

**University of Windsor
Senate**

5.10: **Report of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation**

Item for: **Information**

Forwarded by: **Michael Siu**

1. The Office of Research and Innovation Services has been busy supporting major and multi-institutional research initiatives, including:
 - a. Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) application on automobility and automotive engineering, involving six partnering universities from coast to coast, as well as original equipment manufacturers and parts suppliers. CFREF aims to support university research strengths within Canada's strategic areas of priority that will create long-term economic advantage for Canada. Recent announcements of industrial investments (with substantial governmental incentives) in electrical vehicles and battery plants emphasize the strategical economic importance of research investment in automobility and electrification.
 - b. Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) – Innovation Fund (IF) application for the acquisition of a compact accelerator-based neutron source (CANS), which constitutes part 2 of a pan-Canadian initiative involving 17 universities from coast to coast, to build and expand the research infrastructure in using neutrons as a probe for materials structure and as an agent for targeted cancer therapy. Neutrons are exquisitely sensitive to light elements, including hydrogen and lithium (while x-rays are not); and are, therefore, also especially useful probes for biomaterials and lithium-based batteries.
 - c. CFI applications led by other universities with UWindsor as a collaborating institution – these applications include one to CFI – Major Science Initiatives for funding the operations of freshwater observatories, including those in the Real-time Aquatic Ecosystem Observation Network (RAEON), which was originally funded in 2017 through a CFI-IF grant; a second application to also CFI-IF on freshwater ecosystem assessment and management; and a third application, to CFI-IF as well, on hybrid additive manufacturing.
2. Dr. Ken Drouillard will be stepping down as Chair of the Research Safety Committee (RSC) and taking his sabbatical leave on June 1, 2022. We are indebted to Ken for his leadership and dedication in supporting research at UWindsor and ensuring that it is carried out safely, especially during the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are in the process of identifying the next RSC Chair.
3. The Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation nominates colleagues for research awards and recognitions. Recent nominations include:
 - a. Royal Society of Canada (RSC) Fellows – three nominations submitted; Fellows of the RSC are distinguished Canadians from all branches of learning who have made remarkable contributions in the arts, the humanities and the sciences, as well as in Canadian public life.
 - b. RSC College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists – six nominations submitted; the RSC College is Canada's first national system of multidisciplinary recognition for the emerging generation of Canadian intellectual leadership.
 - c. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Impact Awards (in recognition of outstanding researchers and to celebrate their research achievements) – one nomination submitted.
 - d. Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Synergy Awards (in recognition of outstanding partnerships between universities and industry) – one nomination to be submitted by April 19, 2022.