

Dalhousie Research Services Support Survey 2017

January 12, 2018 Version

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	p. 3
Who responded to the Dalhousie Research Services Support Survey?	p. 4
Perceptions of Specific of Research Support	p. 10
Cross tabulations of supports and key variables	p. 21
Appendix 1: Details about methodology.....	p. 64
Appendix 2: Details of qualitative coding.....	p. 65

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to examine whether Dalhousie researchers are well-supported in their research and to assess their satisfaction with the support services offered by Dalhousie Research Services (DRS); the Research Ethics Board (REB) and the Animal Care Committee; Legal supports; services offered by Industry Liaison and Innovation (ILI); Financial Services; Procurement; support from departments, faculties or schools; resources available to the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS); and support from Facilities Management. A survey on research support was sent to researchers and administrators asking their views on each of these services and resources between October 2 and October 25, 2017. Survey questions were similar or the same as those of a survey conducted in 2012 and results are compared against data from that year, where possible. The survey had a 37% response rate, with a total sample of 372 participants. Medicine, Science, and Arts and Social Sciences are the top three faculties with the most participants, which is unchanged since 2012. Overall, the survey shows that researchers have a positive view of DRS, however, also identifies a number of areas that can be improved.

Overall highlights:

- On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is excellent service, DRS support services had an average rating of 5.3, a median rating of 6, and the most frequent rating was 7. This is an improvement from five years ago, when the average was 5.0.
- Many of the support services offered by DRS have improved since 2012.
- Industry Liaison and Innovation saw the greatest improvement, with the average scores for these questions improving by between 0.44 and 0.58 points, while scores for legal support declined by between 0.08 and 0.17.
- There were modest improvements to the Research Ethics Board and support for funding applications.
- Participants rated services from the REB and the Animal Care Committee highest and were least satisfied with DRS coordination among other services and resources and funding available for graduate students. This is largely unchanged since 2012.
- Financial Services, Procurement, and Facilities Management improved across every dimension, compared to 2012.
- The top three most important research supports identified by participants were: grant application support, streamlined and practical supports, and several types of seed funding.
- The top three most reported research barriers were: complex processes, inadequate grant application support, and a lack of dedicated research time or time release. These are similar research barriers as in 2012, however, more researchers now mention time and teaching releases as a top concern.
- Men had a more positive opinion of almost every research service and support compared to women.
- Neither academic position nor holding funding appear to affect how participants view research services and supports.
- Fewer researchers report applying for funding compared to five years ago and fewer researchers report currently holding funding compared to five years ago.

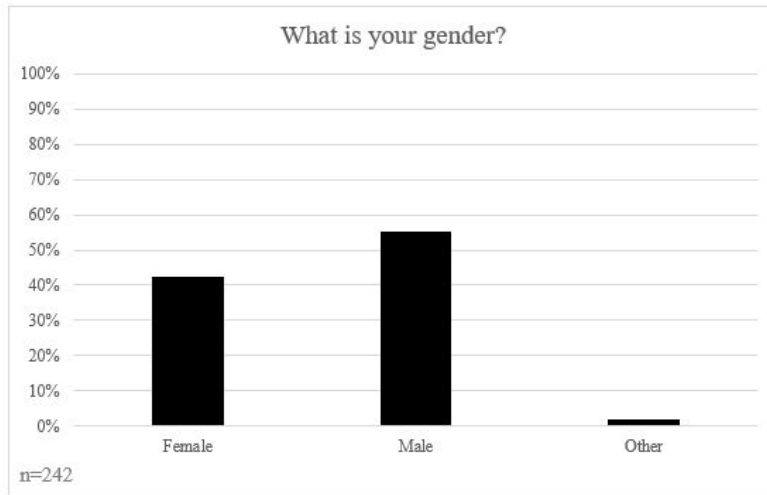
Who responded to the Dalhousie Research Services Support Survey?

