The Working Group started their discussion on general issues and restrictions that researchers at the university may be facing.

The Working Group acknowledged that the one of the needs that many researchers have across the university is increased support. It was noted that researchers have different needs across the many departments at the university and support might be different from one another. The support for Graduate and Post-Doctorate Students was also mentioned as lacking. The discussion on the latter point pertained to the need to transfer the knowledge from more experienced faculty to graduates, post-doctorate and also junior faculty members. The concept of time for research was discussed at length, mentioning the constraints of the current workload model as well as the limited time for some researchers to build relationships with the community for research purposes.

The Working Group discussed potential actionable solutions to aim to resolve those constraints. Some of these solutions include, but are not limited to, inter-faculty/university mentorship program, support for catalyzing research partnerships to address grand challenges, greater internal funding initiatives (including those for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows), internal awards, the strengthening of university relations strategy to stress better visibility and perception and the promotion of global visibility, and augmented central and departmental support for researchers.

The Working Group stressed the importance of recognition and promotion both internally at Queen’s University and around the world. Greater presence on the Canadian and International scene can attract stronger candidates for our university, which in turn can increase our research impact.