

**University Research Council Minutes**  
**October 3, 2016**  
**2:30 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**ABB-Room 131J**

**In attendance:**

Rob Baker, Bonny Ibhawoh, Steve Collins, Tony Porter, John Preston, Naresh Agarwal, Gillian Goward, Doug Welch, Vivian Lewis, Zach Douglas, Nick Marketos, Ranil Sonnadara, Gay Yuyitung, Greg Weiler, Kathy Charters, Susan Munro, Lori Dillon

**Regrets:** Peter Mascher, Pamela Swett, Jonathan Bramson

**1. Introduction of New Members**

- New/first-time members: Gillian Goward (Acting Associate Dean Research & External Relations, Faculty of Science) Doug Welch (Acting AVP & Dean, Graduate Studies)

**2. Minutes of University Research Council Meeting of June 22, 2016**

- Zach Douglas requested that Item 10 of the Minutes be changed (note: change reflected in revised minutes)
- Minutes of June 22, 2016 approved

**3. Report by VP Research**

- Rob Baker introduced himself to the URC and noted there will be no major changes in the OVPR; “first and last a service unit committed to all Faculties”
- VPR presented upcoming initiatives, which will include a mapping exercise of who does what in the OVPR; provided an overview of the recent university rankings
- Noted that he will be developing a new Strategic Research Plan
- John Preston shared that Engineering is running its own ranking committee; would like to partner with the university as a whole
- Bonny Ibhawoh is on the university’s rankings committee, and he said he will take the concerns of the URC to the committee
- Vivian Lewis asked about the % of research funding and what does it look like at other universities; VPR said that we are comparable to others in the U15

**4. MIP Update (Zach Douglas)**

- Mr. Douglas provided a presentation that included the history, current initiatives and future plans for the McMaster Innovation Park (presentation posted online [here](#))

**5. Mosaic Update (Sheldon Smart, Kevin de Kock)**

- Mr. de Kock did a presentation about the Mosaic initiative and noted that there have been no new upgrades or patches since 2013, therefore need to do updates now

- Provided an overview of scheduled upcoming changes and new 'look, feel and functionality' of the Mosaic system; more functionality on mobile devices
  - Ali Assad, Business Analyst, McMaster Research Finance also attended the meeting ([assadaf@mcmaster.ca](mailto:assadaf@mcmaster.ca), x24681) and said that they have worked on putting graphs/new enhancements in the system: every month a report will come out
  - Rob Baker recommended that the email that was sent out by Ali in October be re-sent in to remind PIs of the December 1 changes to scientific stores with regards to authorized individuals on their project accounts
- 6. McMaster Institute of Research in Aging (MIRA) Update** (Parminder Raina, Laura Harrington)
- Parminder Raina talked about the funding opportunities through the Provost's Fund and the President's office
  - He described MIRA's administrative structure/executive council and noted they'd like someone from each Faculty on the council
  - In 2014 the institute was virtual, the Institute for Geroscience – met with 60 researchers from across campus to determine the vision; symposium in the fall 2014
  - "Geroscience" didn't resonate, changed to McMaster Institute of Research in Aging (2016); specific areas of research within the Institute
  - website <http://mira.mcmaster.ca/>
- 7. Reports from the VPR Team** (Nick Markettos, Kathy Charters, Gay Yuyitung, Susan Munro, Ranil Sonnadara, Lori Dillon)
- Kathy Charters: Canada Excellence Research Chairs Program (CERC) Phase 1 next round submission February 2017
  - Bonny Ibhawoh: Interdisciplinary Fund competition, already 36 applications (closes November 1)
  - Ranil Sonnadara: VIVO – knowledge transfer projects; reached out to each Faculty; hope to have live in January
  - Gay Yuyitung asked the ADRs for nominations for the Innovator of the Year for this year's Innovation Showcase (November 10); NSERC CRD reps on campus October 13
  - Susan Munro: VPR budget submitted; presentation October 13
- 8. Faculty Updates** – Associate Deans, Research
- Tony Porter said that the Institute for Globalization was undergoing a review, which includes determining if the Institute fits with the strategy on Internationalization
  - John Preston shared that he is a member of the Mayor's Intelligent Community Forum Task Force, which examines the capability of individual cities to prosper in a Broad Band Economy and designates some of them as "Intelligent Communities" - City of Hamilton applying for the designation

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.