

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA

September 17, 2026 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Welcome, Land Acknowledgement, and Introductions

1. Items for Adoption
 - 1.1 Agenda: September 17, 2026
 - 1.2 Minutes: May 14, 2026
2. Business
 - 2.1 Review Terms of Reference with updates
3. Discussion
 - 3.1 Tangram Journal discussion – Tanvir Hundal
 - 3.2 Tri-Council Buy Canadian Policy – Garry/Ash
<https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/funding/research-partnerships-and-collaborations/inter-agency/tri-...>
 - 3.3 Foreign Influence Transparency and Accountability Registry – Garry Fehr
 - 3.4 Course releases for research grants – Garry Fehr
4. Reports
 - 4.1 Research Office report – see attached
 - 4.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – see attached, Gillian Hatfield
 - 4.3 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council report – see attached, Victoria Surtees
 - 4.4 Senate Research Committee report – no report
5. Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)
6. Information Items
 - 6.1 ROSA applications – Apply by Nov 2
 - 6.2 Sabbatical final reports – Due Nov. 2
 - 6.3 Sabbatical applications – Apply by Nov. 16
 - 6.4 Master of Science and Computer Science – New program intake 2027
 - 6.5 UFV now has REDCap as another data capture tool <https://redcap.ufv.ca/>
7. Adjournment:
 - 7.1 Next meeting: November 19, 2026, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Please see the [Research Office website](#) for more information on events and funding opportunities.

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA

MAY 14, 2026 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Present: Noah Schwartz, Cynthia Thomson, Garry Fehr, Ash Lalani, Victoria Surtees, Shawn Geniole, Opeyemi Adesina, Trevor Beugeling, Janelle Sztuhar, Amanda Wurz, Wade Deisman, Rita Dhungel, Keith Carlson, Allyson Jule, Christine Elsey, Ian Affleck

Recorder: Natalie Vanderleest

Regrets: Albert Kim, Irwin Cohen, Jacob Spooner, Lenore Newman, Shelley Canning, Janice Nagtegaal, Kim Daley, Leona Oakman, Yvette Fairweather, Anastasia Anderson, Barnabe Assogba, Brianna Strumm, Chris Schinckus, Harley Gordon, Homa Rafiei Milajerdi, Jon Thomas, Juliana Schneider Medeiros, Lara Duke, Lauren Erland, Luisa Giles, Martha Dow, Martin Warkentin, Masud Khawaja, Olav Lian, Paul Fontaine, Andrea Sator, Zina Lee, Nikki Martyn, Nipuni Jayetileke, Marlie Murphy, Simon Lambek, Ismail El Sayad, Geetanjali Gill, Kathleen Rodgers, Mariano Mapili, Joanne Robertson, Stefania Pizzirani, Cindy Jardine, Ronald Adjekum, Tracy RyderGlass, Melinda Saretzky, Tetsuomi Anzai, Lin Long

Welcome and Introductions

1. Items for Adoption

Agenda: May 14, 2026

1:32 **1.1** MOTION: THAT the agenda for the May 14, 2026, RAC meeting be approved as presented with changing 3.3 to after 1.2
Trevor Beugeling, Rita Dhungel CARRIED

Minutes: March 19, 2026

1.2 MOTION: THAT the minutes from the March. 19, 2026, RAC meeting be approved as presented.
Cynthia Thomson, Janelle Sztuhar CARRIED

2. Business

1:36 **2.1 Vote new chair and vice chair positions**
 Rita Dhungel was the only nominee for the role of chair for the RAC for a two-year term.
 MOTION: THAT Rita Dhungel be chair for the RAC 2026-2028 term.
 Noah, Schwartz, Garry Fehr CARRIED

Opeyemi Adesina was the only nominee for the role of vice chair for the RAC for a two-year term.

MOTION: THAT Opeyemi Adesina be vice chair for the RAC 2026-2028 term.
Noah Schwartz, Cynthia Thomson CARRIED

3. Discussion

1:40 **3.1 Reflection on RAC - What members enjoyed this year and topic suggestions for next year**

Enjoyed:

- Artificial Intelligence trends and opportunities
- Knowledge translation was liked
- Enjoyed all sessions and workshops
- Roundtable is appreciated – how do we encourage more sharing?

Suggested for next year:

- More on knowledge translation
- Library could present on topics such as repository and HarvistIR
- COIL program leading to research opportunities – Victoria could do a session

1:45 **3.2 Research [webpage](#) feedback – what information is needed and what content is hard to find**

- Faculty section needs re-organizing
- Email any feedback to the Research Office

1:35 **3.3 Requesting feedback on SoTL Opportunities for the coming year – Victoria Surtees**

- Victoria is exploring ways to support SoTL in the Teaching and Learning Centre. She is looking for suggestions as she puts together writing groups and collaborative research groups on what types of supports you would need in those projects. You can reach out to Victoria with your suggestions, thoughts and inputs.

