Getting Started with Your Research Program at UTSC

New Faculty Orientation
July 31, 2018

Zahra Bhanji, PhD
Office of the Vice-Principal Research
• **Largest university system in Canada:** 3 campuses | 9 hospital partners | more than 90,000 students | 64 research centres & institutes

• **World-Class Talent:** more than 7,000 full-time faculty | more than 248 CRC | more than 20,000 grad students

• **Top Research Facilities:** Modern labs, buildings and equipment attract top faculty and students
University of Toronto Mission Statement:

“The University of Toronto is committed to being an **internationally significant research university**, with undergraduate, graduate and professional programs of excellent quality.”

Based, in part, on our research profile, UT is one of the top universities in the world.
Research at UTSC

- 14 departments & 2 centres
- Currently 8 CRCs & 2 endowed Chairs
- 6 Fellows of Royal Society of Canada
- 2 Members of the RSC for New Scholars, Artists and Scientists
- Research centres:
  - Centre for Biological Chemistry
  - Centre for Ethnography
  - Centre for the Neurobiology of Stress
  - Centre for Planetary Sciences
  - Culinaria Research Centre
  - Environmental Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Centre
  - Integrative Behaviour and Neuroscience Group
  - Plant Cellular and Molecular Processes Group
• **600+** Publications (from January 2017 to June 2018)
  - 526 Journal articles
  - 18 Books

• More than $11 million in research grants and contracts
• More than 250 research faculty

• 2017-18 SSHRC Insight Grant competition
  - National success rate: 47.6%
  - UT success rate: 55%
  - UTSC success rate: **60.8%**

• 2017-18 NSERC Discovery Grant competition
  - National success rate: 66%
  - UT success rate: 71.6
  - UTSC success rate: **76.5%**
The Vice-Principal Research is responsible for enhancing the overall research stature of U of T Scarborough locally, nationally and internationally.

The Vice-Principal Research works closely with the Vice-President Research to ensure that there is coordination and alignment of U of T Scarborough’s research activities within the broader context of the University of Toronto.

The Office of the Vice-Principal Research aims to help faculty develop and implement broad strategic research visions at U of Toronto Scarborough. The Office serves as a liaison with the University of Toronto Research Services Office (RSO), Innovations and Partnerships Office (IPO) and Research Oversight and Compliance Office (ROCO).
Assistant to the Vice Principal Research - Kristine Peruzzi

416-208-4886

Email: kperuzzi@utsc.utoronto.ca

Contact Kristine for matters related to:

- Vice-Principal Research schedule and activities
- Acquiring the Vice-Principal Research’s signature
- Graduate Student Travel Grant Program and Research Impact Fund
- Office financial processing
- Office of the Vice-Principal Research meetings and events
Office of the VPR

Director – Dr. Zahra Bhanji

416-208-2959

Email: zahra.bhanji@utoronto.ca

Contact Zahra for matters related to:

- UTSC research planning, services and infrastructure including vivarium
- Office of the Vice Principal Research operations, programs and initiatives
- Research communications, partnerships and innovation activities
- UTSC governance activities related to the Office of the Vice-Principal Research including Chairs and Directors and Research Advisory Board
Research Administration Officer – Dr. Suzanne Jaeger

416-208-8195

Email: sjaeger@utsc.utoronto.ca

Contact Suzanne for matters related to:

- Support for external funding opportunities for faculty in the social sciences and humanities
- Dissemination of research funding and awards & honours opportunities
- Consultation for project alignment with available funding opportunities
- Information for research application preparation including editing services available
- Research administration and communication of funding opportunities
- My Research Applications (MRA)
- External research awards and honours
- Student research funding programs (e.g. USRA, UTEA)
Research Administration Officer - Dr. Monica Caverson

416-208-5071

Email: monica.caverson@utoronto.ca

Contact Monica for matters related to:

• Support for external funding opportunities for faculty in the sciences, math and computer science
• Dissemination of research funding and awards & honours opportunities
• Consultation for project alignment with available funding opportunities
• Information for research application preparation including editing services available
• Research administration and communication of funding opportunities
• My Research Applications (MRA)
• External research awards and honours
• UTSC Faculty Internal Research Awards
Research Operations and Financial Officer – Michael Manley
416-208-8172
Email: michael.manley@utoronto.ca

