

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA

Feb. 06, 2025 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Present: Noah Schwartz, Garry Fehr, Trevor Beugeling, Shawn Geniole, Lenore Newman, Shelley Canning, Allyson Jule, Rita Dhungel, Cynthia Thomson, Ash Lalani, Victoria Surtees, Amanda Wurz, Sandra Gillespie, Opeyemi Adesina, Geetanjali Gill, Harley Gordon, Janelle Sztuhar, Chris Schinckus, Cindy Jardine, Ismail El Sayad, Wade Deisman, Keith Carlson, Christine Elsey, Lenore Newman

Recorder: Jasleen Rakkar

Regrets: Paul Fontaine, Albert Kim, Mariano Mapili, Luisa Giles, Masud Khawaja, Barnabe Assogba, Gillian Hatfield, Satwinder Bains, Martha Dow, Jon Thomas, Irwin Cohen, Anastasia Anderson, Olav Lian, Jacob Spooner, Lauren Erland, Michael Hitch, Tetsuomi Anzai, Lara Duke, Lin Long

Welcome and Introductions

1. Items for Adoption

Agenda: Feb. 06, 2025

1:35 **1.1** MOTION: THAT the agenda for the Feb. 06, 2025, RAC meeting be approved as presented.
Cynthia Thomson, Shelley Canning
CARRIED

Minutes: Nov. 14, 2024

1:38 **1.2** MOTION: THAT the minutes from the Nov. 14, 2024 RAC meeting be approved as presented.
Cynthia Thomson, Shelley Canning
CARRIED

2. Business

1:40 2.1

3. Discussion

1:40 3.1 AI & Research – Garry Fehr

- Garry Fehr provided an overview on current best practices/guidelines on the use of AI in research and grant writing.
- Committee members provided suggestions and considerations for UFV's AI policy currently in development.

2:15 **3.2 Developing a subcommittee to have a peer review system/grant writing support**
– Noah Schwartz

- Noah Schwartz suggested hosting an event in the spring to encourage faculty to begin the grant writing process early on
- The event may include mentorship by connecting successful major grant holders to new applicants
- Amanda Wurz and Cynthia Thomson volunteered to join the subcommittee
- MOTION: THAT a subcommittee be formed to plan for a peer review system/grant writing support – CARRIED
- Please email Noah Schwartz if you would like to join the planning committee

4. Reports

2:45 **4.1 Research Office report – see attached to agenda pkg**

- 2:50 **4.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – no report**
- 4.3 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council report – see attached to agenda pkg**
- Submit your proposal to TLC's ConnectED Conference, May 7th

3:00 **4.4 Senate Research Committee report – see attached to agenda pkg**

5. Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)

- **Trevor Beugeling:**
 - A local poultry farmer approached the Physics/Engineering department looking for assistance with researching methods of preventing the spread of Avian Flu. After some discussions, the department is exploring ways of creating student research projects to investigate aspects of the problem.
 - The students are excited by the prospect of being able to help tackle "real world" problems that could benefit the community.
- **Noah Schwartz:**
 - Noah expressed concern with the recent news of significant bias in US research grant review procedures. Do we have researchers applying for US grants?
 - Geetanjali noted a US partner had their funding recalled due to their project focus on equity and inclusion.
 - Garry noted the Research Office is monitoring the current situation and noting guidelines regarding research in the US.

6. Information Items

2:40 **6.1 Faculty Microlectures & Publication Celebration – Garry Fehr**

- February 13, 2025
- Registration to present is now closed
- See flyer attached to agenda

2:42 **6.2 Funded opportunity to conduct research or Chinese language training at leading institutions in China – Garry Fehr**

- See flyer attached to agenda

7. Adjournment:

7.1 Next meeting: March 20, 2025, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

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