1:47 **3.4 Serving on Tri-Council Review Committees – Amanda Wurz**

- Garry introduced Amanda Wurz and the Commendation Letter she received as an outstanding peer reviewer.
- Amanda discussed her experience on the Tri-Council review committees and how it was a great opportunity.
- Christine Elsey shared in the chat that she was a reviewer for a SSHRC group grant and found it an interesting and rich experience, although it was time consuming. She recommends the experience.
- Garry mentioned another faculty member served on NSERC Discovery Grant review committees and then received an extra year of funding with her grant. Amanda can't confirm or deny if there are similarities for SSHRC but has heard from mentors that similar things have happened with CHIR.

4. Reports

1:53 **4.1 Research Office report – see attached**

4.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – no report

4.3 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council report – see attached

4.4 Senate Research Committee report – see below

The SRC recently met and nominated a chair for the coming term.

5. Roundtable Discussion 1:53

- Rita shared that the Ethics Review Committee had their annual retreat 2 weeks ago at the Mission campus. She expressed how great it was to meet all the committee members in

person for the first time. There was lots of learning from each other while reviewing research ethics applications.

- Cynthia was wondering about article publishing as she recently learned we cannot submit to The Conversation. Some suggestions were IRPP Publish, <https://sirc.ca>, even though it is not specific to the medical field, and The Globe and Mail. Garry will look into this and talk to Kenley in the library.
- Cynthia is looking for an RA. She had a posting and was looking for a psychology student but hasn't been successful. If anyone knows of anyone and they have the right skillset, she would be interested to meet them.
- Amanda also wants to hire a few RA assistants. She suggested sharing an RA. If someone is looking for a part time because of funds and can share the RA so the student can get full time work, then everyone could benefit.

6. Information Items

- 1:59 **6.1 Congratulations to Dr. Jelena Brcic, winner of the 2026 Faculty Research Excellence Award**
- 6.2 ROMEO is being replaced with Endpoint IQ in 2027**
- 6.3 Research funding opportunities on our [webpage](#)**
- 6.4 Tri-Council Strategy to support Indigenous research and research training in Canada – See as separate attachment and link below**
https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2026/crsh-sshr/Lu4-408-2026-eng.pdf

7. Adjournment: 2:04pm

7.1 Next meeting: Sept 17, 2026, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Please see the [Research Office website](#) for more information on events and funding opportunities.

Research Advisory Council Terms of Reference

1. Mandate

The Research Advisory Council (RAC) provides an interdisciplinary forum for discussion of ideas, issues related to research. RAC advocates for research activity within the context of a teaching university. RAC provides an opportunity for research-oriented faculty members at UFV to come together to discuss topics related to research, to support research-based initiatives, and to stimulate discussion and profile research activity at UFV. RAC will provide advice and support to the AVP of Research & Graduate Studies and other UFV decision-making bodies such as the Senate Research Committee.

The RAC shall:

1. Initiate and plan activities and events related to research, to inspire and facilitate institution wide discussion. These activities and events may take place within RAC meetings themselves.
2. Provide a forum where new research, scholarly initiatives, good research practice, and new ideas can be discussed and reviewed in an inter-disciplinary context.
3. Provide a space in which research-minded faculty can network and have a collective voice.
4. Support the visibility of research by profiling and disseminating information about research activities and good research practice.
5. Support and advocate for student research opportunities.
6. Act as a resource for faculty regarding the scholarship of teaching and learning.
7. Act as a resource to new faculty to support them in the development of their research and scholarly activity.
8. Consult with and advise program areas on matters related to research and the integration of research and teaching.
9. Establish subcommittees, as required, to address and/or advise on emerging issues as they relate to research, creative, and scholarly activities.
10. Consider and review UFV's Integrated Strategic Plan, Strategic Research Plan, and education plans, policies, protocols, and standards of practice, and practices to assess the implications for research and the integration of research and teaching. These may be requested by the AVP of Research & Graduate Studies, Senate Research Committee (SRC), or other UFV bodies. Advice may be sought on the content, interpretation, and implementation of plans and policies.
11. Provide liaison to related groups such as the Teaching and Learning Advisory Council (TLAC) and others, Senate Research Committee, and others as needed.