Contact Michael for matters related to:
• Internal, operational aspects of the UTSC research enterprise
• UTSC internal research funding initiatives
• Research space and infrastructure
• Office of the Vice-Principal Research financial accounts including New Faculty Start up Fund, The Hub and Vivarium
• Research performance indicators, impacts and profile
Knowledge Mobilization & Special Projects Officer

– Dr. Magdalena Goledzinowska

416-208-5171

Email: m.goledzinowska@utoronto.ca

Contact Magdalena for matters related to:

• Research communications including the Office of Vice-Principal Research Annual Report
• Social media
• Office of Vice-Principal Research website
• Project coordination and support
Vivarium Manager – Michelle Wodzak-Staruch

416-208-8121

Email: michelle.wodzak@utoronto.ca

Contact Michelle for all matters related to the Vivarium including:

- Day to day vivarium operations
- Preclinical Study Planning
- Facility Orientation and Badge Access
- Animal Imports, Orders, and Transport
- Technical Services
- Equipment Rental
- Procedure Room Scheduling
- Diagnostics
- Special Orders (Pharmaceuticals, Diets)
- SOPs, Guidelines, Policies, and Forms
The Hub Director – Dr. Gray Graffam

416-208-2984

Email: gray.graffam@utoronto.ca

Contact Gray for matters related to:

- Programming in the best practices of early-stage entrepreneurship, including Lean Startup, Blue Ocean Strategy, and Zero to One
- Work space for University of Toronto Scarborough students to engage with each other in the spirit of entrepreneurship
- Opportunities for students to work on real hands-on projects that offer research and entrepreneurial in collaboration with partners
- University of Toronto students and recent alumni who wish to pursue innovation and entrepreneurship as part of their future career path
Strategic Coordinator & Business Advisor, The Hub

– Donovan Dill (part-time)

416-208-2984

Email: donovan.dill@utoronto.ca

Contact Donovan for the following matters related to The Hub:

• Coaching and mentoring for entrepreneurs beginning their journey in The Hub
• Business consulting to entrepreneurs looking to expand their activities
Supporting Grant Applications

- Research planning
- We provide a number of services for grant applications, including:
  - Workshops and information sessions
  - Proposal development support
  - Funding to hire consultants or grant reviewers
  - Facilitating peer review
Internal Funding Programs

1. **Research Competitiveness Fund**: Support or enhance the competitiveness of future grant application ($5-10K)
2. **Working Group Fund**: Funding for a group working towards common problem ($3K)
3. **Research Impact Fund**: Supports travel or publication costs ($500)
4. **International Research Collaboration Fund**: Supports establishment of international collaborations ($2.5K)
5. **Research Grant Enhancement Fund**: Money for grant application development (e.g., editor, CCV, project planning, etc.)
6. **Sponsorship**: Funding for conferences, workshops, etc.
7. **Bridge Funding Program**: Support to offset research costs if funding renewal was unsuccessful
Awards and Honours

• We provide a number of services for award nominations

UTSC awards:
• The Principal's Research Award
• The Research Excellence Faculty Scholars Award
• The Research Recognition Award

September 27: Zindel Segal, Psychology
   President’s Impact Award 2017 and Principal’s Research Award 2018

October 18: Myrna Simpson, Physical & Environmental Sciences
   Research Excellence Faculty Scholar 2017

November 8: Artur Izmaylov, Physical & Environmental Sciences
   Research Recognition Award 2018

November 22: Jeffrey Pilcher, Historical and Cultural Studies
   Research Excellence Faculty Scholar 2017-2020

January / April: Nathalie Rothman, Historical and Cultural Studies
   Member, Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists

February 14: Michael Lambek, Anthropology
   Canada Research Chair 2006-2020

February 28: Judith Teichman, Political Science
   Fellow, Royal Society of Canada

March 21: Jennifer Chun, Sociology
   Research Excellence Faculty Scholar 2017
Fostering Relationships & Partnerships

• We actively pursue and develop relationships with community partners, which can provide new funding and research opportunities.
Getting Started

Develop your research plan:
• Identify short-term and longer term goals for your research program
• What impact do you want to make on scholarship, society, the economy, practice and/or policy?

1) Be successful on your first few grant proposals (that’s where we can help).
2) Establish a broader network of interactions and collaboration – become a part of bigger endeavours (we can help).
3) Position yourself for awards and honours (again, we can help); success tends to breed success.
Getting started...

