SENATE RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Friday 19 January 2024 10:00-11:30 a.m. via Zoom

Attendance: Wendy Norman (Chair), Guy Faulkner (Vice-Chair), Brenna Bhandar, Andre Ivanov, Greg Martyn, Gail Murphy, Olson, Chris Overall, Mitchell Prost

Regrets: Emily Jenkins, Siddharth Rout, Amy Wang

Senate Staff: Michael Jud

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Senate Research and Scholarship Committee (the “Committee”) was called to order at 10:01 a.m. on 19 January 2024 by W. Norman, Chair.

ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was adopted by general consent.

ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF LAST MEETING’S MINUTES

The meeting minutes of 8 December 2023 were adopted by general consent.

ITEM 3: COMMITTEE WORKPLAN FOR THE 2023-26 TRIENNIUM

The Chair stated that input is sought from members of the Committee to assist with the creation of a workplan for 2023-2026 triennium. The following items were discussed:

• New federal policy on Sensitive Technology Research and Affiliations of Concern, which aims at restricting federal research funds for research in listed areas and involving collaborations with listed overseas institutions. G. Murphy provided background information on the policy and its potential impacts on UBC. It was suggested that there is a potential role for committee to play in advising on the needs of the community with respect to education about the requirements of the policy. The Committee agreed to pursue the following actions:
  o Draft a principled statement responding to the policy for Senate to endorse.
  o Arrange presentations to the Committee from Akshay Singh, Director of Research Security, and Paul Evans, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs.
  o Seek input from the Chair of the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee.
• Institute for the Study of Teaching and Learning (ISoTL). It was noted that ISoTL is a relatively unique institute at UBC in that it is not organized within a Faculty, but rather within the VP Academic organization. ISoTL is therefore organized along different lines from those envisioned by the recently approved Policy V-5. The Committee agreed that it would be useful to arrange
from a presentation from the leadership of ISoTL regarding their work, to better understand how the institute fits within Policy V-5. Senate staff undertook to arrange a presentation from ISoTL at a future Committee meeting later in the term.

- Joint meeting with the Okanagan Senate Learning and Research Committee. It was stated that it may be beneficial to arrange a joint meeting with the Committee’s Okanagan counterpart to discuss issues of shared interest across UBC. Senate staff undertook to examine what potential items could constitute an agenda for a joint meeting. The possibility of revisions to the Okanagan Senate’s Policy O-5 was raised as one potential item.

ITEM 4: POLICY V-5 EXEMPTION AND AMENDED PROCEDURES

Senate staff stated that this item concerns the Institute for the Study of Teaching and Learning (ISoTL). Because ISoTL is not organized within a Faculty, it is not in compliance with the reporting requirements of Policy V-5 and therefore may be granted an exemption under Section 2 of Policy V-5. The lack of an exemption does not have any immediate consequences for ISoTL, but it would help to reassure them that the adoption of Policy V-5 will not have any adverse impacts on the unit.

The Committee discussed whether it would be preferable to exempt ISoTL from the requirements of V-5, or alternatively to implement a separate reporting structure within the policy so that no exemption is needed. It was agreed that the Committee should study the issue further before making a final decision. It was also noted that the issue of an exemption is not urgent as the Committee has no intention making any proposals that would affect ISoTL for the foreseeable future.

ITEM 5: INDIGENOUS STRATEGIC PLAN ENGAGEMENT FACILITATION

Senate staff indicated that arrangements are being made for a facilitator to join a future Committee meeting in support of the Committee’s efforts to engage with the Indigenous Strategic Plan.

ITEM 6: NEXT STEPS FOR POLICY V-5

It was noted that with Policy V-5 now approved the Committee has a responsibility to maintain a list of all approved centres and institutes, and to seek the disestablishment of units that have become inactive or which are not compliant with the policy. The Committee agreed to take the following actions:

- Around June a message will be sent to each of the Deans with a list of all know institutes and category 1 centres in their respective Faculties.
- The Deans will be asked to respond by October indicating whether there are any units missing from the list, and whether any units on the list should be disestablished.
- The Committee will review responses towards the end of the year and determine what follow up actions may be necessary.

ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING

The Committee’s next meeting will be held on Friday 16 February 2023 from 10:00-11:30am.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.