

**University Delegates WebEx Meeting  
June 7, 2018 - 12:30-1:30pm EDT  
CIHR Room 10-219, Ottawa, Ontario  
DRAFT Minutes**

**Participants**

Chair: Annik Poirier, Manager, Business Solutions, Competition Management and Support (in place of Pierre Cote, Director General, Operations Support)

Members:	<p>Ali Jenabian, Université du Québec à Montréal;</p> <p>Andrea Lawrance, Carleton University;</p> <p>Brian Christie, University of Victoria;</p> <p>Brittney Roughan, Mount Saint Vincent University;</p> <p>Brittany Walch (for Darcy Marciniuk), University of Saskatchewan;</p> <p>Chris Whitfield, University of Guelph;</p> <p>Christian Beaulieu, University of Alberta;</p> <p>David Litchfield, Western University;</p> <p>David Rose, University of Waterloo;</p> <p>Donald Tremblay (for Christian Baron), Université de Montréal;</p> <p>François Boudreau, Université de Sherbrooke;</p> <p>Frédéric Lesage, École Polytechnique Montréal;</p> <p>Nicole Baillet (for Geoff Payne), University of Northern British Columbia;</p> <p>Gerald W. Zamponi, University of Calgary;</p> <p>Kristen Baetz, University of Ottawa</p>	<p>Lara Boyd, University of British Columbia;</p> <p>Lauren Sergio, York University;</p> <p>Lionel Berthoux, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières;</p> <p>Lisa Porter, University of Windsor;</p> <p>Lori Livingston, University of Ontario Institute of Technology;</p> <p>Lori Burrows, McMaster University;</p> <p>Marc Pouliot, Université Laval;</p> <p>Mark Filiaggi, Dalhousie University;</p> <p>Marilyn Hodgins, University of New-Brunswick;</p> <p>Shari Baum, McGill University;</p> <p>Stephen Perry, Wilfrid Laurier University;</p> <p>Steven Smith, Queen's University;</p> <p>Stephen Waldman, Ryerson University;</p> <p>Wendy Ward, Brock University;</p> <p>Yvonne Myal, University of Manitoba</p>
CARA members	<p>Jennifer Thurlow, Capital District Health Authority (CARA member);</p> <p>Joanne Simala-Grant, University of Alberta;</p>	<p>Judith Chaidwick, University of Toronto (CARA member);</p> <p>Lorraine Deydey, University of Alberta;</p>
Institution staff:	<p>Allison Sekuler, Baycrest Health Sciences</p> <p>Judith Chadwick, University of Toronto</p> <p>Leslie Copp, University of Waterloo;</p> <p>Paul Wiebe, Health Sciences Centre</p> <p>Peter Schwarz-Lam, University of Toronto;</p>	<p>Samar Saneinejad, St. Michael's Hospital;</p> <p>Wei Su, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital</p>
Regrets:	<p>Brenda Smith-Chant, Trent University;</p> <p>Penny D'Agnone (for Claudia Malacrida), University of Lethbridge;</p> <p>Brenda Bruner, Nipissing University;</p> <p>Daniel Cyr, Institut Armand-Frappier;</p>	<p>Peter L. Twohig, Saint Mary's University;</p> <p>Richard Isnor, St. Francis Xavier University;</p>

