

December 8, 2020
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Report to Senate #685

1. Grants update

- a. Two Brock researchers have received just under \$1 million in funding in this year's CIHR Project Grant round. Dr. Antony Chum (Health Sciences) is funded to research whether and how drug use-related hospitalizations vary across regions with cannabis licensing and policy differences since the legalization of cannabis. Dr. Matthew Kwan (Child and Youth Studies) will extend and expand his research on children living with Developmental Coordination Disorder. Together these two research projects were provided \$952,424 in CIHR PG funds.
- b. Dr. Adam MacNeil and Dr. Fiona Hunter were awarded \$200,000 under the Canada Foundation of Innovation's Extraordinary Opportunities Fund. This funding will enable the acquisition of high molecular and cellular resolution equipment for research relating to human reactions to COVID-19.
- c. On November 26 the Office of Research Services hosted an information session on the redesigned [Distinguished Research and Creative Activity](#) award (valued at \$10,000) and the brand new [Early Career Research and Creative Activity](#) award (valued at \$5,000). Deadline for nominations for both awards is Jan. 29, 2021. For information, please contact [Sharlee Cranston-Reimer](#).

2. Intellectual property and commercialization resources

- a. Brock University's Innovation and Commercialization team in the Office of Research Services has now released a six-part video presentation series providing researchers and other with an introduction to IP law, policies, commercialization and partnerships. The presentations were produced in conjunction with the Lifespan Centre as part of its Knowledge Mobilization work. The first versions of the videos are published and available on Brock's own Microsoft Stream site; additional videos and revised versions are also in development.

01 Introduction

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/d394d773-1e77-4c55-8066-43c2c89d8f9b>

02 Intellectual Property Law

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/b25d2343-cb26-4455-82c8-5e4ff19d3d13>

03 Intellectual Property Policies at Brock

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/f7db5056-3b04-41af-a24f-b5a8f99797aa>

04 Innovation and Commercialization

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/437c7dfe-3cc7-48c3-ad55-c00639fcbf94>

05 Contracts, Formalizing Partnerships

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/a6e52f4f-dc2a-4318-a8e5-4f9a17a7638e>

06 Collaborations and Targeted Research

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/6643235a-a950-4156-9ccb-212fc7d75e12>

3. Brock LINC update

- a. Brock LINC has been very active over the Fall term on a range of projects, including facilitating the hiring of a postdoctoral fellow, Dr. Amy Lemay, to join the OMAFRA-funded agri-food innovation project led by Dr. Charles Conteh and colleagues through the Niagara Community Observatory.
- b. Discussions are in the final stages with Mitacs for having Brock LINC approved as a regional incubator. When completed, this will enable student start-ups to access funds, interns, and other services directly through Mitacs.
- c. LINC Interim Executive Director Phillip Gingras is coordinating a presentation by a representative of the Canada Revenue Agency to help guide Niagara small businesses through the basics of engaging with federal COVID-19 relief and support programs, anticipated for December 8. Further presentations will follow in the new year
- d. Registration for the Winter Kickstarting Entrepreneurship program is now open. LINC partners and contributors, including the Brock Library, Makerspace, and Digital Scholarship Lab, are also highly active in offering research and innovation training and information. Upcoming events include introductions to 3-D modelling, podcasting, CNC vector design, and using R, an open software package for statistics and graphics.

4. MOTUS tracking discussions

- a. On the basis of input from researchers in Biological Sciences, the VPR and representatives of Facilities Management have been in discussions with Birds Canada, with the aim of providing roof space for an antenna to be used in the [MOTUS wildlife tracking network](#).