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### PRESIDENT'S VOICE

## Sponsored Research at Queen's: How Do We Rank?

How well does Queen's stack up against some other Canadian universities with respect to sponsored research?

By Kayll Lake  
President, QUFA



As the recent annual report<sup>1</sup> makes clear, there are a number of areas of excellence in research at Queen's. The purpose of this

article is to take a wider quantitative look at the current research intensity at Queen's.

Unfortunately, not all areas of research are easy to examine in a quantitative way. Here, I examine only "sponsored" research by way of the data provided by Research Infosource (RI),<sup>2</sup> going back to 2007. RI ranks universities on the basis of their "sponsored research income."<sup>3</sup> Clearly, this ranking is prejudiced towards large institutions. A more reliable measure is "research intensity."<sup>4</sup>

In the table below, I develop a ranking, based not on sponsored research income, but rather on research intensity. It turns out that the University of Toronto tops this

### QUFA IMAGES

## National Day of Action for Tim Horton's Workers



Jordan Morelli

QUFA Members join other Kingston community members in front of Tim Horton's on Princess and MacDonnell Streets to participate in the National Day of Action for Tim Horton's workers. They were united in sending a strong message to franchisees that issuing rollbacks as a response to the Ontario minimum wage increase is not acceptable.

ranking system, as it does the RI ranking system. To dispel any myth that the research-intensity ranking system still explicitly favours large institutions, I include McMaster in the rankings.<sup>5</sup>

As the table makes clear, Queen's research intensity started to get into trouble around 2012, and except for a

couple of good years, the ranks of 10, 11, and now 12 look ominous, especially when we think of ourselves as part of the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities!<sup>8</sup>

Looking back to Queen's "Strategic Research Plan Renewal 2012-2017,"<sup>9</sup> one has to consider this plan a failure. Indeed, the first performance metric

Year <sup>6</sup>	Toronto	McMaster	Queen's	Fraction <sup>7</sup>
2017	2	1	12	2.1
2016	1	2	5	1.6
2015	1	2	11	2.1
2014	1	7	5	1.9
2013	1	6	10	2.1
2012	1	5	9	1.9
2011	1	2	6	1.5
2010	1	2	7	1.6
2009	1	2	6	1.5
2008	1	3	4	1.4
2007	1	2	6	1.5

of the associated "Strengthening our Research Prominence"<sup>10</sup> is "Research intensity and national position."

Clearly, this has collapsed. One sign of hope is the "External Review of Research."<sup>11</sup> The second recommendation of this document is to "Make faculty renewal an urgent priority, including consideration of cluster hiring where appropriate." This is the only way to regain, and perhaps improve, our research prominence.

Will a real gain of fifty new faculty members over the next five years (about 6.5%) do this? I think not. Queen's has to be less reluctant to fund researchers as opposed to enhancing the student "experience."

## Notes

<sup>1</sup><http://www.queensu.ca/annualreport2017/>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.researchinfosource.com>

<sup>3</sup>Sponsored research income includes all funds to support research received in the form of a grant, contribution, or contract from all sources external to the institution.

<sup>4</sup>Research Intensity is the total sponsored research income divided by the faculty complement (including full, associate, and assistant professors).

<sup>5</sup>Over the period covered in the table, the faculty complement at McMaster compared to Queen's is 1.4 +/- 0.3.

<sup>6</sup>The year reports data collected for the previous year.

<sup>7</sup>Fraction gives the research intensity for rank 1 divided by the Queen's research intensity.

<sup>8</sup><http://www.u15.ca>

<sup>9</sup><http://www.queensu.ca/vpr/strategic-research-plan/2017-strategic-research-plan-renewal>

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Benefit Deadlines Approaching

#### Childcare and Tuition Support

The deadline for submitting an application for QUFA tuition support is **28 February 2018**. More information and the application form may be found on the Human Resources Web site:

<http://www.queensu.ca/humanresources/wellness-accessibility/employee-benefits/tuition-support-plan>

The deadline for submitting an application for childcare expenses is **1 February 2018**. More information and the application form may be found on the Human Resources Web site:

<http://www.queensu.ca/humanresources/wellness-accessibility/employee-benefits/childcare-support-plan>

<sup>10</sup><http://www.queensu.ca/strategicplanning/framework/research>

<sup>11</sup><http://www.queensu.ca/principal/priorities-and-initiatives/external-review-research>

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*QUFA Voices* publishes QUFA-related news and information for QUFA Members and provides QUFA Members with a forum to express their QUFA-related ideas and opinions. We want to hear from you! Please send your QUFA-related story ideas, news items, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, photographs, and other submissions to the editor.

*QUFA Voices* is edited by Robert G. May. He can be reached at [mayr@queensu.ca](mailto:mayr@queensu.ca).

## GRIEVANCE CORNER

### Official File:

### Article 34

It's a good idea to check your Official File periodically to ensure it contains only the appropriate documents



Many Members are unaware that they have both a Human Resources file and an Official File.