	<p>Deborah Zornes, Royal Roads University;  Dina Brooks, University of Toronto;  Estelle Chamoux, Bishop's University;  Jennifer McGrath, Concordia University;  Jennifer Walker, Laurentian University;  Jeremy Knight, University of Toronto  (CARA member);  Karen McQueen (for Vicki Kristman),  Lakehead University;  Kate Keetch, Department of Evaluation &amp;  Research Services in Fraser Health;  Keely Rose, The Hospital for Sick Children  Kristina Arseneau, Queen's University  Martin Kirk, University of British Columbia  (CARA member); Norbert Haunerland,  Simon Fraser University;</p>	<p>Rod McCormick, Thompson Rivers  University;  Robert Bertolo, Memorial University of  Newfoundland;  Said Mekary, Acadia University;  Sandra Turcotte, Université de Moncton;  Sanja Obradovic, Ryerson University;  Sébastien Normand, Université de  Québec en Outaouais;  Shanthi Jonhson, University of Regina;  Sunny Hartwig, University of Prince  Edward Island;  Tanya Brann-Barrett, Cape Breton  University;  Virginie Portes, Université de Montréal  (CARA member);</p>
Staff:	<p>Allison Forsythe, Public Affairs Officer;  Annik Poirier, Manager, Business  Solutions, Competition Management and  Support;  Cara Tannenbaum, CIHR Scientific  Director of the Institute of Gender and  Health;  Chaidwick Leneis, Acting Manager, Priority  Driven Initiatives;  Kelly Taylor, Director General, Program  Design and Delivery;</p>	<p>Krystle van Hoof, Assistant Director,  CIHR Institute of Gender and Health;  Michelle Peel, Director General,  Science Policy  Nancy Mason MacLellan, Manager,  Major Initiatives;  Nathalie Gendron, Manager, Program  Design and Delivery;  Zainab Karouni, Change Management  Advisor</p>

## 1. CIHR Update

Annik Poirier, Manager, Business Solutions, Business Systems, Competition Management and Support, provided a verbal CIHR update.

### UDEC Recruitment

A call for nominations to fill the upcoming UDEC vacancy was sent to the network in May. A total of 7 nominations and self-nominations were received. Members were reminded that they have until June 8, 2018 to submit a nomination or self-nomination. A poll will follow in the coming days with the hopes that the new UDEC member will be announced in July.

### CARA 2018 Annual Conference

CIHR participated at the CARA 2018 Annual Conference in May 2018. CIHR presented updates on a wide variety of subjects. This includes a CIHR Update Session, a Tri-Agency Update Session, a Tri-Agency Financial Session, and an Update on the Renewal of the Tri-Agency Financial Administration Initiative. The presentations can be shared with the network. CIHR appreciated this opportunity to meet and interact with research administrators from across the country.

### CIHR President

There are no updates on the recruitment of the President since the last meeting. Information will be provided once available.

### New Governing Council Members

The Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health, announced the appointment of six top Canadian health researchers to the Governing Council of CIHR. Full details are available [online](#).

### Travel Claims

The travel claims submitted for the annual UD meeting in Ottawa are currently being reviewed and processed. CIHR expects that reimbursements will follow shortly.

## **2. Update on Sex and Gender Peer Review in the Project Grant Competition**

Cara Tannenbaum, Scientific Director of the CIHR Institute of Gender and Health (IGH), presented an update on sex and gender peer review in the Project Grant competition. For the Project Grant: Spring 2018 competition, reviewers were given a box to provide feedback to applicants on sex and/or gender integration. Reviewers were instructed to specify if it was a strength, weakness, or not applicable. They could also provide recommendations on how it can be improved. There were no specific scores attached. It was up to the reviewers to determine the impact, if any, on the score in context of the grant application as a whole. Instructions to completing this box were formally integrated into the peer review guide. Reviewers were equipped with the necessary resources to complete this portion of the review, such as a video that is available [online](#).

Based on the College of Reviewers' recommendation, the Chairs and Scientific Officers of each committee were asked to complete one of IGH's [training modules](#) that was most relevant to their discipline. In addition, there was at least one reviewer on each committee who, in their College profile, flagged that they self-identified as an expert in sex and gender science. The sex and gender resource section on the [CIHR website](#) was revamped where additional content and resources can be downloaded.

An assessment will be completed in the coming weeks to examine the quality of the review for this portion. Chairs and Scientific Officers completed a quality assessment and CIHR will be doing this too.

University Delegates were informed that they can encourage applicants to watch the online video, give feedback on internal reviews, and set up an Institute of Gender and Health trainee network at their institutions.