2. Membership

Voting Members:

- Two faculty members who are researchers, delegated by each faculty: Arts (two from Social Sciences and two from Humanities), Education, Community and Human Development, Applied and Technical Studies, Health Sciences, Science, and Professional Studies

- University Librarian or designate
- Chair or Vice-Chair of the UFV Human Research Ethics Board
- Directors/leaders of each UFV research institute, centre, or lab
- Research Chairs

Non-Voting Members:

Other senior leadership members or their designates are welcome to attend

Provost and Vice-President, Academic

AVP of Research & Graduate Studies

Dean, College of Arts

Dean, Professional Studies

Dean, Science

Dean, Health Sciences

Dean, Education, Community, and Human Development

Dean, Applied and Technical Studies

Director of Research Services & Industry Engagement

AVP, Teaching & Learning

3. Chair

Every second year at its regular May meeting, the RAC will elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair from its membership. The selection of the Chair and Vice-Chair may be deferred at the request of RAC to September. In the event of an election, voting may occur by ballot. The Chair or Vice Chair are each elected for a two-year term and are renewable through the biennial selection process.

The Chair (or designate) is a member of the Senate Research Committee ex-officio. The Chair is responsible for liaison with the Research Office. In their absence, the Vice-Chair will provide liaison or attend meetings.

4. Regular Meetings

The Council shall hold meetings in September, November, January, March and May each year. The Council may also meet at the call of the Chair, or at the request of the AVP of Research & Graduate Studies, or the Chair of the Senate Research Committee. In the event that a vote must be taken on specific recommendations made to the AVP or other UFV decision-making body, a quorum shall be 50% plus 1 of voting members.

All meetings of the Council are open to all UFV faculty, staff and students wishing to attend.

5. Proceedings

A summary record of the proceedings and recommendations of the Council will be produced and circulated by the Research Office Assistant in Research & Graduate Studies.

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Office of Research Services

RAC Report September 17, 2026

- Our office reviewed and submitted 29 research grants over the summer period May-August 2026. We anticipate Fall 2026 to be extremely busy so please contact Ash and Ronald as soon as possible if you are considering applying to a research grant. We wish all applicants the best of luck on their submissions.
- We have funding for your students! If you have students that are presenting or would like to conduct student led research under your supervision, please see the link for further details and guidelines <https://www.ufv.ca/research/students/awards-and-funding/>
- NSERC Discovery grant mandatory non-competitive LOI was due on August 4th with the researcher having completed the submission themselves. Without the LOI being submitted, you will not be able to submit a full application for this year. The research office will receive a list of NOI submissions for UFV by end of September and our office will be in contact with you regarding your full submission due in early November with the research office completing a final review and submission. We recommend you start on your NSERC DG full application draft ASAP more information can be found here <https://nserc-crsng.canada.ca/en/funding-opportunity/discovery-grants-program-individual>
- The next SSHRC Connection grant intake will be November 2, 2026 and is the last intake for the year. Please contact Ash and Ronald ASAP if you are planning to apply for the this intake and provide a draft proposal for review at least 14 business days prior to the external deadline <https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/opportunities/connection-grants.aspx>
- The next SSHRC Partnership Engage grant intake will be December 15, 2026 and is the last intake for the year. Please contact Ash and Ronald ASAP if you are planning to apply for the next intake and provide a draft proposal for review at least 14 business days prior to the external deadline <https://sshrc-crsh.canada.ca/en/funding/opportunities/partnership-engage-grants.aspx>
- For all grants due between September 2026 to December 2026 that you are planning to apply to, please contact Ash and Ronald to discuss further or if you have any questions to set up a meeting.
- For those of you applying for grants that require a Notification of Intent (NOI) or Letter of Intent (LOI) or a Stage 1 application so some form of pre-registration, please contact Ash Lalani ash.lalani@ufv.ca to let her know regardless of if the researcher (applicant) or our office completes the submission so we can guide you through the process.