This section provides an overview of participants in the 2017 DRS Support Services Survey, offering a basic demographic profile of participants. It includes reporting on: gender, faculty affiliation, academic position, whether participants applied to funding, whether they hold funding, and whether they have applied to the Research Ethics Board or Animal Care Committee.

Summary of participants:

- More men completed the survey than women or those with other gender identifications.
- The faculties with the most researchers participating in the survey were Medicine, Science, Arts and Social Sciences and Health.
- Almost half of participants were Full Professors, about one quarter were Associate Professors and another quarter were Assistant Professors.
- Most participants, 80 percent, had applied to Tri-Agency competitions in the previous five years.
- Most participants, 54 percent, held a Tri-Agency grant.
- Seventy-five percent of participants had applied to non-Tri-Agency competitions in the past five years and 50 percent held this type of funding.
- Just over a third of participants, 36 percent, had bid on or negotiated a research contract in the previous five years. Just under a third, 27 percent, reported holding a research contract.
- Less than half of participants, 46 percent, had applied to the REB in the previous five years and about 20 percent had applied to the Animal Care Committee.
- Fewer researchers report applying to each form of funding compared to five years ago.
- Fewer researchers report currently hold each form of funding compared to five years ago.

When gender is examined we see that 43 percent of participants identify as women and 55 percent identify as men. Two percent identify as other genders. These numbers are similar to those in 2012 survey.

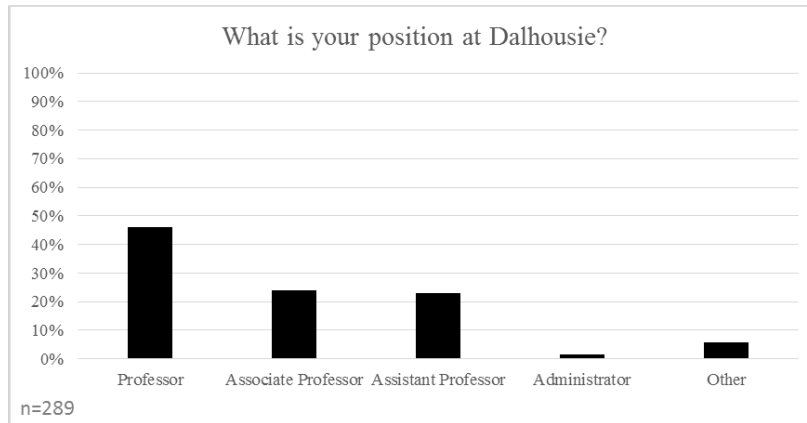


The top three faculties with the most participants in the survey were: Medicine, Science, and Arts and Social Sciences. Together they account for 61 percent of the sample. In 2012, the top three faculties were the same, however, in a different order. That year they were Science, Medicine and then Arts and Social Sciences.

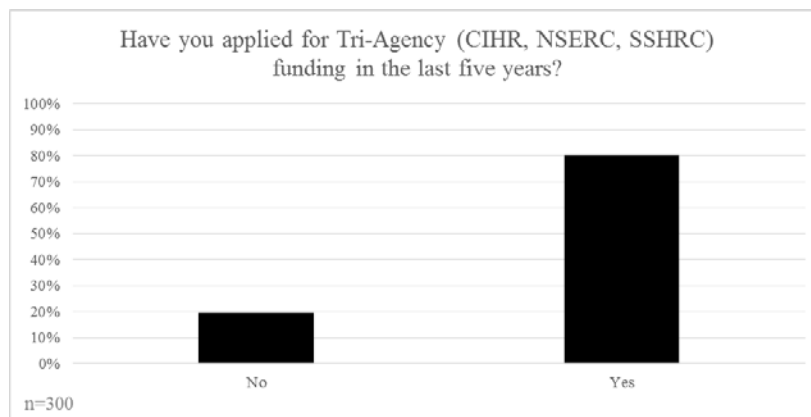
What faculty, school, hospital or unit do you work in?

