

**Senate Advisory Research Committee (SARC)  
2008 – 2009 Report to Senate  
Executive Summary**

During the 2008-2009 reporting period the Senate Advisory Research Committee (SARC) members met in November 2008 and March, June and September 2009 to discuss research issues, review annual reports and approve recommendations from Subcommittees I, II, III, IV and V. Each Subcommittee held one to three meetings depending on which programs required the review of applications and nominations. The membership of these committees is provided in Appendix 1 (pg 8). Activity highlights for 2008-2009 include:

- Adjudicated the following Principal's Development Fund programs:
  - SARC Postdoctoral Fellow program (deadline November 15, 2008) offered three one-year fellowships to candidates from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Philosophy and Electrical and Computer Engineering. One candidate declined, therefore two offers were accepted.
  - SARC Program awarded \$235,020 to 41 faculty researchers (66 applications; 62% success rate) for the annual January 31, 2009 competition.
- Approved 22 \$5,000 4A awards to 25 faculty researchers who were designated 4A by SSHRC (approved but not funded due to lack of funds) in the October 15, 2008 Standard Research Grant competition.
- Selected Dr. W. Craig, Department of Psychology, and Dr. Martin Duncan, Department of Physics, Engineering Physics and Astronomy, as the 2009 Prize for Excellence in Research recipients.
- Funded 97 of the 112 faculty Travel Award applications received.

The Senate Advisory Research Committee also reports to Senate on the procedures and membership of the annual Chancellor's Research Awards, the Principal's Development Fund for the Support of Artistic Production and the Visiting Artists in Residence program, the Postdoctoral Excellence in Research Award, Postdoctoral Fellows Travel Awards and they review annual reports from Centres, Institutes and Research Groups.

- Principal's Development Fund for Support of Artistic Production and Visiting Artists in Residence: recipients were from the School of Music, Department of Art and Department of Drama.
- Dr. D. Jensen, Department of Medicine was selected as a 2009 Postdoctoral Research in Excellence recipient.
- The Postdoctoral Fellow Travel Awards: 35 or 41 applications were funded.
- Chancellor's Research Awards: program is under review, thus, there was no competition.

The following outlines SARC activities pertaining to centres, institutes and research group:

- Reviewed 13 annual reports from Centres,
- Recommended a 5-year renewal to one centre;
- Approved two new research groups; and
- Recommended provisional status to two new Centres.

Respectfully Submitted December 2009  
R. Kerry Rowe  
Chair, Senate Advisory Research Committee



## **Senate Advisory Research Committee (SARC) 2008-2009 Annual Report to Senate**

### **Introduction**

The Senate Advisory Research Committee (SARC) reports annually to Senate on matters relating to research policy, internal research funding competitions and related activities. This report summarises the 2008-2009 results of the following competitions administered by the SARC.

- Principal's Development Fund, (SARC/Principal's Development Fund Competition, SARC/PDF Postdoctoral Fellow Support program and Travel Awards)
- SSHRC 4A and the Prizes For Excellence In Research Awards

Funds to support the awards determined by SARC are drawn from a number of sources, as detailed in Table 1 (pg 7), and are distributed through the SARC Subcommittees as shown in Table 2 (pg 7).

This report also provides committee membership information, general program procedures and a list of entities that report to the SARC.

The Senate Advisory Research Committee report to Senate on the procedures and membership of the annual Chancellor's Research Awards, the Principal's Development Fund for the Support of Artistic Production and Visiting Artists in Residence, the Postdoctoral Fellows Travel Awards and the Postdoctoral Excellence in Research Awards.

### **Analysis and Discussion**

Funds for the SARC/ Principal's Development Fund competition, the Postdoctoral Fellow Support program, Travel Awards competitions and the SSHRC 4A program are made available from:

1. The SSHRC General Research Grant, which is determined by SSHRC every three years, and which reflects the magnitude of total peer-adjudicated SSHRC funding to the University.
2. An allocation from the Principal's Development Fund, which is designated specifically to address the research needs of new faculty members and to provide seed money for new projects of established faculty.
3. Residual funds from expired NSERC grants when such funds are available.

The magnitude of each component and the total resources available to the SARC during 2008-2009 are listed in Table 1 (pg 7). The SSHRC General Research Grant (GRG) allocation is provided to Subcommittees II and V, on a pro-rata basis. The Principal's Development Fund is allotted to the five subcommittees following a review of past allocations and in consideration of the number of applications received by each subcommittee. Please see Appendix 4 (pg 10) for the representation to each subcommittee.

