

Report to Senate  
January 8, 2020  
T. Kenyon

brocku.ca

### Report to Senate of the Vice President, Research

#### 1. Appointments:

- I am very happy to announce that Professor Michelle McGinn has accepted the position of Associate Vice-President, Research. Dr. McGinn's extensive background includes roles as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies for the Faculty of Education, as Research Ethics Board Chair, and as Brock University AVPR since being appointed on an Interim basis in 2018.
- Professor Dawn Zinga continues in her role as Acting Associate Vice-President, Research, into April 2020.

#### 2. Internal relations:

- I was pleased to accept Mr Gary Parker's invitation, delivered to Senate at the December 2019 meeting, to attend and engage in dialogue with Two Row Council. At the Council's December meeting we discussed steps and provisions taken to support Indigenous research, in keeping with at least two Brock University Strategic Plan priorities. Members of Two Row Council have generously offered to provide feedback on the processes or mechanisms for allocating internal funds dedicated to Indigenous research; the Office of Research Services has drafted a schematic process document to serve as an initial model for revision.

#### 3. External relations:

- The University is exploring the possibility of joining the SONAMI network (Southern Ontario Network for Advanced Manufacturing Innovation), a FedDev-funded program based at Niagara College that provides funding support and facilitates links between post-secondary education research and innovation facilities and industry partners.
- Options for membership in the federal New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO) are currently under review, with a choice between a voting and a non-voting membership.

#### 4. Internal grants:

- Adjudication of applications for both the VPR Canada Games program and the Explore/Exchange grant program took place in December. Both programs attracted extremely high-quality and creative proposals, and in both cases the adjudication committees, perceiving a particularly strong set of applications, recommended finding ways to extend the range of proposals that could be accommodated with funding. In light of these recommendations, I authorized the use of strategic funds to enable augment the budgets for the programs, enabling an extended list of funded applications. Applicants have now been contacted with the results.