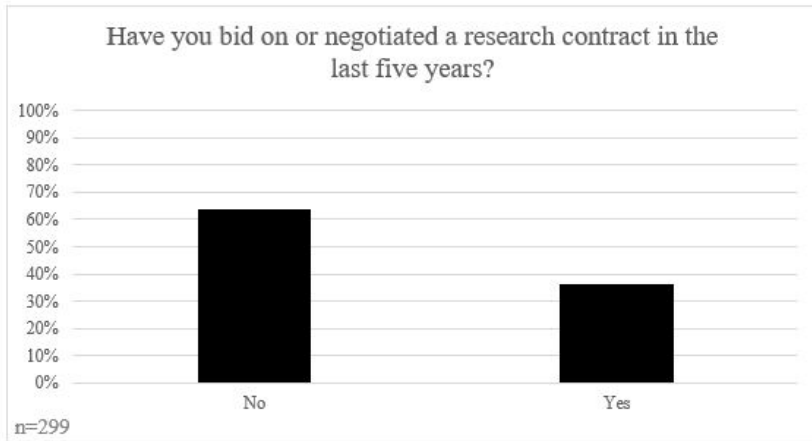
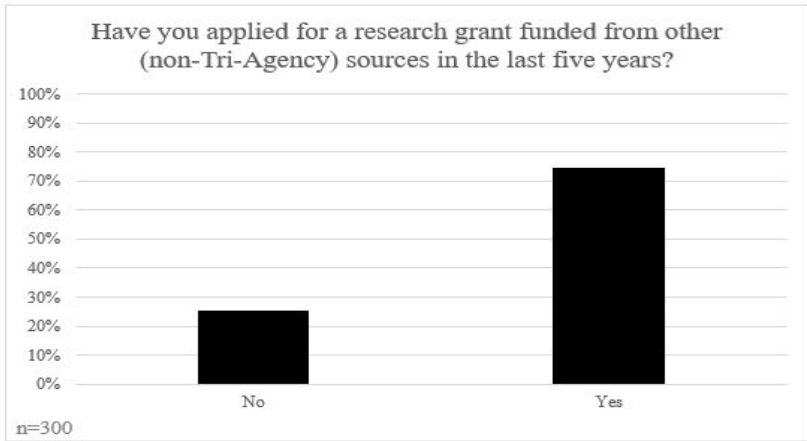
	Freq.	Percent
Agriculture	9	3%
Architecture & Planning	4	1%
Arts & Social Sciences	37	14%
Computer Science	8	3%
Dentistry	2	1%
Engineering	16	6%
Health	29	11%
Law	2	7%
Management	19	7%
Medicine	72	26%
Science	56	21%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	13	5%
Other	2	1%
Unknown/ refusal	3	1%
Total	272	100%

With respect to participants' position at the university, 46 percent were Full Professors, 24 percent were Associate Professors, 23 percent were Assistant Professors, one percent were Administrators, and six percent held other positions. The percent of Full Professors participating in the survey increased, so did Assistant Professors and those in other positions since 2012. The percent of Associate Professors decreased.