CIHR has made a commitment to spend 4.3% of its budget on Indigenous Health Research. The IGH, along with the Institute of Indigenous Peoples' Health and the Institute of Population and Public Health, is sponsoring the Indigenous Gender and Wellness initiative. This initiative targets students between the ages of 18 and 30 years of age. University Delegates were encouraged to share this with their institutions.

## **3. SPOR Update**

Nancy Mason MacLellan, Manager, Major Initiatives, presented an update on Canada's Strategy on Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR). SPOR is a collaboration of researchers, patients, provinces and territories, health care professionals and others – all working in partnership to integrate research into patient care, ultimately improving the health of Canadians. CIHR plays a prominent role in the launch, implementation and oversight of SPOR, but represents only one in a multitude of partners.

An overview of the SPOR principles and core elements: SUPPORT Units, Networks, Clinical Trials, Patient Engagement and Enabling Functions was provided. All of this information is available on the CIHR website. Members were also informed they can subscribe to the SPOR newsletter by sending an email to the SPOR mailbox.

Following the presentation, one member asked if CIHR intends to move away from "patient" terminology and instead consider "people/public" so that health promotion is emphasized as opposed to a disease focus. This is a common question that has been discussed at length. Nancy informed members that patients were included in this discussion when developing the SPOR Patient Engagement Framework.

One member asked why the 1:1 funding match ensures relevance/applicability as it can limit accessibility to the program and could exclude some very impactful ideas. Nancy informed members that this is in fact a Treasury Board requirement and is in place for most SPOR funding opportunities.

#### **4. Update on Project Grant Program**

Kelly Taylor, Director General, Program Design and Delivery, provided a verbal update on the Project Grant competitions.

##### Spring 2018 competition

As of June 7<sup>th</sup>, 39 of the 57 peer review committee meetings are complete. The remaining 18 meetings will be held until June 15<sup>th</sup>. The notice of decision will be posted on July 10<sup>th</sup> and the funding start date is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>.

##### Future competitions

The funding opportunities for the Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 competitions are anticipated to be launched in mid-July. This will include any associated priority announcements. Minor changes to the Project Grant committee mandates, based on consistent feedback from the community to date, will be made in time for the Project Grant: Fall 2018 competition. On-going modifications to the committee mandates will continue.

#### **5. Update on Foundation Grant Program**

Kelly Taylor, Director General, Program Design and Delivery, provided a verbal update on the Foundation Grant: 2017-2018 competition. The FAS committee is made up of the 19 stage 2 Virtual Chairs and is scheduled on June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The notice of decision is scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup>.

The Foundation Grant Program Review Working Group has developed recommendations for changes to the program. CIHR is currently reviewing and assessing these recommendations. CIHR expects to provide an update on this subject in the coming weeks.

## **6. Strategic Update**

Nathalie Gendron, Manager, Program Design and Delivery, provided a verbal update on CIHR's strategic competitions. CIHR Strategic Initiatives that have registration and application deadlines planned for the next 2 months were presented. All funding opportunities are available on the [Funding Opportunity Database \(en français\)](#).

The following funding opportunities were presented:

- [Operating Grant: Understanding the Health Impact of Inactivity](#)  
Registration deadline of July 24<sup>th</sup> and full application deadline of August 21<sup>st</sup>
- [Operating Grant : AMR: Point of Care Diagnostics in Human Health - Phase 2](#)  
Full application deadline of August 21<sup>st</sup>

The results of strategic competitions for the month of May were also shared. One member asked when the [Team Grant : GACD Intervention scale-up - Hypertension and/or diabetes](#) funding opportunity will be posted on ResearchNet. (*Note: this has been posted in June 2018*).

Any questions about funding opportunities can be sent to the [Contact Centre](#).

## **7. Adjournment**

The next University Delegates meeting will be held on July 5, 2018.

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation, and adjourned the meeting at 1:23 p.m.