

Annual Report 2013/14

Senate Research Committee

The Senate Research Committee had a busy and productive year accomplishing the tasks assigned as outlined in the committee's Terms of Reference. In the following paragraphs, I have provided some of the highlights.

In two rounds of internal funding competitions, respectively held October 2013 and May 2014, the NSERC/CIHR and SSHRC/CIHR sub-committees reviewed a total of 89 applications. Included in these internal funding rounds, the committee reviewed faculty Leave/Non Leave applications, Conference Travel grant requests, Research Development Fund applications, as well as Publication and Visiting Scholar grant requests.

As of this fall, all internal funding competitions were submitted and reviewed by the NSERC/CIHR and SSHRC/CIHR sub-committees on-line using the ROMEO database acquired by the Office of Research Services. The Senate Research Committee continues to work with the Office of Research Services to ensure the on-line forms and processes are regularly updated and any problems reported to the committee are promptly addressed.

The Senate Research Committee continues to address the issue of moving towards attaining equitable representation from all three tri-council-eligible faculty members.

Each year the Senate Research Committee reviews nominations received for both the Distinguished Researcher and Contribution to Research Awards (nominations due November 30th and May 15th respectively). Each of the three tri-council areas is eligible for nomination. This year, the Senate Research Committee considered two applications received in the NSERC area and subsequently selected Dr. Han Chen, Faculty of Natural Resources Management, as the successful Distinguished Researcher for 2013. Regrettably, no nominations were received in the CIHR and SSHRC areas. Contribution to Research Award nominations in all categories are not due until 4:30 p.m. May 15th, and therefore a report on nominations received and the success of the submissions will be reported in the 2014/15 Annual Report. Successful nominees for both the Distinguished Researcher and Contribution to Research Awards are presented with their respective awards by the Chair of the Senate Research Committee during the subsequent Research & Innovation Week Awards Reception normally held in February.

When required, the committee is also responsible for the review of CFI-LOF, NOHFC Internship, Early Researcher Award, and any other such competition applications as requested by the Office of Research Services.

The Chair of the Senate Research Committee is an active member of the Presidential Advisory Committee on Canada Research Chair Nominations, and as such participated in meetings as required. The Chair also attended the Opening and Closing ceremonies of Research & Innovation Week 2013, and the joint Board/Senate Social where the value of university research was emphasized to members of the Board of Governors.

Members of the Senate Research Committee met with Dr. Martin Taylor of the University of Victoria during his visit in May 2014 to review the Vice President (Research, Economic Development & Innovation) portfolio.

Respectfully submitted by,
BATIA STOLAR, Acting Chair
Senate Research Committee 2013/14