- For researchers requiring a letter of support either as an applicant or co-applicant please contact Ash Lalani ash.lalani@ufv.ca as soon as possible. Letters of support take time to write especially if there are specific requirements we need to meet on the funders side. Please ensure to give a lot of lead time for this process.
- Any faculty members that are thinking to engage with or engaging with an external partner (company, not-for-profit, municipal government, local businesses etc.) please contact Ash Lalani ash.lalani@ufv.ca as soon as possible to discuss Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA), due diligence on the company, university overhead rate, intellectual property policy and the general process for research contracts.
- If you are interested in pursuing a Mitacs project, kindly check the Open Projects Link for Mitacs and **then please have a discussion with Ash Lalani prior to discuss process before contacting the potential partner.** Here is the open projects link [Open projects | Mitacs](#). Please let Ash Lalani ash.lalani@ufv.ca know if you have any questions.
- **Reminder:** All research grants and contracts must go through our office for a review regardless of who completes the submission to the agency. Please ensure that you are noting the appropriate overhead/indirect costs on the overhead waiver form which can be found online. As per university policy, our overhead rate is 25% unless the funder waives the rate or has a reduction of that rate noted on their website or in their instructions. A UFV overhead waiver form must also be completed if it is less than 25%. For most (but not all) Tri-Agency grants there is no overhead. If you have any questions, please contact Ash Lalani.
- **Reminder: If any faculty members are working on any grants (Tri-Agency or other funding organizations) please contact Dr. Ronald Adjekum grants facilitator at ronald.adjekum@ufv.ca with a cc to ash.lalani@ufv.ca ASAP** to help review your application and provide guidance on next steps, review, submission process etc. We have an internal process for **at least 14 business days prior to the deadline date.** This also includes those working as co-applicants with other institutions that may require a letter of support. Our office would like to help you as much as possible with your grant applications by providing numerous iterations so the farther in advance you can provide us with a draft, the better we can help.
- **Reminder:** The Government of Canada has come out with a policy relating to Sensitive Technology and Research Affiliations of Concern (STRAC) in order for researchers and university administrators to understand best practices to identify and mitigate research security threats, pursue and maintain safe research partnerships, maintain institutional reputation of a safe research organization and protect valuable research, data or potentially patentable property. STRAC policy info is located [here](#). Please contact Ash Lalani at ash.lalani@ufv.ca if you wish to discuss your own research security concerns relating to your proposed research topic or a foreign partner.

- **Reminder:** Mitacs programs are a great way to work with an external partner and also provide your students with valuable training skills. Mitacs programs do require a 50% match from an external partner which they will then match. A list of possible projects/partners will be advertised in the next research newsletter. More information about Mitacs programs can be found [here](#). Please contact Ash Lalani at ash.lalani@ufv.ca if you wish to apply.
- **Reminder:** Mitacs also has an Indigenous Pathways Stream which allows for a smaller contribution of 25% from the partner for applications that have an Indigenous partner organization and/or an intern who is Indigenous. Further information can be found [here](#). Please contact Ash Lalani at ash.lalani@ufv.ca if you wish to apply.
- **Reminder:** The Research Office and Library at UFV are currently working on some consolidated information to help researchers with their research data management plans (RDM plans). Currently there are only selected programs that require a RDM plan that would need to be completed prior to submission. They can be found [here](#). For further information regarding UFV Data Management information please visit the UFV library website located [here](#). **We have a general mailbox to direct any research data management inquiries to, please e-mail rdm@ufv.ca**
- **Reminder:** Major grant holders may be eligible to receive one teaching release if they are the Primary Investigator (PI) for **a major grant from only select NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR grants**. Co-principal investigators and co-applicants are not eligible. Please see the major grant holders website for more information <https://www.ufv.ca/research/faculty/major-grant-holders/>
- **Reminder:** If you are going to be working on a NSERC Alliance Advantage grant or any other partnered research grant, please ensure that you check in with the Director, Research Services & Industry Engagement to discuss if there are any partnership/security risk concerns as these are partnered research grants. NSERC Alliance grants have a rolling deadline unless specified as a special call with a hard deadline. Please contact Ash Lalani for further information if you are interested to apply.
- **Reminder:** For all post-award inquiries please contact Clarrie Lam and Ryan Coreau at rgspostaward@ufv.ca

HREB Report:

1. There is a broad consent update that is quite important. The information was included in the Research Office newsletter. Yvette will also be updating the consent template soon to align with broad consent protocols. Here is the link from TCPS:

[Broad consent: Clarifications and considerations for researchers and research ethics boards](#)

2. A reminder about research application requirements and the importance of meeting deadlines.
<https://www.ufv.ca/research-ethics/apply/>

Teaching and Learning Report

New Micro-credential: UFV Launch Sprint - Now accepting registrations.

Launch Sprint is a semester-long program for instructor professional development that centres around the inquiry cycle. It provides all instructors at all stages of their careers with an opportunity to develop an inquiry question about their teaching practice and explore it with peers and TLC learning specialists through various means including research, observations of teaching, and student feedback. The program is a great opportunity to develop preliminary ideas or pilot activities or materials for SoTL research projects. Participants who attend the sessions and complete the inquiry project receive a UFV Micro-credential. The program is currently running its first cohort.

