

RAC Minutes

March 11, 2022 | 1:30pm-3:30pm | Zoom

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**Present:** Barnabe Assogba, Satwinder Bains (chair), Teresa Carlson, Irwin Cohen, Mai Anh Doan, Garry Fehr, Dieter Geesing, Peter Geller, Gillian Hatfield, Cindy Jardine, Masud Khawaja, Albert Kim, Catherine Liao, Lucy Lee, Amanda McCormick, Sylvie Murray, Lenore Newman (vice-chair), Cynthia Thomson, Martin Warkentin.

**Recorder:** Tracy Morrison.

**Regrets:** Tetsuomi Anzai, Sandra Gillespie, Claire Hay, Amanda Wurz.

**Welcome and Introductions –**

Satwinder Bains welcomed everyone to the RAC meeting.

**1. ITEMS FOR ADOPTION**

**1.1 Agenda: 2022 MAR 11**

MOTION: THAT the agenda from the March 11, 2022 RAC meeting be approved as presented with a change to 2.2 to state Garry Fehr will be speaking in Jonathan Hughes' absence.  
Garry Fehr, Mai Anh

CARRIED

**1.2 Minutes: 2022 JAN 14**

MOTION: THAT the minutes from the January 14, 2022 RAC meeting be approved as presented.  
Gillian Hatfield, Garry Fehr

CARRIED

**2. DISCUSSION**

**2.1 Curator Project Updates – Teresa Carlson**

- Teresa has been working as a curator for the Research Office in conjunction with Stó:lō Nation.
- The main project is to document Stó:lō Foodways. The information and knowledge is being uploaded to a website that aims to inform family gardens growing seasonal foods with Indigenous food ways knowledge and teach future generations with Stó:lō ways of knowing. The website highlights Stó:lō food sovereignty and provides the Stó:lō people with an opportunity to have their own voice. The website is owned by the Stó:lō Research and Resource Management Centre, but managed by UFV.
- Spinoffs from this project include the creation of a Halqu'emeylem language database that is Stó:lō driven, and supports UFV goals of Indigenization, decolonization and reconciliation.
- The website celebrates knowledge and a resurgence of traditional knowledge food ways and systems. The website is intended to bridge the relationship between Stó:lō and post-secondary institutions by demonstrating how Indigenous knowledge can be stored, used and distributed while retaining Indigenous ownership of the knowledge.
- The knowledge ways have come from 'Learning by Living' where people are seeing grandparents and parents take children out to harvest and learn how to live off the land.
- The main rule is to live off the land with respect to the seven generation principle. To look back with respect to seven generations past and live sustainably to support seven generations into the future.
- June 4, 2022 there will be a celebration dinner to acknowledge the knowledge keepers who contributed to these projects. The website will go live after this date.

- The website will be a living site with new information added regularly.
- The project website was based on one full season of April 2021 to April 2022, but due to Covid and other restrictions, Teresa will be going back this year to look for any missed information.
- Lucy invited Teresa to present to the Faculty of Science as these projects would benefit areas such as biology and geography.

## **2.2 Research Centres and Institutes Annual Conference – Garry Fehr**

- At the last Senate Research Committee (SRC) meeting, there was a discussion about having an annual conference for UFV research centres and institutes. The directors of the centres and institutes could present their current works and could open discussions for collaboration and/or partnerships.
- This could be a wine and cheese event with short presentations.
- The Research Office will need some people to help organize this event.
- This also could be a special edition for the UFV Press that is starting up again.
- There was interest in this type of event from the directors of the centres and institutes that were in attendance at the meeting.
- One suggestion was to have more of an experience with this type of event and visit the physical spaces of some of the centres and institutes where students and community partners could participate.
- It was suggested to make it something similar to a progressive dinner – have refreshments at one centre, snacks at another, and then end up in a general room where centres and institutes without a physical space could discuss their work.
- Garry noted that the researcher speed dating event will be organized in the fall, once everyone is back from summer holidays.

**ACTION:** Garry will meet with the directors and see what could be possible for this event.

## **2.3 Post Doc Workshop – Lenore Newman and Robert Newell**

- Lenore and Rob discussed the post-doctoral experience at the UFV Food and Agriculture Institute (FAI) and how post docs have supported the Institute's research agenda.
- Having post doc positions are great for the research team, and the Research Office is very supportive of the process.
- Three main things to consider when applying for a post doc:
  - Budget accordingly – salaries are expensive, and you need to include benefits which are an additional 21% at UFV. Budget for time – time to write grant proposals to cover extra costs and wages. Budget for time to train and mentor the new post doc.
  - You will need to work with the Research Office and put together an SAC for the proper hiring process. Set aside enough time for the full process which will also help with EDI hiring practices. FAI had 120 applications last time they posted for a post doc position, so make sure you accommodate for time with this process.
  - Part of your job as a post doc supervisor will be preparing a post doc for an academic career. Make sure they are brought into various aspects of projects, but also make sure they have time to wrap up their doctoral stage.
- Lisa Powell was a post doc in FAI who was incredibly successful in her time at UFV working on many projects and learning all the different aspects of various projects – team supervision, grant writing, publishing, and budgeting. Lisa went straight from UFV to a tenured director position of a research centre at a university in the United States.

