

Report to Senate
October 17, 2018
T. Kenyon

Report to Senate of the Vice President, Research

1. Research support initiatives, current and pending (October 2018)

The VPR's office and the Office of Research Services have put in place or are preparing to initiate a range of program trials and process revisions for the coming year.

- Graduate recruitment scholarship top-ups for NSERC and SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship award-holders.
- Commercialization and IP: currently retaining IP market experts to provide a review of promising Brock-based IP that is not yet commercialized. Additional funds have been earmarked to provide marketing efforts for portfolios of IP identified in part on the basis of this review.
- VPR to fund top-ups to qualifying BSIG and BUAF applications, chiefly to support research assistantships and enhance competitiveness of subsequent applications for external grants.
- An additional Research Officer position is being added on a one-year contract, as a trial program for increased application support for researchers.
- A new ORS procedure is now being implemented on a rolling basis: Every call for proposals or submissions will include a statement of process and criteria.
- Program reviews are underway or pending for ORS-facilitated competitions and awards, to enhance transparency, ensure application and evaluation procedures consonant with the size and nature of the awards, and support the sustainability of the workloads associated with administering the programs.
- Funding set aside for renewal and upgrades of Animal Care facilities, including storage space and furniture, in response to legacy needs and inspection reports.

2. Strategic planning update

As discussed in the Provost's Report to Senate, the Research component of the University integrated strategic plan draft has now undergone extensive consultation and revision in light of feedback on the entire strategic plan. A subsequent implementation plan for strategic research aims, based on consultation and feedback solicited from all faculty members, library staff, and research staff through the Associate Deans group, will be developed on the basis of the integrated plan. And a strategic research plan (SRP) specific to uses in CFI/CRC processes will be developed independently.

3. Call for Proposals, Canada Research Chairs

A CFP has been issued to departments for three Canada Research Chair positions: one Tier I (CIHR) and two Tier II (one NSERC, one SSHRC). Details on process, criteria, and deadlines are posted at:

[https://brocku.sharepoint.com/Research-Services/Pages/Canada-Research-Chairs-\(CRC\).aspx](https://brocku.sharepoint.com/Research-Services/Pages/Canada-Research-Chairs-(CRC).aspx)

4. CRC Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion update

The CRC Secretariat has also updated its Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion requirements for Chair searches and appointments, and provided feedback regarding Brock University's EDI Action Plan. The updated requirements can be viewed here:

http://www.chairs-chaires.gc.ca/program-programme/equity-equite/action_plan_plan_action-eng.aspx

4. LINC Operations Group

The LINCOP continues to plan for integrated operations of the LINC, to begin after the Rankin Family Pavilion opens. A draft operational plan will be available shortly, organized around the idea that the LINC is a site for creative collisions in experiential learning, transdisciplinary research, innovation, and entrepreneurship. LINCOP Chair Dan Lynch is arranging meetings with Faculty Councils to explain the developing structure and to invite participation in all facets of the LINC.

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