

# MEMORANDUM

---

TO: Academic Council

---

FROM: Michael Owen, Associate Provost, Research

---

SUBJECT: Annual Report – For information

---

DATE: August 9, 2010

---

TOTAL PAGES:

In 2009-10, the Research Board of Academic Council held nine meetings. These meeting addressed a number of policy issues and matters of specific interest to research faculty at UOIT.

Items that have been reported to Academic Council include:

- renaming of the Observatory on Sustainable Cities to the University-Community Link Unit (CLU), with a refocused mandate;
- the closing of the Cyber Crime Research Centre; and
- the policy on Conflict of Interest in Research (COIR).

At it final meeting in June 2010, the Research Board reviewed the annual reports from centres and approved the Associate Provost, Research recommendations for each centre. These are summarized below:

Centre for Evaluation & Survey Research (CESR).

Established in 2009, the CESR provides high quality quantitative and qualitative survey research and consultation for faculty, administration and non-university clients. CESR provides graduate and undergraduate research students with hand-on training in survey and evaluation design, implementation and analysis.

In 2009-10, the primary activities of CESR included establishing a governance structure, training and mentoring students, creating promotional materials, and creating and electronic infrastructure. A considerable amount of time was devoted to outreach activities, informing the UOIT community and the broader community of CESR's research and consultation capacity and laying the ground work for future research and service projects.

For 2010-11, CESR will finalise the hiring of a coordinator, continue to build its electronic infrastructure, provide training opportunities for students, and seek research and fee-for-service funding opportunities.

#### University Community Link Research Unit (CLU)

Established in December 2009, the CLU has focused on building its membership and consolidating its governance structures.

The CLU is positioning itself within the surrounding communities of Durham Region and Northumberland County by promoting human wellness and quality of life and sustainable cities. CLU will emphasize “links” between the university and community organizations and will build opportunities for faculty and student research partnerships with community organizations.

Although in a start-up mode, CLU has begun outreach work with the Northumberland Poverty Reduction Committee.

For 2010-11, CLU will expand its outreach within UOIT, provide training opportunities for co-op and graduate students, and participate in community fora as well as seeking research and other funds to support CLU activities.

#### Health Education Technology Research Unit (HETRU)

Now entering its 4<sup>th</sup> year, HETRU has a strong membership base with some 43 members and a highly productive publication and grant record, and has hosted a wide range of professional development programs and conferences.

The impact of HETRU on university scholarship and research development is significant. HETRU provides its members with scholarly research support services that complement the activities of the Office of Research Services. These services and professional development activities have included data collection and analysis training, scholarly paper review, and advice on journal selection for publication.

HETRU also provided support for an Interdisciplinary Modeling for Improved Patient-Centric Care Symposium, led by Drs. Jennifer Percival and Carolyn McGregor and funded through CIHR.

HETRU’s outreach to the professional community in Oshawa and the Durham region is to be commended. HETRU has formed and extended partnerships with the Durham Regional Cancer Clinic, the Village of Taunton Mills and the Schlegel-UW Research Institute of Aging. In addition, through a partnership with McGraw-Hill Ryerson, HETRU hosted a conference, “What really works: Strategies to improve teaching and learning”, which attracted 235 attendees from across Canada and

For 2010-11, HETRU plans to build on the success of the 2008-09 and 2009-10, including its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual conference related to learning, teaching and technology and expanding its reach within UOIT and the broader community.