

<b>Humanities Faculty Meeting October 22, 2012 3:00pm Vanier Room 010</b>	
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Strategic Research Plan Overview (R. Haché)  (reviewed SRP overview slides)	<p>Vice-President Research &amp; Innovation Robert Haché provided remarks and updated the Humanities faculty members on the current SRP consultations, briefly touching on 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.</p> <p>Initiated discussion by asking Humanities faculty members for their specific feedback on what they'd like to see in the SRP from their perspective.</p> <p><u>Comments &amp; Clarifications from Humanities faculty members:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Inquired about strategic objectives of the Plan- emphasized that smaller collaborations be supported e.g.: Science &amp; Technologies Studies program</li> <li>-Stressed the Plan should endeavor to streamline internal research processes to better enable research</li> <li>-Expressed need for improved communication and outreach out across Faculties to ensure knowledge of what research is occurring across the University – suggested establishing a database of research</li> <li>-Inquired about strategic investments within the Plan, expressed concern that external influences could dictate/limit strategic investments</li> <li>-Asked for clarification on what is considered research intensification- aside from grant applications, how is the Plan intending on measuring the diversity of outputs at York</li> <li>-Clarified that there is a diverse set of measurables to define, but this must be balanced with a commitment to a broader, more inclusive expression of research accomplishments (unconventional, non-traditional, next generation)</li> <li>-Emphasized work in digital humanities</li> <li>-Inquired about the development of the brand at York- we need a distinct brand, fearful that York will become an imitation of universities downtown if we only focus on a medical school and engineering school.</li> <li>-Clarified that York is moving towards a more comprehensive model as a means to complete the university, not to diminish but to complement our unique brand already established. Plan is not to decrease Humanities research support</li> <li>-Stressed the breadth and interdisciplinary nature of research being conducted in Humanities</li> <li>-Expressed concern with research administrative burden - improve system efficiency by addressing administrative red tape Concern that there is no administrative support for individual researchers</li> <li>-Expressed challenge in ordering IT equipment for research and teaching purposes. Suggested need to streamline</li> <li>-Concerned that research is being expressed too simply, should preserve complexity and not define research by way of disciplinary boundaries</li> <li>-Suggested the uniqueness of Humanities should be protected- the diversity of the human experience as the depth and breadth of disciplines/areas is extensive.</li> <li>-Suggested that research is not about leveraging large grants; it's about forging new ideas. Expressed need for seed funds as a way that nurtures smaller endeavors- it has become more and more difficult to get the resources needed</li> <li>-Inquired about what role post grad and graduate studies will have in the Plan- how will</li> </ul>

	<p>graduate studies fit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Clarified that graduate students are essential and closely intertwined in many aspects of the Plan</li><li>-Sought clarification on the Ontario council of Graduate Studies - what thought has been given to that mechanism to promoting York's reputation for the quality of the program?</li><li>-Clarified that we are at the initial stages to articulate.</li><li>-Reiterated that individual research funding is key – small incentives make a large impact in an individual's research agenda</li><li>-Concern that people who do individual research have been acknowledged by merit; some will be measured and others will not.</li><li>-Concern for Faculty renewal, not hiring enough in specific fields</li><li>-Expressed some concern in the trend that education is only valuable if it creates people who can contribute to society – education is not simply instrumental</li></ul> <p>Emphasized opportunities for further input and consultation schedule: available on SRP website at: <a href="http://srp.info.yorku.ca">http://srp.info.yorku.ca</a></p>
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