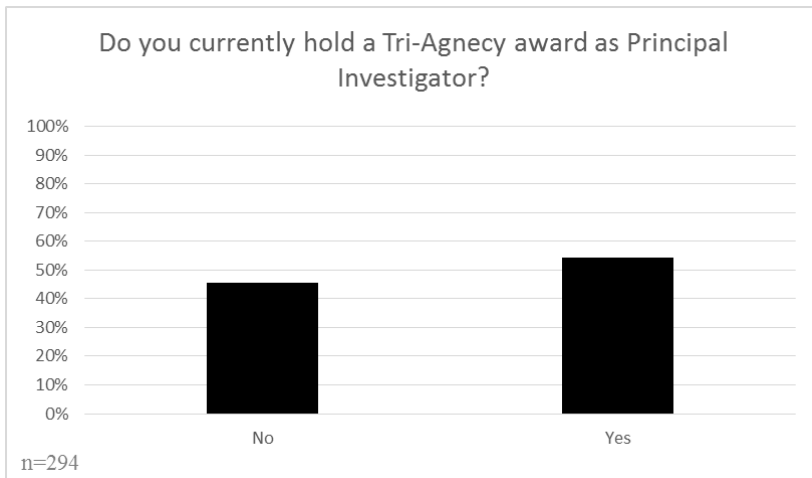


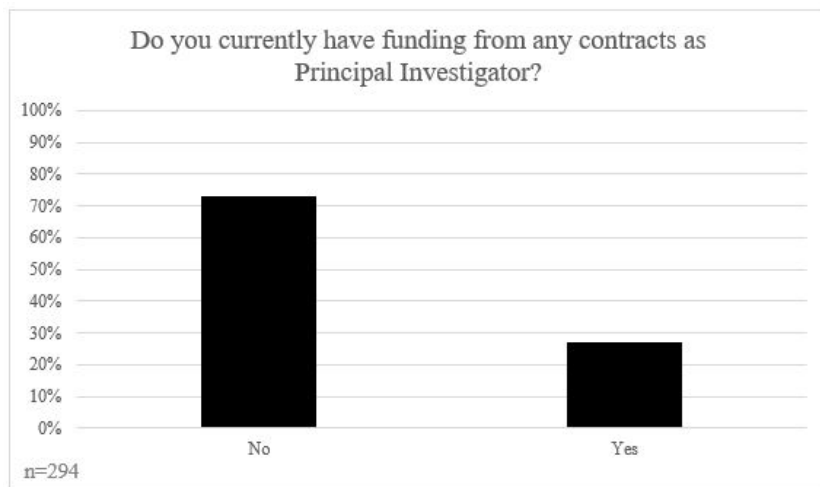
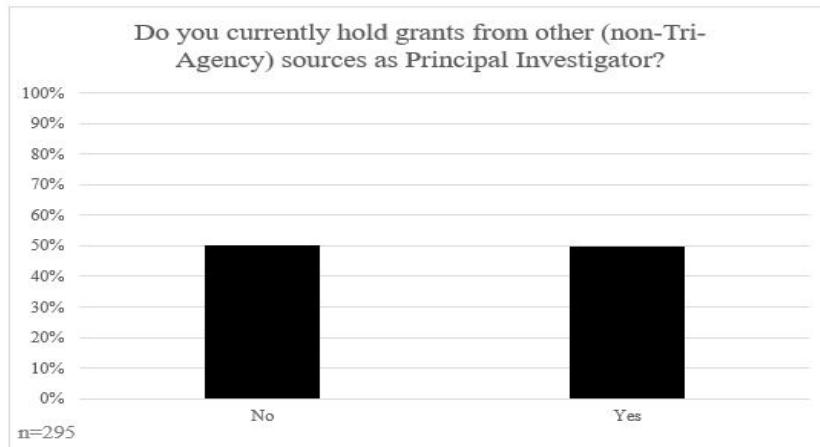
Dalhousie researchers were active across funding opportunities, 80 percent of applied to Tri-Agency funding competitions in the previous five years. This, however, was 10 percentage points lower than in 2012. Among those participating in the survey, 75 percent applied to other sources of funding. This was about seven percentage points lower than the last survey. Just over a third of participants, 36 percent, bid on or negotiated a research contract over the last five years. This is about three percent lower than 2012.



