



Dec. 6, 2023

VPR Report to Senate #715 - Dec. 13, 2023

Acting VPR, AVPR 2024

At the November meeting of Senate, President Rigg announced the appointment of Dr. Michelle McGinn as Acting Vice-President Research for the 2024 calendar year, while I am delighted to announce that Dr. Debbie O'Leary will serve as Acting Associate Vice-President Research for the same period. These appointments are in support of my own recently announced administrative leave, scheduled to begin on January 1, 2024.

An influential and highly-cited scholar of research practices, mentorship, academic ethics and scholarly writing, Dr. McGinn is an experienced research leader at Brock with a track record of excellence. She has served as Chair of the Research Ethics Board, as Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Education, and on a range of key provincial and federal research bodies, including as Ontario's research representative to the COU's Space Transformation Task Force.

Dr. O'Leary is an outstanding researcher, mentor, and respected research leader at Brock. She is Director and founding member of the Brock Functional Inclusive Training Centre, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Applied Health Sciences, and a prolific researcher on cardiovascular risk factors, the impacts of exercise, and cardiovascular health over the lifespan.

I am grateful to these two wonderful colleagues for their leadership and commitment to the research enterprise at Brock. The University's strategic commitment to supporting research will be strongly stewarded under their guidance, and the research community will be very well supported.

Niagara Health Research Forum

The Niagara Health Research Forum, convened by Brock University in the Research Impact Hub on December 4, 2023, was organized by my colleagues in the OVPR to create a discussion venue for agencies and actors in the region's healthcare landscape. In conjunction with Brock health researchers and research facilitators, the group met to consider prospects for collaborative approaches to shared health issues, challenges and opportunities. Examples might include the impacts of COVID-19, impending infrastructure

developments, persistent physician and nursing shortages, and the unique needs of an aging population. Recognizing the need for a common platform for these discussions, Brock University has stepped in to provide a common ground for healthcare stakeholders to address these issues, fostering meaningful discussions and partnerships in the realm of research. The group agreed to reconvene in early 2024 for a collaborative sharing session, with plans to develop structured projects to guide future efforts.

Brock Research Impact Learning Network Inaugural Event

The Brock Research Impact Learning Network was scheduled to hold its [inaugural event](#) on Monday, Dec. 11 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in RFP 216. Moderated and led by Knowledge Mobilization Officer Jayne Morrish, a panel of three Brock researchers shared their experience and advice on integrating high-impact strategies into research and funding applications.

The Research Impact Learning Network anticipates meeting 4 times per year in Brock's Research Impact Hub, for interactive presentations and discussions on various topics to promote high-impact research.

Meetings and Outreach

- On Nov. 14 I attended the Graduate Students Association lunch forum. I spoke briefly on structure and mandate of the research enterprise at Brock, with a special focus on graduate research, followed by a conversational Q&A. The GSA were lovely hosts, and the participants were thoughtful and collegial interlocutors; I'm grateful for the opportunity to have connected with them.
- I had the honor and pleasure of attending the Royal Society of Canada Celebration of Excellence & Engagement event on November 17 at the University of Waterloo. During the event, our colleague and faculty member, Dr. Lissa Paul, was [formally inducted](#) as a fellow. Dr. Paul's citation may be viewed [here](#). Her citation was moreover read out by Brock Professor of Applied Linguistics Dr. Gary Libben, Secretary of the Royal Society of Canada, who hosted the induction ceremony.

T. Kenyon
Vice-President Research