- You also need to be ready for transitions if post docs leave for career positions, whether it be in industry or academia.
- Robert Newell, Associate Director in FAI discussed post doc funding through MITACS.
- MITACS does not cover overhead fees or benefits, but there is a very quick turn around time with the application process and they are responsive to the needs of the project.
- MITACS does offer discounts if you are working with small partners and industry discounts for interns.
- Industry partners are great at helping post docs in finding careers.
- If a post doc leaves during their MITACS position, there is room for accommodation. They will allow time to sort out the situation. MITACS wants the position to be successful.
- There is a successful protocol and process for hiring post docs through the Research Office. If you are considering hiring a post doc, please reach out the Research Office as soon as possible.

#### **2.4 Research Data Management Plan – Garry Fehr**

- The Tri-council Agency requires us to have an RDM policy in place by next January in order to hold any federally funded grants.
- The data management plan will help in writing grants and addressing ethics of what to do with the data from projects, as well as data ownership.
- We are also working on securing a platform that will allow us to share data securely between research partners. With the FOIPPA laws in BC it can be tricky to work around, especially when requiring international accessibility.
- There will be a campus wide consultation, so please keep an eye out and provide feedback. The RDM will need to be passed by Senate by next winter break.
- The Research Office, in consultation with the Library, will have templates for you to use when writing and applying for grants, and will be able to assist you through the process.

#### **2.5 RAC new chair and vice-chair needed for fall – Garry Fehr**

- At the next RAC meeting in May we will put out a call for a new chair and vice-chair for two year terms.
- The Chair also sits on the Senate Research Committee (SRC).
- Please connect with Garry if you are interested in either position.

### **3. INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **3.1 Student Research Day – March 31, 2022 in Evered Hall**

- We still need judges for this event, so please sign up. It is a really fun day event with students showcasing their research posters and two-minute microlectures.
- The festivities start at 11:00 am. Please see our [website](#) for more details.

#### **3.2 University Press Update – Mai Anh Doan**

- The University Press working group met recently and will be aiming for two issues a year to come out on September 21 and March 21 annually.
- The first issue will hopefully be published March 21, 2023.
- We are looking for peer reviewers to assist as submissions come in for their given field. Please promote in your area so we will have enough reviewers. Email [regs@ufv.ca](mailto:regs@ufv.ca) if you are interested in becoming a reviewer.

- There was also a decision to hold a contest for the name of the publication and a logo.
- Martin is working on the OJS platform which should be able to accommodate the publication. The platform is currently in the communication phase.

### **3.3 Research Office Report – Garry Fehr**

- There were 57 total ROSA applications this year, with 34 funded RO's and 19 funded SA's. There were also an additional nine releases for those who hold a major grant through NSERC, CIHR, and some of the SSHRC programs.
- The Undergraduate Research Excellence Awards are coming up with an awards dinner on May 31 – please watch out for upcoming information in your area. This is a celebration of undergrads in high quality research and only 120 people are able to attend the event.
- Please congratulate Evan Bowness from FAI who was awarded a SSHRC Connection Grant titled, "Learning Exchange: Cellular Agriculture in the Fraser Valley".
- There are two current internal funding opportunities:
  - Faculty/Student Research and Scholarly Activity Fund is an internal funding opportunity to support active student involvement in faculty research and scholarly activity – there are two streams: A is up to \$4,000 and B is up to \$8,000. The deadline is **April 30** – please see our [website](#) for more details.
  - Call for Proposals for Research Supporting Flood Recovery in the Sumas Prairie Abbotsford Disaster Relief Fund is a call for research proposals that will address these impacts and provide pathways that lead to recovery. Individual projects can be funded for up to \$25,000, but they must demonstrate outcomes that provide significant impact for flood affected persons in the Sumas Prairie region. Projects are encouraged to include experiential learning opportunities for students. The deadline is **April 30** – please see our [website](#) for more details.
- Student Research Day – Thursday March 31, 2022 in Evered Hall:
  - Encourage students to register – deadline is March 18, 2022.
  - If you're interested in being a judge, please contact Leona Oakman at [regs@ufv.ca](mailto:regs@ufv.ca).
- Scholarly Sharing Initiative – March 30 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

### **3.4 Human Research Ethics Board (HREB) Report – no report**

### **3.5 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council Report – no report**

### **3.6 Senate Research Committee Report – no report**

## **4. Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)**

Lucy Lee – Two biology students won prestigious grants with the Society for Microbiology. There are currently four UFV students working with the Society.

The Public Health Agency of Canada will be doing a site visit in April for a biosafety check in the science labs.

Lenore Newman – Last week the BC government was making an amendment to allow vertical farming on Agriculture Land Reserve (ALR) land. The FAI, along with students and Mariano Mapili were instrumental in helping with mapping in this project which made it to the highest levels of government.

Robert Newell – The FAI had a MITACS focus group around the same time as the BC government announcement on vertical farming, which was very timely. The online focus groups had a taste test with lettuce delivered to everyone's home. A report on food systems in the Fraser Valley and strategies will soon be produced that looks at vertical farming and food vulnerabilities.

**5. Adjournment – 2:53 pm**

**5.1 Next meeting: May 6, 2022, 1:30 pm, on Zoom.**

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