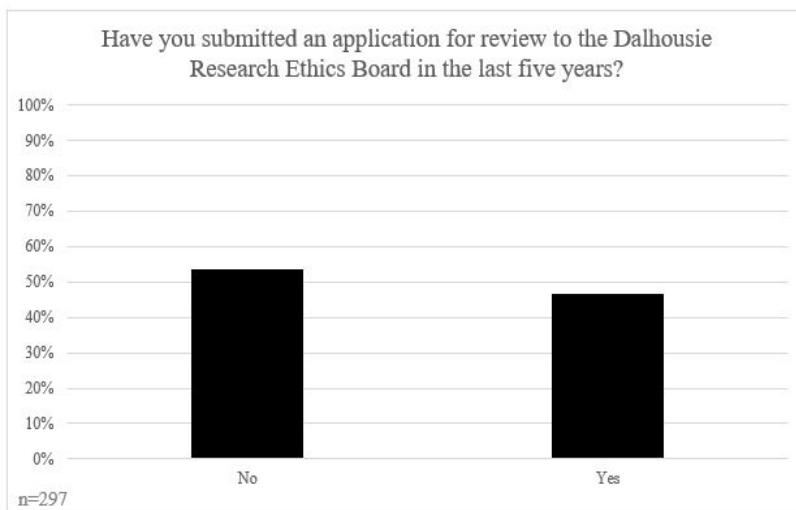


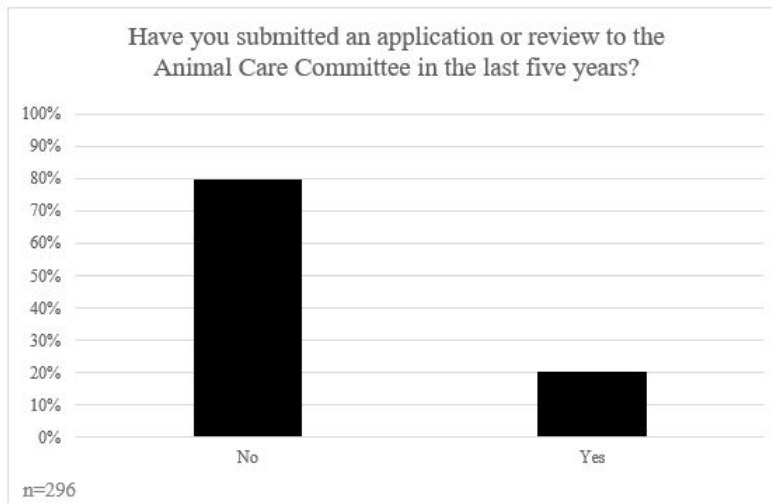
The majority of participants, 54 percent, reported holding a Tri-Agency grant as Principal Investigator. The percentage of participants holding Tri-Agency funding decreased by 14 percentage points since 2012. Fifty percent reported holding other sources of funding, which is down five percentage points from the previous survey. Only 27 percent of participants reported holding a research contract, down two percentage points from the previous survey conducted in 2012.





A minority of participants, 46 percent applied to the Research Ethics Board (REB) in the previous five years. This, however, is an increase of 5 percentage points from the previous survey. Twenty percent had applied to the Animal Care Committee, which is the same as the survey conducted in 2012.





