University Delegates WebEx Meeting
April 2, 2015 – 12:30-1:30pm EDT
CIHR Room 10-219, Ottawa, Ontario

Participants

Chair: Jennifer O’Donoughue, Executive Director, Reforms Implementation

Members: Deborah Anderson, University of Saskatchewan
Shari Baum, McGill University
Lionel Berthoux, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
Lara Boyd, University of British Columbia
Michael Buschmann, Ecole Polytechnique Montréal
Dean Care, Brandon University
Peter Cattini, University of Manitoba
Leslie Cudmore (for Janet Bryanton), University of Prince Edward Island
Penny D’Agnone (for Lesley Brown), University of Lethbridge
Faith Donald, Ryerson University
Bareket Falk, Brock University
Denise Figlewicz, University of Western Ontario
Mark Filiaggi, Dalhousie University
John Fisher, Queen’s University
JP Gouin (for Jennifer McGrath), Concordia University
Shawn Hayley, Carleton University
Marilyn Hodgins, University of New Brunswick
Cezar Khursigara (for Joseph Lam), University of Guelph
Julian Little, University of Ottawa
Cindi Morhead, University of Toronto
Joaquin Ortega (for Lori Burrows), McMaster University
Stephen Perry, Wilfrid Laurier University
Marc Pouliot, Université Laval
David Rose, University of Waterloo
Rachael Scarth (for Michael Hayes), University of Victoria
Lauren Sergio, York University
Otis Vacratsis, University of Windsor
Robert Weaver (for Michael Owen), University of Ontario Institute of Technology
Elaine Wiersma, Lakehead University
Richard Wozniak, University of Alberta
Gerald Zamponi, University of Calgary

Institution staff:
Kristina Arseneau, Queen’s University
Leslie Copp, University of Waterloo
Oksana Moshynska, University of Saskatchewan
Barry Ries, York University
Izabela Szellhest, University of Saskatchewan
Jessica Vaisica, York University

Regrets: Christian Baron, Université de Montréal
Robert Bertolo, Memorial University of Newfoundland
Ranjana Bird, University of Northern British Columbia
Lesley Brown, University of Lethbridge
Janet Bryanton, University of Prince Edward Island
Lori Burrows, McMaster University
Estelle Chamoux, Bishop’s University
Réjean Dubuc, Université du Québec à Montréal
Karen Grant, Mount Allison University
Norbert Haunerl, Simon Fraser University
Richard Isnor, St. Francis Xavier University
Shanthi Johnson, University of Regina
Dale Keefe, Cape Breton University
Joseph Lam, University of Guelph
Richard Leduc, Université de Sherbrooke
Rod McCormick, Thompson Rivers University
Jennifer McGrath, Concordia University
Michael Owen, University of Ontario Institute of Technology
Chris Shields, Acadia University
Brenda Smith-Chant, Trent University
Peter Twohig, Saint Mary’s University
Nancy Young, Laurentian University
Welcome Message

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. EDT and welcomed the University Delegates (UDs) to the WebEx meeting.

1. CIHR Update

Adrian Mota provided an update on the Foundation Scheme Pilot 2014 – Stage 2. CIHR invited 467 applications to submit a stage 2 application, and of those, 445 applications were submitted. CIHR followed up with the 22 applications which were not submitted and received confirmation some of them opted to apply to the Open Operating Grant competition. In Stage 2, CIHR was able to assign 5 reviewers to each application, except for a few outliers that were assigned 4 reviewers. Stage 2 decisions will be available to applicants on May 15, 2015. CIHR is committed to giving institutions the results for all applicants from their institution at both Stage 2 and Stage 3.

Discussion:
- One member asked if applicants going to stage 3 are able to make any updates to their applications. CIHR informed the group that they are not able to make any updates to applications. At Stage 3, the reviewers are reconciling the reviews that are done at Stage 2.
- One member asked how many of the 445 Foundation applications are likely going to Stage 3. This will be decided based on the amount requested by applicants compared to how much CIHR can fund. CIHR is currently working on this analysis. The green and gray zone distribution is still being analyzed.
- Reviewer feedback from the survey is currently being analyzed and will be shared when it is ready.
- Those who were unsuccessful at any stage in the 2014 pilot are eligible for the 2015 Foundation pilot.
- One member asked if there will be an across-the-board cut of the same percentage for both funded Foundation and Transition grant applications. This will be based on the amounts requested and this information will be analyzed.

