

**ventureLAB Meeting  
March 13, 2013  
1:00pm- 2:30pm  
Markham Convergence Centre  
7271 Warden Avenue  
Markham, Ontario L3R 5X5**

**Present:** R. Haché, VPRI York University, P. Shaw, Executive Director, YTA, M. Betts, Entrepreneur in Residence, ventureLAB, M. Moshiri, CEO Panacea Global Inc., A. Gallo, Senior VP Innovation Open Text, P. Rivvet, Client Services Manager ventureLAB, J. Laurin, CEO ventureLAB, D. Wasserman, Executive in Residence ventureLAB, K. Pace, Senior Manager Customer Solution Centre IBM Canada, C. Giblon, Industry Liaison Manager, Innovation York, York University, B. Edwards (VPRI Office, York University)

Agenda Item	Notes
<p>Strategic Research Plan –Draft</p> <p>(slides presented by R. Haché)</p>	<p>R.Hache made introductory remarks regarding the SRP, emphasizing areas for interaction within Plan, and emphasizing that York is open to engaging with York Region. R. Haché presented a series of slides outlining the outline of the draft Plan, including the broad research themes, opportunities for the development of research, and highlighted particular references that support research collaborations with our external partners- supporting knowledge mobilization, commercialization and social entrepreneurs- the new mechanisms for coordinated interactive environment for our research with a variety of end users. Highlighted interdisciplinary research as important to York, having tried to reflect the broad range of cross-disciplinary research at York within the interactive themes. Stressed the continuing commitment to the development of recognized areas of strength in research, scholarship and creative expression, while over the next five years expect to invest additional funds in several strategic areas of research development, outlined as areas of opportunity within the Plan. Informed meeting participants that VPRI will circulate a final version of the Plan once complete.</p> <p><u>Comments &amp; Clarifications:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Impressed with the “knowledge sharing” schematic diagram (slide #12)- suggested that the arrows be bi-directional with end users feeding back into the system</li> <li>-Inquired about what type of feedback VPRI would benefit from specifically</li> <li>-Clarified that VPRI is looking to set a tone within the Plan that will speak to and resonate with our external community, and speaks to our research ambitions as an institution</li> <li>-Inquired where Osgoode Hall Law School fits in the Plan</li> <li>-Clarified that Osgoode’s research strengths are highlighted throughout the plan- from IP Osgoode to their public policy work</li> <li>-Inquired whether cross-functional integration across disciplines is a goal of the Plan</li> <li>-Clarified that encouraging collaborative work across Faculties is a key objective of the Plan in advancing the research enterprise</li> <li>-Emphasized that there may be some sensitivity around the term ‘external communities’- suggested that instead use ‘community’ indicating a full integration as part of the larger community (IBM)</li> <li>-Commented that York has done a brilliant job within the knowledge mobilization space by understanding the need and developing a unique sense of community through interaction</li> <li>-Commented with enthusiasm regarding York’s medical school ambition.</li> <li>-Interested in opportunities for others outside the university to utilize the facilities. As well as the working with the international community</li> <li>-Clarified the relationship York has developed with the international community- over 100 international institutional agreements signed; York’s researchers are very keen to</li> </ul>

work with/ develop international partners- over 100 international institutional agreements signed. Explained that York is open to both contract research and development of research partnership agreements.

- Comments emphasized that the community engagement approach is inspirational–empower researchers as figures of change. Inquired about the individual researchers can participate in the community- what are the main mechanisms.
- Clarified the variety of tools and supports provided to researchers to enable their research- ranges from Innovation York, seed funding to infrastructure supports
- Inquired about external funding, bringing partners into the University for collaborative work
- Clarified that success involves reciprocity, but is dependent on the specific opportunity, York offers several paths for partnered research
- Inquired about the York research website and the information on partnership opportunities
- Clarified that our research website is very user friendly for external partners. Further developed new policies around our research centres and institutes that will guide formation of external advisory boards important for facilitating and providing access to research sites and build the resource base for ORUs.
- Inquired about the ultimate objective of the Plan in achieving success
- Clarified that goal is to provide a vibrant research environment, for both faculty members and students, in helping to drive the academic quality at York. Further our research needs to be relevant to the external community
- Commented on new school of engineering and the expansion and growth in the field as significant, inquired about growth comparison to other institutions in Canada
- Clarified that York’s engineering expansion is a strong statement of research development and growth- no other university is developing in this way
- Expressed enthusiasm about the possibility of collaborating with York in the future (health care enterprise)
- Clarified that York can look at collaborating immediately. Suggested that C. Giblon, Industry Liaison Manager, Innovation York would be best entry point to connect to key researchers
- Commented that most universities are often very difficult to access for external community members. Identified York’s unique opportunity in York Region and inquired if York has a strategic focus on how it will engage the community in the Region
- Clarified that indeed large opportunities exist, but success is dependent on setting up connections
- R. Haché inquired about the considerations in creating a smaller summary document of the SRP
- Responded – 3 pages maximum, with external audience considerations- identify research by area of expertise and information on how to best to connect with York research
- Expressed a need for a practical way of engaging with York research, one that is more systemic. Suggested better defining how we would like to engage with partners
- Inquired about funding income generated by external collaborations
- Clarified that it is less than \$100K
- Expressed encouragement for the way York knits together the broader social picture York as a unique approach and perspective on policy and social challenges- enables better opportunities for business and addresses social challenges, impacting the lives of citizens the environment and the economy
- Suggested compelling narratives within the Plan

-Expressed thanks to meeting participants for attending and for invitation to present.