discussions included whether members should be appointed by Deans/AVPs, or if there should be a nomination form, and anonymous voting.
- There had not been quorum for the last few meetings, and it was questioned if quorum of voting members should be lowered to account for the lower attendance at meetings.
- A larger discussion surrounded the purpose of RAC. A slight historical review was given from a few members who were on the council at the time of its inception.
- There was a request for a plotted history of RAC. Request for if someone who has been a part of RAC for several years to take this on.
- RAC is supposed to advise the AVP of REGS on research related issues that concern faculty. Previous issues include sabbaticals, tenure and ROSA releases.
- Members do not want RAC to fold, or just to be a research roundtable. The importance of the council is not being communicated to faculty.

5. ADJOURNMENT – 3:20 pm

5.1 Next meeting: **November 7, 2019, 1:30 pm, room A225.**