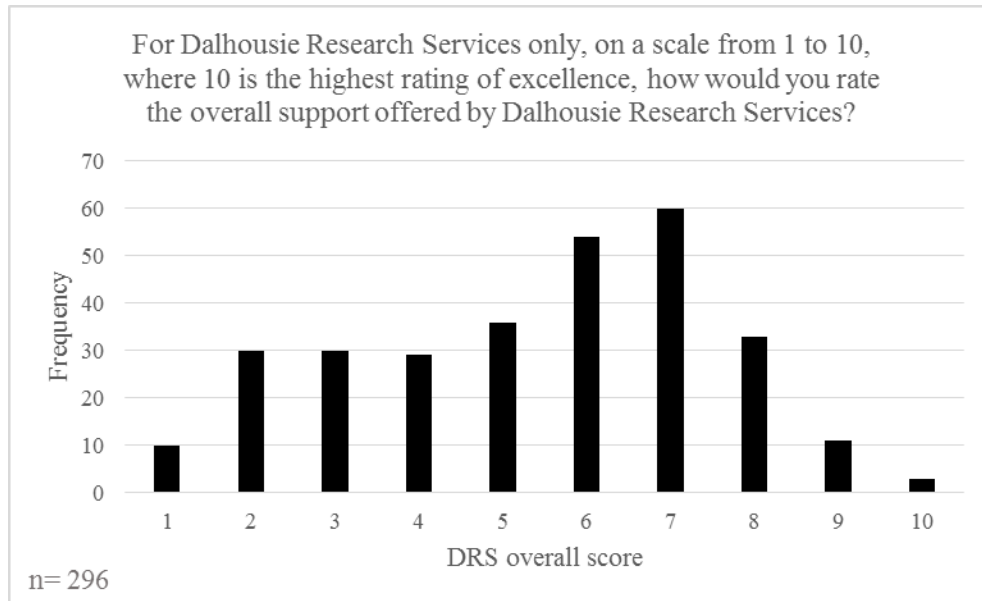
Perceptions of Specific of Research Support

The DRS Support Survey looked at a number of areas of research support at Dalhousie. Some of which fall directly under the domain of DRS and others that are linked to the Research Ethics Board (REB) and the Animal Care Committee; Legal supports; services offered by Industry Liaison and Innovation (ILI); Financial Services; Procurement; support from departments, faculties or schools; resources available to the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS); and support from Facilities Management. This section offers a summary of perceptions of each of these areas of research support.

Summary of perceptions:

- On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is excellent service, DRS support services had an average rating of 5.3, a median rating of 6, and the most frequent rating was 7. This is an improvement from five years ago.
- Participants were most satisfied with the support services offered by REB and the Animal Care Committee and were least satisfied with resources for graduate students.
- Facilities Management had lower scores for efficiency in transforming space and renovating space and research units (faculties/schools/hospitals) received lower scores for providing work or time release to do research.
- ILI and Facilities Management had the most improved assessments since 2012.
- There were also notable improvements seen in DRS communication, REB feedback, and faculty/ school/hospital system of internal review and feedback.
- DRS coordination among other services across the university had the lowest score for support services provided by DRS.
- The top three most important research supports identified by participants were: grant application support, streamlined and practical supports, and several types of funding.
- The top three most reported research barriers were: complex processes, inadequate grant application support, and a lack of dedicated research time. These are similar research barriers as in 2012, however, more researchers now mention time and teaching releases as a concern.

Dalhousie researchers have positive but varied opinion of DRS. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 10 is the highest rating of excellence, the most frequent response offered was 7 or quite positive. The median response is 6 and the average was 5.38. This is a 0.38 percentage point improvement from the 2012 survey.



There was much consistency in perceptions of DRS when opinions are broken down by gender, faculty, academic position, and whether or not a participant held funding. Men had a slightly more favorable view of DRS, with an average rating of 5.83, which was 0.59 percentage points higher than women. There was greater variation by faculty with Computer Science offering the highest average rating of 6.63 and Architecture and Planning offering the lowest average rating of 3.00. However, lower ratings in some faculties appear to correlate with low rates of participation and should thus be interpreted with some caution. Assistant Professors had the highest average rating of DRS at 5.58. Associate Professors had the lowest rating among academic ranked professors, at 5.03, which is a 0.55 percentage point difference between them and Assistant Professors. The differences are marginal among those who hold grant and contacts versus those who do not as well as among different funding sources.

For Dalhousie Research Services only, on a scale from 1 to 10, where 10 is the highest rating of excellence, how would you rate the overall support offered by Dalhousie Research Services?

