

4 October, 2010

**Research Data Technology Centre
Advisory Council**

**Agenda for Meeting
24 September 2010, 3:30-4:30, SSC 2322E**

Council:

Roderic Beaujot, Sociology (Academic Director)
David Bellhouse, Statistical and Actuarial Sciences (regrets)
Joyce Garnett, Chief Librarian (replaced by Eeva Munoz, Associate University Librarian)
Iris Gutmanis, St. Joseph's Health Centre London
Ted Hewitt, Research V-P (may be replaced by Dan Sinai) (regrets)
Andrew Nelson, Associate Dean, Faculty of Social Science (regrets)
Daniel Edelstein, Academic Director, Branch RDC, University of Windsor
Chris Robinson, Economics (regrets)
Katherine Breward (student representative)
Moirra Stewart, Family Medicine (regrets)
Stewart Thornhill, Ivey (regrets)

Staff:

Cynthia Cook, Statistics Canada (Senior Analyst, Regional Supervisor) (regrets)
Bradley Corbett, Statistics Canada (Analyst)
Vince Gray, Data Librarian, Western Libraries
Zenaida Ravanera, Information Officer

Documents:

Minutes of meeting of 12 March 2010 see
http://www.rdc.uwo.ca/Advisory_Council/20100312-UWORDC-minutes-revised.pdf

Annual Report UWO 2009

Budget sheets dated 17 September 2010

2010-11 PLCS/RDC Data and Statistics series and RDC Brown bag series

1. Minutes of 12 March 2010

The minutes have been approved and posted.
No business arising

2. Budget

The budget sheets were discussed with Brian Timney and Andrew Nelson in advance of the meeting.

The allocation formula and the Statistics Canada invoice includes host centres and branches in the same allocation/invoice. The budget sheets that have been circulated do not show the

revenue to University of Windsor (from the SSHRC/CIHR grant), nor the expenditures at Windsor for the Statistical Assistant. The SSHRC/CIHR revenue to Windsor, according to the allocation formula, includes a fixed branch allocation expected to be \$7000, plus portions of the “partner contribution”, the “active researcher-contract dyads” and the “activity or products” based at Windsor, according to the MOU. Since the dyad and activity allocation for 2010-11 are based on 2009-10 indicators, the allocation based on active dyads will all be counted at Western.

On the revenue side, 2009-2010 was unusual because the carry over in the SSHRC and CIHR grants needed to be spent in anticipation of a subsequent five year grant. For 2010-11, there will be need for \$70,000 from the Faculty of Social Science (\$50,000 of which was allocated as a UPIF when the Centre was opened). The revenue from SSHRC/CIHR includes the remaining carry forward (\$19,239) plus the expected allocation of \$61, 678. The CFI revenue shown here (\$1800) is for the first year of campus monthly fees for operating the WAN. The regional monthly fee of \$500 per month is paid directly to ORION. This CFI revenue will not continue beyond the first year.

On the expenditure side, there are several additional expenditures in 2010-11 compared to the previous year:

\$8,000 additional costs for a one analyst service

\$8,000 for covering extra hours when the Analyst is not present

\$5,000 for ITS that was previously “in kind” from SSNDS

\$8,000 for dissemination/promotion because in the previous year some of this had been absorbed through surpluses from the conference budget.

\$7,000 for computers that will need to be replaced, following on the decision with regard to thin client. Much of this will be captured from the CFI grant for equipment renewal.

\$1,000 for video telephone to communicate with Windsor.

\$1800 in annual fees for operating the WAN (in 2011-12 this will be \$7,800)

The expenditure side includes “in kind” or indirect contributions from the University. The general principle is that the direct plus indirect contributions from the University should cover about half of the costs.

3. Statistics Canada and Canadian Research Data Centres Network

CFI Leading Edge Grant: The first component of this grant is the WAN, which is now installed.

