RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL AGENDA

Nov. 13, 2025 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Welcome and Introductions

1. **Items for Adoption**
   1.1   **Agenda: Nov. 13, 2025**
   1.2   **Minutes: Sept. 18, 2025**

2. **Business**
   2.1

3. **Discussion**
   3.1   **ROSA/Major Grant Holder Changes – Garry Fehr**
   3.2   **AI in Research – Simon Lambek & Opeyemi Adesina**
   3.3   **University's Open Education Strategy feedback – Janelle Sztuhar**

4. **Reports**
   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:**
           "The Senate Research Committee has discussed and formed the Research Excellence Award Selection Committee"

5. **Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)**

6. **Information Items**
   6.1   **Sabbatical Applications – Due Nov. 15, 2025**
   6.2   **Microlectures and Centre Showcase– February 26, 2026**

7. **Adjournment:**
        7.1 Next meeting: Jan. 15, 2025, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

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

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
Sept. 18, 2025 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Present:	Garry Fehr, Amanda Wurz, Andrea Sator, Ash Lalani, Don Mayder, Geetanjali Gill, John Acharibasam, Majid Babaei, Harley Gordon, Janelle Sztuhar, Lara Duke, Michael Hitch, Olav Lian, Opeyemi Adesina, Rita Dhungel, Ronald Adjekum, Shawn Geniole, Trevor Beugeling, Victoria Surtees, Jatinder Mann, Natalie Couper, Sebastian Huebel, Clarrie Lam, Allyson Jule, Ismail El Sayad, Keith Carlson
Recorder:	Natalie Vanderleest
Regrets:	Noah Schwartz, Cynthia Thomson, Paul Fontaine, Christine Elsey, Albert Kim, Mariano Mapili, Luisa Giles, Masud Khawaja, Barnabe Assogba, Joanne Robertson, Zina Lee, Lenore Newman, Martha Dow, Jon Thomas, Irwin Cohen, Shelley Canning, Anastasia Anderson, Brianna Strumm, Lauren Erland, Jacob Spooner, Cindy Jardine, Leona Oakman, Yvette Fairweather, Tetsuomi Anzai, Chris Schinckus, Lin Long, Juliana Schneider Medeiros, Homa Rafiei Milajerdi, Kim Daley, Nikki Martyn, Nipuni Jayetileke, Janice Nagtegaal

Welcome and Introductions

1. **Items for Adoption**

1:33 **1.1** **Agenda: Mar. 20, 2025**
All approve

1:35 **1.2** **Minutes: Feb. 06, 2025**
All approve

2. **Business**

   2.1

3. **Discussion**

1:36 **3.1** **Post Doc Primer – Garry Fehr**

- There are two streams for Post Docs. They can be paid from supervisor funds held by the university, or they can be a Tri-Council award holder (e.g. Banting). In both cases UFV administers the funds.

- Award holders are not employees, whereas those paid through supervisor held funds are employees and may qualify for co-pay benefits.

- Hiring Post Docs can follow the posting process if a supervisor does not have anyone in mind. Typically, supervisors already have a candidate in mind.

- Once a candidate is identified, then there is an information template that needs to be completed by the supervisor and submitted to the Research Office who will facilitate the process.

- The Research Office can provide sample letters of offer to potential supervisors before they make an offer to a candidate so that you know what issues need to be discussed with the candidate, such IP, research resources, office space, etc.

- Visiting Scholars are different and policy #197 applies to visiting scholars. They go through the Deans because they are joining an academic unit or department.

- For questions about adding Post Docs to an Insight or Discovery Grant talk to Ash Lalani. You can include them in the grant as an HQP. We can have Post Docs even though UFV does not have any PHD programs.

- If there are any further questions about Post Docs, please email Garry.

1:50   **3.2   Input on structure, topics and activities for RAC – Garry Fehr**

- In 2005 RAC was very proactive, years later it became more of an information source. We are looking for suggestions for topics and activities we can do at RAC.

- Looking for opportunities and connections to develop partnerships. If there is someone you want to reach out to, you can reach out to RAC or Ronald/Ash.

- Creating internal networking opportunities - meeting others is a good way to learn new tips and tricks.

- Use RAC to advocate for more research resources and funding for UFV.

  o   The Research Office is putting together stories on Research Impact. Impact is important for funding and informing our communities and government about what we are doing.
  o   If anyone has any stories of how your work has impact, we would love to hear about it and help promote your work.

- RAC meetings have changed a lot from the past when they used to be in person. When they were in person before there were many faculty, department representatives, Deans, Provosts, Union Reps. It was

great for connections and finding out opportunities and what others are doing. Now with Zoom or Teams we don't get that.

- o Suggest that RAC meetings are hybrid or have one meeting a year in person.

- Topic on AI and Training in research.

- If anyone thinks of anything else, please email Garry or Natalie. We will bring everything forward to the Chair and Vice Chair and set up a schedule for this year. We can always add things throughout the year too.