### Senate Advisory Research Committee (SARC)/Principal's Development Fund Competition

This SARC program is intended to provide funds to assist new faculty members (within 3 years of appointment) initiate their research programs, and to help more established faculty members with financial need for a significant new initiative or exceptional opportunity in an existing research program. A total of 66 applications were received in the January 31, 2009 competition, and 41 were funded. The allocations to and expenditures by the five subcommittees are listed in Table 2 (pg 7). The success rate for Category I applicants (researchers within 3 years of their initial appointment at Queen's) was 64%; 58% of Category II applicants (researchers more than 3 years from their initial appointment) were successful. The average award amount was \$5,700.

### SARC Postdoctoral Fellow Support

The objective of the SARC Postdoctoral Fellow Support program is to attract outstanding Postdoctoral Fellows to Queen's. This Fellowship is valued at \$30,000 to assure one-year support for the Postdoctoral Fellow if external fellowship funding is not obtained; funding is reduced to \$10,000 if an external fellowship application is successful. Usually, one Postdoctoral Fellow will be supported from each of the three research areas supported by NSERC, SSHRC and CIHR. There were 11 submissions in the November 15, 2008 competition. Three awards were offered and two were accepted because the Subcommittee I candidate declined. Subcommittee I only received one application therefore there was not a second ranked candidate who the award could be offered to. The successful candidates were from the Department of Philosophy and the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering.

### Travel Awards

The purpose of the Travel Award program is to provide support for travel, accommodation, meals and registration fees associated with an event at which a researcher is presenting significant scholarly work. Each year \$80,000 is allocated to this program and applications are adjudicated in January, April and September through the Office of Research Services according to criteria established by the SARC. Funding criteria include: significance of the conference; researcher's need; significance of the role the researcher will play at the conference; availability of funds; publication record and the ability of the award to enhance an applicant's success in attracting external funding. In the September 2008, January 2009 and April 2009 competitions combined, 112 applications were submitted requesting a total of \$154,136. A total of 97 applications were funded (91% success rate in 'new' category and 85% in established category). Commencing September 2009 the Travel Awards program will offer two competitions. The annual competition deadlines will be September 15 and March 15 only.

### 4A Program

The 4A program is intended to provide eligible researchers funds to further develop their research program in order to enhance the probability of receiving Social Science Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) funds in the next competition. The program awards \$5,000 to researchers who are designated 4A in the SSHRC Standard Research Grant competitions (approved but not funded due to lack of funds). An amount of

\$50,000 per year is set aside from the SARC funds for this program. Since the program began in 1996, SARC has supported 179 applicants and 143 applicants have subsequently

been successful in receiving a SSHRC grant. In 2009, SSHRC designated 25 researchers 4A status and in accordance with Queen's criteria 23 were eligible for a \$5,000 award. Twenty-two accepted the award.

#### Prize for Excellence in Research

The Prize for Excellence in Research normally recognises two researchers each year for their major research contributions in recent years. Each year the SARC considers candidates for the Prize for Excellence in Research brought forward by the five SARC Subcommittees. In 2009 four nominations were received. The two 2009 winners were W. Craig, Department of Psychology, and M. Duncan, Department of Physics, Engineering Physics and Astronomy. Each Prize for Excellence in Research recipient receives a \$5,000 award and official recognition at the fall convocation. The funds for these awards are provided by the discretionary fund of the Office of Research Services.

#### Chancellor's Research Awards

The Chancellor's Research Awards program was under review.

#### Principal's Development Fund,

##### Fund for the Support of Artistic Production

The mandate of the Fund for the Support of Artistic Production (FSAP) program is to assist faculty artists in the production of artistic work. Each of the five applications received in the March 15, 2009 competition were funded, for a total of \$22,832. The awards went to researchers from the School of Music, Department of Art and the Department of Drama (3).

##### Visiting Artists in Residence

The mandate of the Visiting Artists in Residence (VAR) program is to assist Departments and Schools in facilitating the presence on campus of professional or academic artists in the fields of literature, music, theatre and visual and media arts. The annual budget was \$25,000. One submission was received from the School of Music in the March 15, 2009 competition. The submission was funded in the amount requested of \$15,660.

#### Postdoctoral Fellows Travel Awards

The intent of the Postdoctoral Fellows Travel Awards program is to assist with travel and subsistence costs to present scholarly work. \$15,000 is allocated annually from the Office of the Vice-Principal (Research). The program deadlines are November 1 and April 1. Thirty-five applications were funded (95% success rate).

#### Queen's University Postdoctoral Fellows Excellence in Research Award.

The mandate of these awards is to recognize the significant research and scholarly work of postdoctoral fellows at Queen's University. Three nominations were received in the annual April 15 competition. In 2009 there was one recipient, Dr. Dennis Jensen, Department of Medicine.