A second offering is scheduled for the winter semester, 2027 and includes the following sessions:

- 3 in person sessions (3 hours each, Friday, 9am-12)
- 2 asynchronous modules (2 hours each).

In person session dates: Jan. 15, March 5, April 23

All instructors are welcome to join on a first come first served basis. To learn more or to register, contact victoria.surtees@ufv.ca

TIPP Call for Proposals 206-2027

What becomes possible when students learn across disciplines while working on real-world challenges using Artificial Intelligence (AI)? The Teaching Inquiries into Pedagogical Practices (TIPP) fund supports instructors in exploring innovative approaches to teaching and learning through pedagogical inquiry. TIPP provides space, funding, and support for instructors to experiment with new curriculum, partnerships, and learning experiences that deepen student engagement and transform teaching practice. See the complete call attached.

- The TIPP Fund provides up to \$500 per project, along with support from the TLC's Changemaker Curriculum Developer.
- Funds must be used during Winter 2027.
- Deadline: Contact Anna Griffith (annagriffith@ufv.ca) by October 1st

2026-27 TIPP Call for Proposals

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Changemaking + Innovation with AI

For 2026–27, the TIPP Fund invites instructors to design teaching inquiries centred around real-world challenges that also embed critical and ethical AI use as part of the innovation process. Grounded in changemaker education principles, projects should emphasize experiential learning, systems thinking, innovation, and community engagement.

*Note: This year, instructors are invited to explore **transdisciplinary** or **interdisciplinary** projects by collaborating with instructors beyond a single discipline.

What do we mean by interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary?

Interdisciplinary	Transdisciplinary
Courses from different disciplines collaborate on a shared challenge while contributing distinct disciplinary perspectives, methods, and expertise.	Students and instructors work across disciplinary boundaries and in partnership with community members, organizations, or industry partners to integrate knowledge and co-create blended frameworks, methods, and solutions that are beyond disciplinary or sector distinction.

All projects must include critical engagement with AI as part of the changemaking or innovation process: Instructors have the option to receive support from the Canadian AI Advancement Institute (CAIAI), an external industry partner, or from Teaching and Learning members with expertise in AI and pedagogy. Support may include guest presentations to build AI skills, consultation on AI-integrated project design, and guidance on the ethical and effective use of AI within innovation and ideation processes.

Projects should:

- Address authentic community, social, environmental, or organizational challenges
- Incorporate systems-thinking approaches, including holistic perspectives and Indigenous ways of knowing

- Explore the thoughtful use of Artificial Intelligence
- Include experiential, applied learning, or community-engaged learning opportunities
- Result in a shared demonstration of learning by all students in the instructors' classes (e.g., Ideation Jam, prototype showcase, innovation pitch, community presentation, etc.)
- Encourage collaboration among instructors from different disciplines to co-develop the interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary project

Changemaking + Innovation with AI Example

The challenge could be improving access to affordable, energy-efficient housing in the Fraser Valley. Participating classes could collaborate with a local municipality, housing non-profit, or community organization to investigate the issue from different disciplinary perspectives. **Business** students could identify community needs, stakeholders, and develop innovative business or social enterprise models, using AI to support research and idea development. **Trades** students could evaluate the feasibility of proposed housing solutions through construction methods, sustainable materials, cost estimation, and building code considerations, using AI to compare design and material options while critically assessing its recommendations. **Sociology** students could examine the social and policy dimensions of housing affordability, analyzing demographic trends, lived experiences, and equity impacts, while using AI to synthesize public reports and identify patterns across community data. Throughout the semester, students would participate in shared interdisciplinary design work, integrating their insights into a collaborative housing proposal that is presented back to the community partner.

The TIPP Fund provides up to **\$500 per project**, along with support from the TLC's Changemaker Curriculum Developer. Funds must be used during **Winter 2027**.

If this initiative sounds interesting to you but you are unsure where to start, please contact Anna Griffith (Anna.Griffith@ufv.ca) by October 1, 2026.

1. **Submit a brief proposal** (maximum 250 words) that includes:
 - A description of the TIPP project and how it meets the criteria.
 - The Institutional Learning Outcome(s) your project supports.
 - Indication of whether you would like CAIAI or TLC support embedding AI.
2. **A short rationale** (maximum 200 words) from each instructor that includes:
 - How you imagine this inquiry contributing to your teaching practice and to learners.
 - The pedagogical approaches you intend to use.
3. **A budgetary breakdown** of expenses.
4. **Note:** Instructors will be asked to reflect on their TIPP experience and share their inquiry reflections with the broader UFV community at the 2027 ConnectED Conference.