	Average rating	n=
<i>Overall</i>	5.38	296
<i>Gender</i>		
Female	5.24	103
Male	5.83	134
Other	3.00	10
<i>Faculty</i>		
Agriculture	5.63	9
Architecture & Planning	3.00	4
Arts & Social Sciences	5.17	37
Computer Science	6.63	8
Dentistry	4.50	2
Engineering	6.07	16
Health	5.86	29
Law	4.50	2
Management	6.17	19
Medicine	5.17	72
Science	5.20	56
IWK, NSHA & QEII	5.64	13
Other	4.50	2
Unknown/ refusal	7.00	3
<i>Position</i>		
Professor	5.51	133
Associate professor	5.03	69
Assistant professor	5.58	66
Administrator	5.25	4
Other	5.27	17
<i>Hold Tri-Agency Award</i>		
No	5.31	134
Yes	5.41	160
<i>Hold Other Grant</i>		
No	5.44	148
Yes	5.27	147
<i>Hold Contract</i>		
No	5.43	215
Yes	5.13	79

When participants were asked to identify the most important research supports, the top three were: grant application support, infrastructural or ecosystem support and ‘other funding.’ ‘Grant application support’ includes calls for more review and more quality peer review, feedback, advice on Tri-Agency opportunities as well as general help with applications. ‘Infrastructure or ecosystem support’ includes calls for streamlined processes that are less onerous on the researcher. This includes: simpler applications, less paperwork and bureaucracy, increased transparency, electronic signatures, better support staff, and greater efficiency. ‘Other funding’ captures all funding other than seed, internal, matching funds, graduate student funding and small grants. For example, this category includes travel funding, grants for knowledge translation or maintenance of equipment, and fellowships. Further details of the coding can be found in Appendix 2. In 2012, the three most common responses were: managing finances, grant application services/support, time and teaching release, and administrative support and other funding.

Please list the five most important research support you need to facilitate your research						
	First support	Second support	Third support	Fourth support	Fifth support	Total
Grant application support	44	28	21	15	9	117
Infrastructure	13	17	21	23	17	91
Other funding	24	16	22	10	8	80
Graduate students	30	22	12	0	5	69
Time and teaching load	16	16	9	10	12	63
Administrative support	20	9	13	7	5	54
Managing Finances	5	14	13	9	7	48
Information Management	13	9	11	9	4	46
Space	10	9	11	11	2	43
Matching funding/ co-funding	9	8	5	4	3	29
Access to qualified personnel	6	10	8	3	1	28
Emotional Support	3	4	2	5	12	26
Seed funding	8	7	3	4	2	24
REB & ACC	2	8	8	3	2	23
Equipment/ Software/ Data resources	4	8	2	0	5	19
Industry contact	0	2	5	3	1	11
Legal	5	1	1	0	3	10
Differential Fees	2	1	3	1	0	7
Overhead	1	4	1	1	0	7
Deadline Flexibility	2	2	0	0	0	4
Small grants & bursaries	2	0	1	1	0	4
Facilities Management	1	1	1	0	0	3
Equipment funding	0	0	1	0	0	1
Other	4	12	14	15	14	59
Unclear/ irrelevant	14	13	15	7	8	57
Total	238	221	203	141	120	923

When participants were asked to identify research barriers, the most common answers were: a need for process simplification, grant information and preparation support, and the need for more time or teaching release. There has been little change since 2012, when the top three types of barriers were: process simplification, grant information and preparation, and strong administrative support. In the 2017 survey, strong administrative support came fourth among barriers listed.

Are there any barriers to your research that Dalhousie Research Services could remove to help you with your research?					
	First barrier	Second barrier	Third barrier	Fourth barrier	Total
Process simplification	26	6	0	0	32
Grant info./ prep.	16	3	2	0	21
Time	16	1	1	0	18
Strong administrative support	11	3	0	0	14
Grad student funding	7	3	2	1	13
Other funding	8	4	0	0	12
Efficient REB & ACC	8	1	3	0	12
Individual/ situational barriers	7	4	0	0	11
Grant management	8	1	0	0	9
Legal advice	4	3	0	0	7
Overhead	4	0	0	0	4
Co-funding, collaborations	3	1	0	0	4
Seed funding	3	1	0	0	4
Research Equipment	2	2	0	0	4
Facilities Management	2	2	0	0	4
Clear administrative roles	2	1	0	0	3
Access to assistants	0	2	1	0	3
Clinical research supports	2	0	0	0	2
Equipment funding	0	2	0	0	2
Individual consideration	1	0	0	0	1
Industry contacts	1	0	0	0	1
Space	1	0	0	0	1
Access to mentors	0	1	0	0	1
Other	14	0	1	0	15
Unclear/ irrelevant	26	0	0	0	26
Total	172	41	9	1	224

