



**SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

Friday 21 April 2023 10:00-11:30 a.m. via Zoom

**Attendance:** Guy Faulkner (Chair), James Stewart (Vice-Chair), Nancy Ford, Rob Kozak, Greg Martyn, James Olson, Anubhav Singh

**Regrets:** Melina Amirsharafi, Robert Boushel, Benjamin Fischer, Jordan Hendry, Romina Hajizadeh, Merje Kuus, Gail Murphy, Susan Porter

**Senate Staff:** Emma Clarke, Michael Jud

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Senate Research and Scholarship Committee (the “Committee”) was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on 21 April 2023 by G. Faulkner, Chair.

**ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted by general consent.

**ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF LAST MEETING’S MINUTES**

The meeting minutes of 17 March 2023 were adopted by general consent.

**ITEM 3: REVISIONS TO POLICY V-5: RESEARCH CENTRES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES**

Senate staff presented a revised draft of Policy V-5. It was noted that the present draft incorporates a variety of modifications and improvements, including changes suggested by consultation feedback from the Faculty of Medicine.

In response to a question regarding the anticipated timeline it was stated that it was no longer likely that the policy could be presented to Senate for approval within the current triennium. This is due to the need for additional consultation with the Committee of Deans and other groups. The policy would most likely be taken up by the reconstituted R&S Committee in the fall.

Committee members suggested a number of further revisions to the policy:

- Move the “Definitions” section to before the “Exclusions” section. Simplify the wording of the Exclusions section and make it more explicit that units called “centres” and “institutes” are excluded if they do not meet the definition.
- Add additional language to the policy to clarify what sort of units may wish to seek institute or category 1 centre status and what sort of units will be more appropriately established as

category 2 centres. This may help to mitigate uncertainty around the implications of “academic unit” status provided under Section 1.

- Un-italicize the words “faculty member” in Section 4 to avoid application of the University Act definition of that term.

Senate staff undertook to make these revisions and circulate an updated draft via email as soon as possible.

#### **ITEM 4: COMMITTEE RESPONSE TO ACADEMIC FREEDOM POLICY CONSULTATION**

J. Stewart noted that the Committee reviewed a draft letter and annexes regarding the Academic Freedom Policy at its March 17 meeting. The letter and its annexes aim to provide a recommendation and a set of detailed questions on a variety of issues pertaining to the draft policy.

The letter and materials have been lightly revised since the March 17 meeting, with one notable substantive addition and a variety of less substantive modifications and corrections.

The Committee responded favourably to the content of the letter and its annexes, thanking J. Stewart for his work on this issue.

**Motion:** *That the Committee adopt the Committee recommendation and the series of questions set out in Annex B of the circulated materials.*

**Moved:** J. Stewart  
**Seconded:** G. Faulkner  
**Carried.**

#### **ITEM 5: COMMITTEE RESPONSE TO 2020/23 SENATE TRIENNIAL REVIEW**

A copy of the Committee’s completed 2020/2023 triennial review worksheet was provided for information.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.