4. **Reports**
   4.1 **Research Office report – see attached**
      - Event coming. There will be a Centres and Institutes Showcase again Nov 13.
   4.2 **Human Research Ethics Board report – no report**
   4.3 **Teaching and Learning Advisory Council report – see attached**
2:23 4.4 **Senate Research Committee report – no report**
5. **Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)**
   - UFV Library Updates: All EBSCO interfaces have been updated to a new user interface. The way you search is different, but content is all the same. Library is happy to review these changes with the students. UFV is working towards an Open Education Strategy. If anyone has any questions for the library, please reach out.

6. **Information Items**
   6.1 **ROSA final reports - Due Sept. 15, 2025**
   6.2 **ROSA applications – Apply by Oct. 31, 2025**
   6.3 **Sabbatical applications – Apply by Nov. 1, 2025**
      - Correction: Apply by Nov 15, 2025.
   6.4 **CERA day is Oct. 3, 2025 – Sold Out**

7. **Adjournment:** 2:31pm
   7.1 Next meeting: Nov. 13, 2025, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

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

Building an open education strategy for UFV

Faculty Council Presentations
Fall 2025

Claire Hay, MSc.
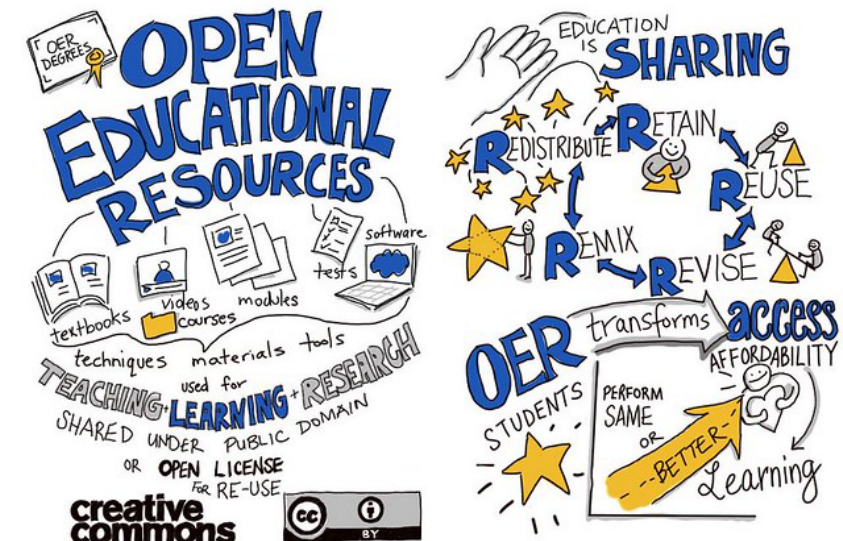Learning Specialist, Curriculum & Assessment

Janelle Sztuhar, MLIS.
Scholarly Communications and Copyright Librarian

Shaun Zheng Sun, PhD.
Open Education Strategist (temporary, part-time)
Associate Professor, Math & Stats

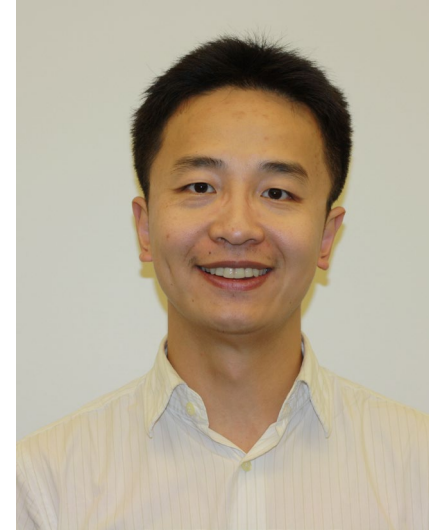From Brock University – Centre for Pedagogical Innovation

The Open Education Team

Claire Hay
Learning Specialist,
Curriculum &
Assessment

Janelle Sztuhar
Scholarly Communications &
Copyright Librarian

Shaun Zheng Sun
Open Education In-Action
Strategist (temporary, part-time)
Associate Professor, Math & Stats

How did we get here?

- BCcampus Foundations for Open Education Grant - 2020

- Strategic Initiatives Funding for OER creation - 2022 and 2024

- Open Education Working Group – 2020 onwards

- Open Education Week activities - March 2024, 2025

- Collaboration with UFV-SUS Executive – 2022 onwards

- Open Education Student Assistant (work study) - 2022-2025

- BCcampus Award for Excellence for Open Education to Claire & Martin – July 2025

- Launch of ZTC - Fall 2025

Total investment in Open Education over the past 5 years is over $150,000 from external and internal funds.

Open Education In-Action Initiative

OPEN EDUCATION STRATEGY:

A UFV commitment and guiding principles:
- Connections to teaching
- Connections to research/scholarship
- Other connections

It is <u>not</u> a policy; it is a commitment to open education as a mechanism to support students.

Launch UFV's first Open Education Strategy in Open Education Week (March 2-6, 2026).

UFV Open Education Strategy

ZTC implementation plan

Open Education @ UFV website

Open Education Micro Grants Program (OEMPG)

2x Open Education Strategy Student Assistant positions

ZTC @ UFV

- **Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC)** are resources that support student learning but do not have a cost to the student. These may be textbooks, lab manuals, study guides, collated library resources, etc.