The file held in Human Resources is your personnel file containing information about your employee benefits, salary calculations, and other such things. Your Official File contains "All documents and materials in the possession of the University that relate to the employment status of or the evaluation of" a Member. There is a whole Collective Agreement article dedicated to the Official File: Article 34.

The Official File is located in the academic unit head's office, which means both the dean and the head in departmentalized faculties. If it is in two offices, then the files might be identical or there might be some variation: the Official File is defined as the totality of the two files. Items that will be stored in the Official File should be formally copied to it, but practice in this regard is uneven across campus. The File is confidential, so you may see a log of who has had access to it outside of those who routinely have access to it for reasons stated in Article 34.

You have access to your Official File and may review it during normal business hours. You may request a copy of all or some of it on a cost-recovery basis. In the year you are preparing a renewal, tenure, promotion, or continuing application, however, you may request a complete copy free of charge.

## QUFA IMAGES

### Paul Jones on Fair Copyright



Leslie Jermyn

QUFA Members Amy Kaufman and Donal Macartney speak to CAUT Education Officer Paul Jones following his talk this past December. Jones spoke about fair copyright in Canada to an appreciative group of QUFA Members and other members of the Queen's community.

It is worthwhile reviewing your Official File periodically to make sure it contains only those documents that are allowed per Article 34. I point you to a Grievance Corner by Leslie Jermyn in the July 2017 issue of *QUFA Voices* about discipline-related letters in your Official File. There is a process for removing documents that should not be in the File, but you will not know they are there if you do not look. If you have looked and are unsure whether something ought to be in your File, please contact QUFA for guidance.

#### On the Web

There is a new feature on QUFA's Grievance Web site:<sup>1</sup> we are now posting Association grievances that involve a group or the whole bargaining unit. You will find these grievances above the link for arbitrations.

#### Note

<sup>1</sup><http://qufa.ca/member-services/main/grievances/>

**Ramneek Pooni can be reached at [poonir@queensu.ca](mailto:poonir@queensu.ca).**

## QUFA EVENTS

### Lunch and Learn

#### "Difficult Conversations"

Please join us for a free workshop with Meaghan Welfare of the Queen's-QUFA Conflict Resolution Service:

**29 January 2018**

**12.15 p.m.**

**The University Club**

Meaghan will talk about ways to manage difficult conversations with work colleagues.

Please see the QUFA Web site for more information:

**<http://qufa.ca/event/lunch-and-learn/>**

Soup, rolls, and beverages will be provided. So that we have enough food, please RSVP to Elizabeth Polnicky by e-mail ([ep43@queensu.ca](mailto:ep43@queensu.ca)) or telephone (613.533.2151) by 23 January 2018.

## ANNOUNCEMENT Adjunct Scholarly Research and Creative Work Fund

The deadline this term for applications to the Fund for Scholarly Research, Creative Work, and Professional Development (Adjuncts) is **5 February 2018**. You are eligible to apply if you have an adjunct appointment at Queen's during this term, and the application committee encourages you to do so.

Please use the current application form, as it is updated from time to time. It is your responsibility to ensure your application is complete; incomplete applications will not be considered.

Please also pay attention to whether a stipend or research grant is the most sensible way for you request funding, as the application committee will not second-guess or change your choice. Late applications are generally not accepted.

You will find a link to the instructions and application form here:

<http://www.queensu.ca/facultyrelations/faculty-librarians-and-archivists/professional-support-programs/fund-scholarly-research-and-creative>

## QUFA VOICES Voice Your Views!

If you have an opinion about anything you read in *QUFA Voices*, send us a letter to the editor!

[mayr@queensu.ca](mailto:mayr@queensu.ca)

## ANNOUNCEMENT Graduate Student Awards from Our Affiliates

The Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) offers fellowships to doctoral and master's students in the social sciences, humanities, and arts. The deadline this year is **2 March 2018**, and more information can be found here:

<http://ocufa.on.ca/awards/the-henry-mandelbaum-graduate-fellowship/>

The Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) offers one doctoral fellowship to a student in any field in a Canadian institution. More information can be found here:

<http://stewartreid.caut.ca/English/default.htm>

## SAVE THE DATE QUFA Annual Lecture



Ira Wells (University of Toronto) will be our keynote speaker on **6 April 2018** for the QUFA Annual Lecture.

The title of Dr Wells's talk will be "Virtue Signals: Anti-Intellectualism and the Weaponization of Free Speech on Campus."

Please mark your calendars, and stay tuned for more details.

## ON THE WEB QUFA Online QUFA Members can interact online with QUFA in many different ways!

QUFA's online resources contain a wealth of information about your faculty association, including upcoming events, information about the Collective Agreement, news items of interest, and more!

### 1. QUFA Web Site



[www.qufa.ca](http://www.qufa.ca)

### 2. QUFA on Facebook



[www.facebook.com/qufapage](http://www.facebook.com/qufapage)

### 3. QUFA on Twitter



[www.twitter.com/qufatweet](http://www.twitter.com/qufatweet)