University Delegates WebEx Meeting
May 7, 2015 – 12:30-1:30pm EDT
CIHR Room 10-219, Ottawa, Ontario

Participants

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

Members: Nicole Bailet (for Ranjana Bird), University of Northern British Columbia
Christian Baron, Université de Montréal
Shari Baum, McGill University
Christian Beaulieu (for Gerald Zamponi), University of Calgary
Lionel Berthoux, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
Robert Bertolo, Memorial University of Newfoundland
Lori Burrows, McMaster University
Michael Buschmann, École Polytechnique Montréal
Daniel Cyr, Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS)
Janet Bryanton, University of Prince Edward Island
Faith Donald, Ryerson University
Bareket Falk, Brock University
Denise Figlewicz, University of Western Ontario
Mark Filiaggi, Dalhousie University
John Fisher, Queen’s University
Norbert Haunerland, Simon Fraser University
Marilyn Hodgins, University of New Brunswick
Nancy Klos (for Peter Cattini), University of Manitoba
Joseph Lam, University of Guelph
Julian Little, University of Ottawa
Rod McCormick, Thompson Rivers University
Jennifer McGrath, Concordia University
Christy McTait (for Lara Boyd), University of British Columbia
Cindi Morshed, University of Toronto
Michael Owen, University of Ontario Institute of Technology
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
Chris Shields, Acadia University
Monique Sullivan (for Richard Leduc), Université de Sherbrooke
Otis Vacratsis, University of Windsor
Nancy Young, Laurentian University

Institution staff: Penny D’Agnone, University of Lethbridge
Terry Campbell, University of Ottawa
André Manseau, Université du Québec en Outaouais
Jean-Philippe Marquis, Université Laval
Barry Ries, York University
Robert Weaver, University of Ontario Institute of Technology

Regrets: Deborah Anderson, University of Saskatchewan
Ranjana Bird, University of Northern British Columbia
Lara Boyd, University of British Columbia
Lesley Brown, University of Lethbridge
Dean Care, Brandon University
Peter Cattini, University of Manitoba
Estelle Chamoux, Bishop’s University
Karen Grant, Mount Allison University
Réjean Dubuc, Université du Québec à Montréal
Michael Hayes, University of Victoria
Shawn Hayley, Carleton University
Richard Isnor, St. Francis Xavier University
Shanthi Johnson, University of Regina
Dale Keefe, Cape Breton University
Richard Leduc, Université de Sherbrooke
Michael Owen, University of Ontario Institute of Technology
Brenda Smith-Chant, Trent University
Peter Twohig, Saint Mary’s University
Elaine Wiersma, Lakehead University
Richard Wozniak, University of Alberta
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

Foundation Scheme Pilot – Stage Two

Jennifer O’Donoughue provided an update on Stage 2 of the first Foundation Scheme Pilot. The second stage reviews are now complete and CIHR is receiving feedback from reviewers. Members were asked to gather any feedback they have been hearing and send it to the UD mailbox. Many of the Stage 2 budget requests exceeded the historical amounts. A budget review committee will review these requests. CIHR did not receive as many comments from reviewers on the budgets as desired. Members were informed that more communications on this will follow in the coming weeks.

Members were provided with statistics:

- Of the 467 Stage 1 applicants invited to apply to Stage 2, CIHR received 445 Stage 2 Applications.
- These applications were reviewed by 217 reviewers and supported by 18 Virtual Chairs/Moderators.

All applicants who are unsuccessful will receive a decision package that includes their notice of decision and their reviews. All applicants moving to Stage 3 will only be notified that they are moving forward.

One member asked how the results of Foundation Scheme will affect the Transitional Open Operating Grant (TOOGP). The TOOGP committee meetings are in process until the beginning of June. As soon as more information is available it will be shared with the UDs. The funding decision for the Foundation Scheme and the TOOGP competition will be done in parallel. The funding decision date for both competitions is July 15, 2015.