1. Application process
Research Funding Opportunities

The RIS Application Attachment form (aka Blue form) has been replaced by the on-line My Research Applications. The information in the on-line form will be automatically routed to the appropriate internal approvers for review and endorsement. Faculty members who are planning to apply for funding are encouraged to log in well in advance of the submission deadline to ensure that there are no problems with your login credentials. The system utilizes your Employee Self-Serve (ESS) or My Research On-Line (MROL) credentials. If you encounter problems please contact the RAISE help desk, (416-946-5000, RAISE@utoronto.ca). Please consult the My Research - Application User Guide for additional information.

Use any combination of search words and/or categories to locate research funding opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Internal Deadline</th>
<th>Sponsor Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 Abel Prize</td>
<td>Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Sep 15, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 BBVA Foundation Frontiers of</td>
<td>BBVA Foundation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Jun 30, 2017</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The purpose of this program is to help new tenure stream faculty members establish competitive research programs.

Funding available:
(1) $10,000
(2) Top up, to a maximum of $35,000
   - Top-up funding will be provided to the highest ranked proposals that also identify a specific need for the additional funding.

www.connaught.research.utoronto.ca/funding-opportunities/
Upcoming Information Sessions

**SSHRC**
UTSC SSHRC Insight Grant Information Session and Dragon's Den Proposal Pitch Session
Tues Aug 7, 10am-1:15pm in Rm MW 324

SSHRC 2018 Insight Grant (IG) Proposal Development Boot Camp
Tues Aug 21, 10am-12:30pm in Rm MW 324

**NSERC**
NSERC Webinars: Discovery Grants and Research Tools & Instruments (RTI)
Aug 28 & Sept 25 1-3pm: Submitting a DG
Aug 30 & Sept 13 1-3pm: Submitting an RTI

NSERC Discovery Grant Information Session at UTSC
Sept 13, 1-3pm: UTSC MW324
CIHR

CIHR Information Webinars and Q & A:

Project Grants: Aug 9; Aug 22; Aug 30; Sept 6
Foundation Grants: Aug 8; Sept 5
• A unique and ever-growing resource to support research faculty at UTSC
• Accessible with UTor ID

Contains:
• Successful grant and award applications
• Support materials (e.g. tip sheets, information session slides)
• More!

https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/research/resource-wiki-research-grants-awards-and-innovation
2. Application processes

• Why MRA?

• Allows the University to track overhead costs, estimate flow of money, prepare for new projects/equipment, and to line up institutional support.

• Increasingly funders rely on University internal processes to dictate what gets submitted.
www.research.utoronto.ca/my-research
3. Managing your funding

- Startup funds as per your letter of offer
- Should be available now
Managing Research Funding

Research oversight and compliance
Sponsor requirements
U of T policies and procedures
Responsibility & accountability

Tools for oversight / accountability
Funded Research Digest (FReD) – contains key administrative details of award, e.g. eligible expenses, restrictions, payment/reporting schedule

My Research OnLine (MROL) – for monthly review of your research accounts – what funding has been received, what’s been spent, expense details review button
Managing Funds – Your responsibilities

- **Monthly review with Business Officer** - status of your account - any financial concerns about your fund?

- **Sponsor guidelines & restrictions** - Know which expenses are ineligible according to sponsor guidelines. U of T policy prevails in the absence of sponsor-specific guidelines.

- **Changes to research project** - Notify RSO or IPO staff of any changes that may jeopardize the status of the project.

- **Invoicing** - ROCO will complete invoicing. If installments are linked to milestones notify ROCO when the milestone is reached.
4. Research output

Conferences & presentations – acknowledging UTSC, UTSC PowerPoint template

Publications – acknowledge UTSC

T-space – open access repository (Tri-council requirement)

Focus on Research – Create and share your publications, profile, research interests, and activities through the UTSC Library
Getting started...

4. Research output

Media Training - through Communications and Public Affairs (CPA)

Blue Book of experts: [http://media.utoronto.ca/](http://media.utoronto.ca/) - through Communications and Public Affairs (CPA)

Communicating research stories – share your research successes – awards, publications, etc. with us and we will alert CPA. CPA creates stories for promotion via social media - UTSC website, InsideUTSC email newsletter, UTSC Commons (paper and online versions), UTSC and UTSC Research Twitter accounts. UTSC Twitter handle: @UTSCresearch
Information about:
- Ethics
- Research applications
- Funding opportunities
  - internal/external
- Upcoming workshops
- Funding for graduate students
- Contacts to our wonderful staff
- And much much more...

- Links to
  My research applications (MRA)
  My research online (MROL)

http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/research/