

Report of the Senate Research Committee

The Senate Research Committee met on March 30, 2015. Between the items for discussion were the applications received for the SRC Research Development Fund, the pilot Open Access Author Fund and the Visiting Scholar Fund last March. The SRC received twenty proposals for the Research Development Fund, two applications for the pilot Open Access Author Fund, and five applications for the Visiting Scholars Fund. The results of the competition will be announced next week.

During the meeting, the new Open Access policy implemented by the Tri-Council was discussed. It was noted that some researchers are concerned how to balance the quality of the journal where they wish to publish, with the open access requirement implemented by the Tri-Council. This may be a contributing factor in the low number of applications received for the Open Access Author Fund (OAAF), since the current Open Access policy of the Tri-Council, which was used in the SRC guidelines for the OAAF, does not allow the use of hybrid journals to satisfy the open access requirement. The possibility of continuing the Open Access Fund for another year was discussed.

The composition of the Ad-Hoc subcommittee that will review the research priorities in the Strategic Academic Plan and the Academic Plan was finalized last March. The subcommittee will start its work this month, and plan to complete it by June.

Lastly, the next deadline for the SRC Conference Travel Fund and the Publication Assistance Fund is May 10, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted

Maria Grazia Viola

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Chair of the Senate Research Committee