Project Scheme Registration

Jennifer O’Donoughue provided clarification on some questions that have arisen around the Project Scheme. Applicants to the 2015 Foundation Scheme 2nd Live Pilot competition, including those who are invited to submit a Stage 2 application, are eligible to apply to the 2016 Project Scheme 1st Live Pilot competition. Members were encouraged to review the Questions and Answers on CIHR’s web site.
**Discussion Points:**

- Members were advised that both the Interpretation Guidelines and Peer Reviewer Manual for the 2016 Project Scheme 1st Live Pilot competition may be available in the fall. However, since a number of pilots are currently being finalized, refinements to the Interpretation Guidelines will be made throughout the summer. In the meantime, the [Project Scheme Application Requirements](#) are posted online which includes the evaluation criteria.

- Members were advised that the list of programs that will be integrated into the new open funding schemes can be found on the [CIHR website](#).

- It was clarified that applications from new/early career investigators will not be different in the Project Scheme. All applicants will submit the same application and the same evaluation criteria will be applied to all applicants.

- It was confirmed that the budget envelope is approximately $500M for the 2015 Foundation Scheme 2nd Live Pilot, 2016 Project Scheme 1st Live Pilot and 2016 Project Scheme 2nd Live Pilot competitions.

**Institution Visits**

To date, 41 institution visits have been completed. The University Delegates were thanked for their help as Jane Aubin and Alain Beaudet have been travelling across the country. The remaining institution visits include: Thompson Rivers (May 7), Western University (May 11) and Trent University (May 28).

**2. Agenda Items at the June Meeting/Points**

Members who did not yet confirm their attendance to the June 18, 2015 face-to-face meeting were encouraged to do so as soon as possible in order to aid with the planning.

The UDEC group proposed to discuss the Foundation Scheme survey results. The confidential raw survey data would be sent out to members in advance of the meeting. After the results are presented, attendees would then break out into smaller groups to identify possible solutions or modifications. Break-out sessions would cover the following Foundation Design Elements:

- Budget
- “Leadership” criteria across career stages
- Limits on what kinds of new/early career investigators should apply
- Challenges with CV
- Reaching consensus in the online discussions

Jane Aubin will provide a general update on corporate CIHR topics. The Project Scheme and a College of Reviewers Update will also be covered. Members were encouraged to email the UD mailbox with any specific topics they would like discuss. The UDEC will coordinate the dinner on June 17th. Updates will be sent to members in the coming weeks.

**Discussion Points:**

- Some members agreed to discuss the Project Scheme at the meeting.

- One member suggested that concerns with the Foundation Scheme Peer Review Process could be discussed.

- Another member suggested discussing the "one application per calendar year to the Project Scheme" at the meeting.
3. Launch of the College of Reviewers

Adrian Mota provided an update and overview on the College launch plan for the next 8 weeks. This includes the College terms and conditions and the reviewer profile validation phases. Members informed that each reviewer will receive an email notification on becoming a member of the College. They will be asked to correct any errors to their online profiles. UDs were encouraged to remind reviewers to add any missing information. Packages, which will include the list of reviewers invited to the College, will be sent out to each VPR office after testing is complete.

Discussion Points:
- Members asked if they will also receive copies of the packages sent to VPRs. Based on an agreement with the VPR, CIHR will only channel information through the VPRs. UDs may request the list from their respective VPRs.
- One member asked for an update on the rewards and recognition for college members. This is still under development. CIHR obtained feedback from the town hall visits over the last six months.
- One member asked if CIHR is addressing reviewer gaps in some areas of health research. In addition to the 3800 reviewers already identified, targeted recruitment strategies are being developed. CIHR is also obtaining feedback from international funders. It is important to note that reviewers of the Foundation Scheme pilot completed an “ability to review”, which was validated by their respective Chairs.

4. 2015 Federal Budget

David Marchand, A/Manager of Policy and Government Relations, presented results from the Federal Budget 2015, which was tabled in the House of Commons on April 21, 2015. Members asked to receive a copy of the presentation.

5. Matching Solution Demo

Adrian Mota demonstrated part of the matching solution technology and the following questions were raised. There are numerous validation stages in effect, including reviewer validation of profiles and comparison of data. Currently, the tool is only available internally. CIHR is exploring to making it available more externally to College members.

Adjournment

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 1:31pm. The next call is scheduled June 4.