Summary of Queen's University Research Grants, Institutes and Other Entities that Report to SARC

According to the *Procedures Governing the Establishment, Reporting and Review of Research Centres, Institutes, and Other Entities at Queen's University* Senate policy, the Senate Advisory Research Committee reviewed the following requests and reports:

Centres recommended for provisional centre status

Queen's Centre for Energy and Power Electronics Research  
Surveillance Studies Centre

Centres 5-year review approved

Human Mobility Research Centre

New groups reviewed and group status recommended

Mass Spectrometry & Proteomics Services Unit  
Queen's – Fudan Network for Environment and Sustainability Research

Annual Reports from Centres/Institutes which were reviewed

Cancer Research Institute at Queen's University  
Centre for Health Services and Policy Research  
Centre for Neuroscience Studies  
Centre for Obesity Research and Education  
Centre for the Study of Democracy  
GeoEngineering Centre  
High Performance Computing Virtual Laboratory  
Human Mobility Research Centre  
Institute for Intergovernmental Relations  
Institute for Population and Public Health  
Queen's – RMC Centre for Advanced Materials and Manufacturing  
Queen's – RMC Fuel Cell Research Centre  
The Monieson Centre

**Conclusion/Recommendation**

SARC recommendations allowed funding across a broad range of research interests, and support for different types for scholarly activities in 2008-2009. Additionally, the work of the SARC in reviewing of centres and Institutes provides critical oversight for these research entities. Besides involvement in all the above SARC programs the committee members conducted the following activities:

- November 2008 and June 2009 SARC Subcommittees I, III and IV Chairs and one other member from each of these subcommittees conducted the adjudication of Rounds 2 and 3 of the Queen's – Province of Ontario Ministry of Research & Innovation (MRI) Postdoctoral Fellowship program. Six fellowships were offered. The Candidates were from the Departments of Biochemistry, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Biology, Chemical Engineering and (2) School of Computing. These fellowships were valued at \$50,000 for a 2-year period and combine matching funds from MRI and Queen's.

- January 2009 Senate approved the revised *Policy on Integrity in Research*, formerly known as *A Code of Research Ethics* as recommended by a special review committee reporting to SARC.
- September 2009 SARC recommended changes to the *Nomination and Selection Process for Canada Research Chairs at Queen's University* document to Senate for approval.
- October 2009 Senate approved the revised *Nomination and Selection Process for Canada Research Chairs at Queen's University* document.

In the upcoming year the Senate Advisory Research Committee members will continue to monitor research policy and other related activities.

Respectfully submitted December 2009  
R. Kerry Rowe  
Chair, Senate Advisory Research Committee

<b>TABLE 1</b>		
<b>2009 SARC/PDF January 31 Competition Budget</b>		
Principal's Development Fund	\$ 155,000	\$230,000 less \$75,000 for the SARC Postdoctoral program
SSHRC General Research Grant	\$ 80,027	\$130,027 less \$50,000 for 4A Program (Sub II 1/3, Sub V 2/3)
<b>TOTAL FUNDING ALLOCATED</b>	<b>\$235,027</b>	

<b>TABLE 2</b>				
<b>2009 SARC Subcommittee Allocations, Applications and Awards (\$)</b>				
	<b>Total Allocation</b>	<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>Total Awarded</b>	<b>Success Rate</b>
Subcommittee I	\$52,700	\$126,063	\$52,700	42 %
Subcommittee II	\$58,747	\$140,916	\$58,747	42 %
Subcommittee III	\$30,420	\$ 73,299	\$30,420	42 %
Subcommittee IV	\$31,840	\$ 76,682	\$31,840	42 %
Subcommittee V	\$61,320	\$146,959	\$61,320	42 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$235,027</b>	<b>\$563,919</b>	<b>\$235,027</b>	<b>42 %</b>

## APPENDIX 1

### 2008-2009 Senate Advisory Research Committee Membership

K Rowe (Chair)	Vice-Principal (Research)
S Marlin	Associate Vice-Principal (Research)
S Wood	Director, Office of Research Services
J Deakin	Dean, School of Graduate Studies & Research
L Ratcliffe	Associate Dean (Research), Faculty of Arts & Science
B Surgenor	Associate Dean, Faculty of Applied Science
R Deeley	Associate Dean (Research) Faculty of Health Sciences
Vacant	Dean/Associate Dean
L. Pelland	Subcommittee I Chair
T. Trothen	Subcommittee II Chair
R Sellens	Subcommittee III Chair
J. Fraser	Subcommittee IV Chair
J Meligrana	Subcommittee V Chair
J Hartwick	School of Graduate Studies Representative
B. Coe	Queen's Post-Doctoral Association
P Peng	Senate Representative
L Wade-Woolley	Senate Representative
Vacant	Society of Graduate and Professional Students Representative
J. Welsh	Society of Graduate and Professional Students Representative
B Stewart (Secretary)	Office of Research Services

