

Faculty of Environmental Studies Faculty Council Meeting October 25, 2012 1:30pm 142 HNES Building	
Agenda Item	Notes
<p>Strategic Research Plan Overview (R. Haché)</p> <p>(presented SRP overview slides)</p>	<p>Introduction provided by N. Sturgeon, Dean Faculty of Environmental Studies. VPRI R. Haché presented a series of slides outlining the institutional context, what the plan will cover as it presents the story of York research, and why we need to develop a new research plan for York. Underscored the need for university-wide feedback as integral to the development of the Strategic Research Plan. Highlighted the engagement of the Faculty represented by Martin Bunch, Associate Dean Research on the ADR Working Group on the Strategic Research Plan.</p> <p>Concluded presentation by asking FES Faculty Council members for their specific feedback on what they'd like to see in the SRP from their perspective.</p> <p><u>Comments & Clarifications from the Faculty of Environmental Studies:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stressed need to incorporate graduate students and graduate education in Plan. -Sought clarification on themes and how utilizing themes to fully represent/ articulate research -Clarified that research plans typically incorporate high level research themes in defining scope of research; our Plan will be inclusionary, focused in a manner where people can see themselves -Clarified that graduate students are an essential part of the research enterprise at York; Plan will seek to speak to their ambitions -Expressed concern about difficulty obtaining funding for ongoing interdisciplinary and participatory research that involves research partners outside the university. Will York take a leadership role with funding organizations in expressing important participation and funding concerns? Further, expressed concerns around York's internal support for research of this nature -Clarified, committed to leading change in the development of participatory research both externally and internally. -Inquired about flexibility in rules that apply to research projects ie: working with Aboriginal communities and sensitivities that apply- TCPS guidelines not flexible -VPRI will investigate and respond with answer. Committed to working with research accounting to explore how we may improve flexibility -Inquired about opportunities for Graduate students to get involved in the SRP process -Clarified that have met with FGS and will be meeting with the Senate representatives in coming weeks. Further, Graduate students are welcome to participate by taking the online survey, and partake in the scheduled community chats, and workshops. Happy to respond to any requests to meet. -Plan should encourage flexibility around research guidelines when working with external communities- processes need to account for diversities. -Stressed that continuing support for ORUS is very important and hopeful that Plan will emphasize support for those units as well as Faculty level supports -Expressed concern about interdisciplinary and what it means- many different interpretations across the university- need to resolve this and the way we work across faculties. -Inquired about if Plan will capture research in FES within the themes. Dean Sturgeon clarified that she will be taking all Faculty input to the Deans/ADR Workshop on October 30th

-Clarified that the Plan does not intend to shift resources trying to determine how to make the best use of those strategic areas. Hope is to increase overall the awareness and enthusiasm for investing in research.

-Support focus on graduate students within Plan – specific issue around attaining external funding, being clawed back internal funding received- leads to utilizing funds for other purposes.

Emphasized opportunities for further input and consultation schedule: available on SRP website at: <http://srp.info.yorku.ca>