

| Science & Technology Studies Program Meeting October 2, 2012 1:00pm Room 203, Norman Bethune College | |
|---|---|
| Agenda Item | Notes |
| Strategic Research Plan Overview (W. Tholen) (presented SRP overview slides) | <p>Associate Vice-President Research Walter Tholen 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. Concluded presentation by asking STS graduate program members for their specific feedback on what they'd like to see in the SRP from their perspective.</p> <p><u>Comments & Clarifications from STS graduate program members:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -stressed the need for inclusivity of the plan especially for a diverse group such as Science and Technology Studies- previous SRP did not identify a place for interdisciplinary programs -Sought clarification about the place of graduate students in the development of the plan -Sought clarification about the relationship between overarching themes and more focused interdisciplinary initiatives within plan -Suggested that ORUs be identified as areas of focus within plan -Stressed the need for resources for research to be addressed in the plan, along with support for accessing external research funding -Welcomed the idea of a plan that meaningfully expresses the value of interdisciplinarity -Identified the important and unique story of the STS program – from a teaching program into nationally and internationally recognized research and teaching program. Growth of the program is an example of successful relationship between teaching and research that starts from a focus on teaching, in this case, the Gen Ed courses. There are other examples (such as CommCult and SPT) and this may be a unique aspect of York to stress somewhere in the plan. -would welcome articulation of more programs that are interdisciplinary/ cross disciplinary for the initiative section of the plan ie: biotechnology as an area/program suggested at an earlier SRP meeting -suggested implementing a focus on successful alumni who go on to academic careers as a measure of success. They serve as a tangible example of knowledge mobilization. -Encouragement of alternative expressions of research output for graduate students outside of /or complimentary to typical scholarly outputs e.g. film projects are part of some programs -As an example, STS is working towards partnering with another/other institution(s) to create an innovative lab to foster creative projects in STS program- stressed the importance of being able to place themselves in the SRP in order to foster these types of scholarly initiatives and the need for support from York in the development of relevant grants. |