### 2008-2009 SARC Subcommittee Membership

#### Subcommittee I (Health)

A. Brown, School of Nursing	D. Maurice, Dept of Pharmacology
B. Butler, Dept of Psychology	L. Pelland, Sch of Rehabilitation Therapy (Chair)
L. Seroude, Dept of Biology	vacant
Z. Jia, Dept of Biochemistry	

#### Subcommittee II (Humanities/Fine Arts)

D. Griffith, Dept of Classics	K. Sellars, Dept of Art
S. King, Dept of English	J. Stephenson, Dept of Drama
D. Knight, Dept of Philosophy	T Trothen, Theology (Chair)
S.E. Matrix, Dept of Film & Media	

#### Subcommittee III (Engineering)

M Guay, Dept of Chemical Engineering	K. Novakowski, Dept of Civil Engineering
S. Kelebek, Dept of Mining Engineering	
R Sellens, Dept Mechanical, Materials Engineering (Chair)	
C.H. Yeh, Dept Electrical & Computer	

#### Subcommittee IV (Natural Sciences)

L. Aarssen, Dept of Biology	J-M Nunzi, Dept of Chemistry
S. Dineva, Dept of Geological Science	N. Scott, Dept of Geography
K. Salomaa, School of Computing	L. Winn, Environmental Studies
J. Fraser, Dept of Physics (Chair)	



Subcommittee V (Social Sciences)

L. Cameron, Dept of Geography  
A. Goebel, Dept of Women's Studies  
M. Hand, Dept of Sociology  
R. Luce-Kapler, Faculty of Education

S. Matthews, Dept of Political Studies  
J. Meligrana, Urban & Regional Pl (Chair)  
E. Power, Kinesiology & Health Studies  
M. Weisberg, Faculty of Law

**APPENDIX 2**

**2008-2009**

**Principal's Development Fund**

**Support of Artistic Production Committee (FSAP) and Visiting Artists in Residence Membership  
(VAR)**

T. Fort	Department of Drama
G. Kibbins	Department of Film and Media Studies
C-L Reifel (Chair)	School of Music
J. Winton	Department of Art
K. McInnis	Associate Director, Office of Research Services

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **SARC Subcommittee Departments**

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE I**

Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology  
Department of Biochemistry  
Department of Community Hlth & Epid  
Department of Diagnostic Radiology  
Department of Emergency Medicine  
Department of Family Medicine  
Department of Medicine  
Department of Microbiology & Immunology  
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology  
Department of Ophthalmology  
Department of Otolaryngology  
Department of Paediatrics  
Department of Pathology & Molecular Medicine  
Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Department of Physiology  
Department of Psychiatry  
Department of Psychology\*\*  
Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation  
Department of Surgery  
Department of Urology  
School of Nursing  
School of Kinesiology & Health Studies  
School of Rehabilitation Therapy

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE II**

Department of Art Conservation\*\*\*  
Department of Art History  
Department of Classics  
Department of Drama  
Department of English  
Department of Film & Media Studies  
Department of French Studies  
Department of German  
Department of History  
Department of Philosophy  
Department of Religious Studies  
Department of Spanish and Italian  
School of Music

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE III**

Department of Chemical Engineering  
Department of Civil Engineering  
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Department of Mechanical & Materials Engineering  
Department of Mining Engineering

**SUBCOMMITTEE IV**

Department of Biology  
Department of Chemistry  
School of Computing  
Department of Geography  
Department of Geological Sciences & Geological Engineering  
Department of Mathematics & Statistics  
Department of Physics, Engineering Physics & Astronomy  
Department of Psychology\*\*

**SUBCOMMITTEE V**

Department of Economics  
Department of Geography\*  
Department of Global Development Studies  
Department of Political Studies  
Department of Psychology\*\*  
Department of Sociology  
Department of Women's Studies  
Faculty of Education  
Faculty of Law  
School of Business  
School of Policy Studies  
School of Urban and Regional Planning

**NOTE:** It is the responsibility of the researcher to choose the subcommittee most appropriate to adjudicate their application.

\*Geography can be included in Subcommittee IV or V

\*\* Psychology can be included in Subcommittees I, IV or V

\*\*\* Art Conservation can be included in Subcommittee II, III or IV