  - A ZTC course may have art supplies, lab coats, calculators etc.

- UFV soft-launched a ZTC program in Fall 2025 in response to advocacy from UFV-SUS

  - **Fall 2025 –** ZTC sections – **14%**

  - **Winter 2026 –** ZTC sections - **26%** (as of Oct 30)

- Established a ZTC Implementation Team to determine a formal plan for rolling out this program for Winter 2026 and beyond.
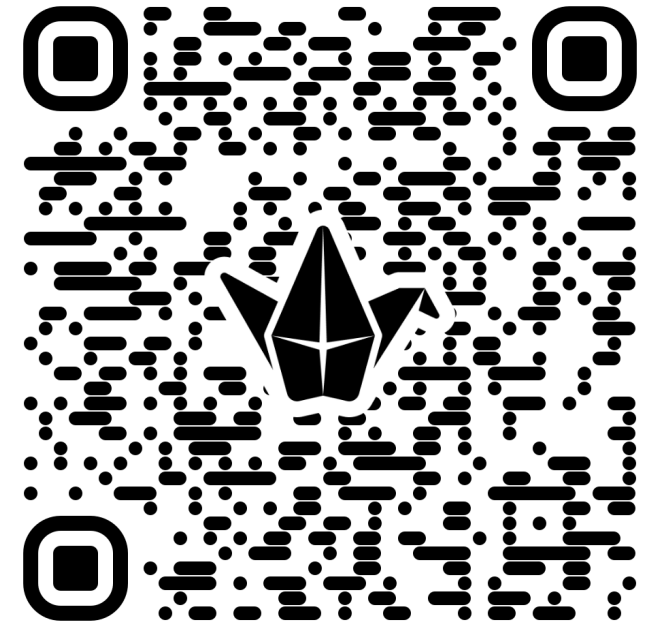
We need your help

UFV's OE Strategy – considerations

- Open Education & Teaching

- Open Education & Research/Scholarship

- Supports needed

ZTC implementation – what does it need to include?

- Timelines

- Processes

- Supports

Office of Research Services
RAC Report | November 13, 2025

- For Fall 2025 (September-December), the Office of Research Services and Graduate studies will have submitted 62 research grants to external funding agencies in various disciplines. This number may increase and will be updated in the next RAC report. We are waiting on those results.

- Funding agencies submitted to aside from the Tri-Agency programs (NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR) are the Canada Foundation for Innovation, BC Knowledge Development Fund, Canada Research Chairs, Heritage Canada, Organic Synthesis Summer Research Grants, Genome BC, Women's Health Research Institute, National Research Council, Victims and Survivors of Crime, Government Affairs Canada and the Vancouver Foundation. We wish all applicants the best of luck as we eagerly await results.

- ROSA applications (internal grant) **were due on October 31st** Our office is currently compiling the files for our committee to review. We aim to have the ROSA results out to applicants sometime in January 2026.

- The Faculty Student Research and Scholarly Activity (FSRSA) UFV internal grant will be open sometime in Spring 2026 as all funds for this year have been exhausted. Please check the website for further details and our office will be sending out notice when the competition opens: https://www.ufv.ca/research/faculty/funding/internal-funding/

- The SSHRC Explore grant will open sometime in Spring 2026 and our office will send out notice. Please check the website for further details: https://www.ufv.ca/research/faculty/funding/internal-funding/

- 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/

- 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.

- Mr. Nigel Fitch, BC and Yukon Regional Advisor for Research Security with the Government of Canada (Public Safety) will be hosted at UFV on Tuesday December 2, 2025 from 10am-12pm. He will conduct a presentation regarding research security for the

first hour and will follow up with an interactive scenario the second hour. Further details to follow via e-mail. The STRAC policy info is located [here](#).

- 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.

- **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/contract (Tri-Agency or other funding organizations) please contact the Director, Research Services and Industry Engagement, Ash Lalani 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 will 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.

- **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/ if you have further questions, please e-mail us

- **Reminder:** If 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:** As previously mentioned, our office is pleased to announce that we have hired a new grants facilitator, Dr. Ronald Adjekum. Please continue to direct all research grants and contracts inquiries at the pre-award stage to Ash Lalani, Director Research Services & Industry Engagement. For all post-award inquiries please contact Clarrie and Ryan at rgspostaward@ufv.ca

TLAC Report

TIPP Fund

The TIPP (Teaching Inquiries into Pedagogical Practices (TIPP) Fund call for Proposals

TIPP supports UFV educators in exploring innovative approaches to teaching and learning through informal, faculty-driven investigations. This year's fund focuses on regenerative sustainability to actively repair, restore learners, communities, and ecosystems.

Categories:

1. Indigenization and Decolonization

2. Social, Cultural, Environmental, or Economic Sustainability

3. Resilience

4. Regenerative Thinking

Criteria

· Open to tenured, tenure-track, and term-appointed instructors.

· TIPP projects to be conducted in Winter 2026 and expense claims to be submitted by March 31, 2026.

Fund is for $500 per approved project. Deadline extended to November 20.