The third component is meta data and conversion to DDI3.0. Existing surveys are being converted to DDI3, and a second RFP will be for tools for ongoing conversion of survey documentation to harmonize DDI3 for DLI and RDC data. The third component of this grant involves equipment renewal. This allocation depends on the decision with regard to a thin client approach. There was a strong view that Western should not be among the first centres to adopt this new technology. A special meeting of Council will be called when the elements of this decision are clear.

SSHRC/CIHR operating grant: This grant was for \$11.5 million over five years. While this is much appreciated, it amounts to 80% of the original request, which had not been inflated. In particular, no allocations were made to cover inflation, and the first year’s allocation starts in July 2010, leaving a three month gap since the end of the 2005-2010 allocation.

CRDCN Annual Conferences:

2009: Health over the life course, UWO: <http://www.rdc.uwo.ca/conference2009/>

2010: 21-22 October 2010, Queen's, Economic relations between children and parents.

See: <http://jdi.econ.queensu.ca/content/rdc2010>

2011: University of Alberta: dates and topic will be circulated as soon as they are available.

Common bibliography in the network is available at: <http://www.rdc-cdr.ca/publications>

4. Director's report

The official opening of the University of Windsor branch was on 20 September 2010. Cindy Cook represented Statistics Canada and Rod Beaujot represented the CRDCN at the opening event. The event was very successful, with excellent representation from the University administration, good turn out, and media coverage.

As suggested at the previous meeting of Council, a presentation was made at the meeting of Associate Deans of Research. A similar presentation has been offered to the Health Council and to the meeting of Faculty of Social Science Graduate Directors. Similar presentations could be made in other Faculties, and to new faculty. A presentation to the post-graduate physicians' All Resident's Day was suggested.

Materials were sent to Jerry White for use in the strategic plan.

Projects, researchers, products (see Annual Report 2009, pp. 20-29)

see also: <http://www.rdc.uwo.ca/publications.htm>

<http://www.rdc.uwo.ca/projects.htm>

For projects, UWO shows 116.2 researcher-contract dyads which amounts to 4.33% of the system total. For products, the indicator is 29.5 or 2.66% of the system total. Both of these put UWO in 10th rank among the 14 RDCs. This corresponds to our being the 10th Centre to open, and to other grant allocation indicators for UWO in the national rankings. Given the fixed cost components of the allocation, UWO receives 4.9% of the 2010-11 allocation.

Brian Timney encourages the RDC to encourage researchers to bring revenue into the Centre through contract research. This has already occurred through INAC but UWO has not had contracts with HRSDC involving the RDC. Research Services could help to disseminate the word that we are "open for business." It was suggested that part of the overhead collected by the University should go back to the RDC. The fee for contracts is now \$4300.

ICES: Recommendation to pursue coordination of RDC and ICES at Western.

5. Statistics and Data series (Zenaida Ravanera)

The plans for 2010-11 were presented. There will be 4 presentations on data, 5 on statistics, and an expanded summer workshops on longitudinal analysis. The first presentation that took place on September 15, with Vince Gray and Elizabeth Hill as presenters, had 47 participants. An innovation for this academic year is the use of venues other than the Social Science Centre. Prof. Alison Konrad has arranged for presentations on data and for a Brown Bag at Ivey Building. A training workshop on the use of NPBS is being

considered for two days during the reading week in February 21-25. Prospective participants need to have experience in the use of SAS.
For the benefit of IVEY PhD students, it was suggested that HLM and specialized logistic regression would be particularly useful.
Basic regression with OLS, using categorical and continuous variables would also be useful.

6. Knowledge mobilization and impact (Zenaida Ravanera)

Brown Bag series and RDC@Western Research Highlights

See: <http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/rdchighlights/>

The plan for this year's Brown Bag is to have 4 presentations: 2 presenters have been booked for October and November, while 2 others for February and March are still to be determined. We are always on the look out for peer reviewed papers and defended theses that could be presented to this series.

Discussion of coordination with University of Windsor through the video connection. Brad Corbett is asked to experiment with use of this technology in SSC 5220.

7. Next meeting: 4 March 2011, 3:30-4:30

Seek to bring Dan Edelstein in by video phone and to use SSC 5220.

8. Adjournment