Peggy Borbey provided an update on the Transitional OOGP. CIHR received 3330 registrations and 2690 applications, which represents a 6% decrease from the last competition.
Discussion:
- One member asked how many applications will be funded for T-OOGP. CIHR is still planning to fund between 450-600 applications. The same budget is funding both the Foundation Grants and the OOGP Grants.
- Elections will not delay the announcement of results for both Foundation and Transitional OOGP grants.

2. Canada First Research Excellence Fund

Kelly VanKoughnet provided an update on the Canada First Research Excellence Fund. CFREF grants will be granted to an institution and not to individuals. This a flexible program and can cover a wide array of eligible expenses (such as funding salaries, operating cost, etc.) If an independent researcher at an institution has their salary funded through the CFREF grant, they are eligible to apply to Tri-Council funding. However, it is important to note that they will not be eligible to hold Tri-Council funding unless a different salary source at the institution is found to support their salary. The same eligibility criteria will apply to Round 1 and Round 2.

3. Positioning Trainees for Success in the Canadian Health Research Enterprise

Danika Goosney provided a presentation on positioning trainees for success in the Canadian health research enterprise.

Members were asked for feedback on the following questions:

1. What do you see as complimentary roles for academic institutions and CIHR in positioning health research trainees for success?
2. Who within the academic institutions would provide a variety of perspectives on the training environment?

Discussion
- One member suggested that this might be an interesting discussion at the June 18 face-to-face meeting.
- One member suggested that CIHR should look at the Hotchkiss Brain Institute’s REALISE program.
- One member stated that by pushing the adjudication of the Master’s awards back on to the Universities, it can be felt that CIHR has increased the administrative burden. CIHR informed the members this comment has been raised across institutions. This will be discussed with the Tri-Council.
- One member asked if CIHR would consider renewing the STIHR program. This is an item up for discussion. CIHR is certainly looking at the aspects of the STIHR program that were successful and implementing them in various ways across CIHR.
- One member asked to what extent provinces have been consulted. CIHR has held preliminary discussions with the provincial funders and plans to have more extended discussions with in May 2015.
One member suggested having a set amount of funding that could be used in any way necessary to do the research. This could replace line amounts for personnel, supplies & services, etc. For the purpose of the Foundation Scheme, CIHR would like to know the investment in training but there are no restrictions on how funds are spent.

One member asked if CIHR has numbers on the types of jobs that are in the greatest demand and if the proposed training guidelines are aligned with the requirements for those jobs. Currently CIHR has data from the US and is looking into obtaining more information.

One member suggested of having an exchange of policies and procedures for post-doctoral fellows’ professional training.

4. **Agenda Items at the June Meeting**

Danika Goosney informed members that the annual University Delegates Face-to-Face Meeting will be held in Ottawa on June 18, 2015. Preliminary agenda items include:

- the results of the First Foundation Scheme Pilot
- how we adjudicate New Investigators

CIHR asked members if they have any other item suggestions. One member suggested that it would be constructive to discuss Roadmap 2. Members were informed that a general CIHR update can be given at the beginning of the meeting.

Members expressed interest in attending a dinner the night before the meeting. This will be coordinated with the UDEC.

5. **Open Access Publishing**

Danika Goosney provided an update on Open Access Publishing. CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC have announced a harmonized policy on access to research publications in February. The policy is closely modeled to CIHR’s policy, which has been in effect since 2008.

Discussion:

- One member asked if there is a CIHR-sponsored repository. CIHR used to have PubMed Central Canada to have this open access, online, bilingual repository (CIHR worked in partnership with NRC and the National Library of Medicine at the NIH). In July 2014 it went down because of the cyber-attack on the NRC; however CIHR has been working to getting it back online.

**Adjournment**

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m. EDT.