

UW Research Office Update - May 6, 2020

We hope you are managing to stay safe and healthy during this challenging time. We would like to thank each of you for reaching out over the past two months with questions, applications for new grants, contracts, ethics applications, and to share your knowledge mobilization successes.

We continue to do our best to keep up during this very busy time. However, it is important to share too that we are experiencing delays and challenges with the changes to research services due to the pandemic and the complexities of remote work.

We have and continue to appreciate your patience as we work hard to address each request as soon as we can. The global health crisis has affected university and research operations across Canada and we encourage you to visit the Tri-Council websites for regular updates on delays, opportunities for extensions, and special programs.

With the following update we hope to help answer questions you might have while also providing thought on some of our programming and delays that might be occurring.

Internal Grants

- There has been a disruption to our normal timelines for processing applications for internal open-call grants. We expect normal timelines to resume by mid-May. This affects Discretionary Grants, Partnership Development Grants, Research Workshop and Conference Grants, and Internal HSS USRAs. For more information contact: Lara Arnason at l.arnason@uwinnipeg.ca
- Please also refer to previous notice of cancellation of March travel competition. We have not finalized a decision on the June Travel Grant competition but expect that very little travel will be permitted over the coming months. We will update this as soon as possible.

Funding opportunities: Please have all applications submitted to the Research Office 2 weeks before the external deadline.

- **Research Manitoba**
 - Manitoba Covid-19 Rapid Response Grant – Submissions from April 1, 2020 – September 30, 2020 <https://researchmanitoba.ca/funding-opportunities/covid-19-research-fund/>
- **SSHRC**
 - Partnership Engage Grants Covid 19 Special Initiative - June 15 and Sept 15 <https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programmes-programmes/peg-sep-covid-19-eng.aspx>
- **Mitacs –**
 - Research Training Award – Summer student intern support Expression of Interest due to Jill Condra by May 15, 2020 (j.condra@uwinnipeg.ca)



- Mitacs Special Covid-19 funding and application fast-tracking - https://discover.mitacs.ca/academic-covid-19/?_ga=2.123834314.1103223511.1588625453-1567266968.1582840202
- **CIHR**
 - [Operating Grant: Knowledge Synthesis: COVID-19 in Mental Health and Substance Use](#) – May 7, 2020
 - [Operating Grant: COVID-19 May 2020 Rapid Research Funding Opportunity](#) – May 11, 2020
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- **NSERC**
 - Discovery Grant (DG) – NOI due August 4, 2020
 - Subatomic Physics Discovery (SAP-DG) – NOI due August 4, 2020
 - Major Resources Support (SAP-MRS), – NOI due August 4, 2020
 - Category 2 or 3 Research Tools and Instruments (SAP-RTI) – NOI due August 4, 2020
 - NSERC Alliance Grants – Open deadline

Ethics

The UHREB continues to review minimal-risk human ethics protocols under the usual timelines and strives to prioritize COVID-19 related applications. Should a full committee review be required, this could be handled through an online meeting platform. Please allow additional time for the committee to arrange this. (Please note, the UHREB does not meet for full reviews during July and August. Minimal-risk applications will still be accepted.)

The Tri-Council Secretariat has published some guidelines on human ethics review during the COVID-19 crisis:

<https://ethics.gc.ca/eng/home.html>

Applications for the use of animals in research will be reviewed but most research activity will be delayed until the University deems it safe to return to work on campus. (Please note, the UACC does not meet during July and August.)

Knowledge Mobilization

- The Research Office and the Oral History Centre have teamed up to produce a UW podcast series called Research Question. The first episode is available and features Dr. Craig Willis. (<https://oralhistorycentre.ca/2020/04/15/uwrq-ep1/>)
- UWinnipeg researchers have recently been active in the Conversation Canada with three articles in April. If you're interested in writing for the Conversation why not register as an author and pitch a story? If you have questions please contact Jill Condra at j.condra@uwinnipeg.ca

Recent Conversation Canada contributions include:

- **Jane Barter.** [I Once Thought Catholic humanist Jean Vanier as hero. Now I'm wrestling with his coercive legacy](#) (April 20)
- **Jino Distasio.** [How to build more resilient cities post-coronavirus.](#) (April 29)
- **Matthew Flisfeder.** [Who's Zoomin' who? How the coronavirus crisis is finally putting the 'social' in social media](#) (April 20)



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Update on accessing campus and students engaging in research

- As the province gradually reopens more services, we will keep the University of Winnipeg community updated via the UW website. Please check often for updates related to the gradual resumption of activities on campus in daily communications bulletins and the website.
- We are also continuing to support researchers with hiring postdocs and students.
- Faculty are encouraged to monitor research plans to accommodate off campus work.
- Faculty should continue to keep us posted should there be any questions related to changes in employment or location of work.

Over the past few weeks, we have all worked hard to ensure a normal continuation of services and supports. This has not been without its challenges and successes. Again, we thank the University of Winnipeg community for understanding the complexities of remote work within the context of research supports and services.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions to any member of the Research Office.

Respectfully,

Jino Distasio
Vice-President Research and Innovation