Participants were also asked if they receive any support outside of Dalhousie. Assistance from colleagues at other institutions, external collaboration, and access to equipment and facilities were the top three external supports mentioned. Researchers specifically noted advice or mentorship from colleges, access to colleagues' research resources (such as Research Assistants and equipment) and informal review of applications and publications as important.

Often researchers are supported by researchers, colleagues and institutions outside of their research unit and Dalhousie University. If you have received support form outside of the university, what kind of support was offered to you?

	First support	Second support	Third support	Fourth support	Fifth support	Total
External researcher/ colleague	36	6	1	0	0	43
External collaboration	14	3	0	1	0	18
Equipment and lab facilities	6	1	0	0	0	7
Hospitals (non-financial)	6	0	0	0	0	6
Other university funds	4	2	0	0	0	6
Administrative	4	0	0	0	1	5
Funds from unspecified source	4	0	0	0	0	4
Industry support	4	0	0	0	0	4
Conference, lectures	3	0	1	0	0	4
Analytical support	2	2	0	0	0	4
Federal government	0	4	0	0	0	4
NSHRF (non-financial)	3	0	0	0	0	3
NSHA (financial)	2	1	0	0	0	3
Research Assistant	2	1	0	0	0	3
SSHRC	2	1	0	0	0	3
Contracts	2	0	0	0	0	2
European research institutes	2	0	0	0	0	2
MSSU	1	1	0	0	0	2
NSHA (non-financial)	1	1	0	0	0	2
US foundation grant	1	1	0	0	0	2
Travel funding	1	0	0	1	0	2
Provincial government	0	2	0	0	0	2
CIHR	1	0	0	0	0	1
Funding agency info sessions	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hospitals (financial)	1	0	0	0	0	1
NSERC	1	0	0	0	0	1
Research fellowship	1	0	0	0	0	1
Tri-council	1	0	0	0	0	1
Ethics review	0	1	0	0	0	1
Media release	0	1	0	0	0	1
Philanthropic support	0	1	0	0	0	1
Space for work	0	1	0	0	0	1
Industry funds	0	0	1	0	0	1
In-kind support	0	0	0	0	1	1
Unclear/ irrelevant	38	0	0	0	0	38
Total	144	30	3	2	2	181

When given the opportunity to include additional comments, 17 out of the 111 participants stated that DRS support services should be more thorough and relevant to all participants, including those whose research lies outside of ‘priority areas.’ Multiple participants expressed concern that DRS support services is more concerned with polishing grant applications that are already complete, rather than providing substantial support at earlier stages of the application process. The second most frequently noted additional comment was that DRS could improve its communication, especially around funding and support opportunities. The third most common type of comments were positive compliments. Participants noted that they appreciate DRS’ professionalism and that they had seen improvements in the last few years.

Is there anything you would like to add?				
	First comment	Second comment	Third comment	Total
DRS support	15	2	0	17
DRS communication	8	1	0	9
Positive comments	7	1	0	8
DRS convenience	6	0	0	6
Grad student recruitment	4	1	1	6
Facilities Management	4	1	0	5
Time & teaching release	4	1	0	5
Financial services	1	3	0	4
DRS review	3	0	0	3
DRS other	2	1	0	3
DRS consistency	2	0	0	2
Faculty hiring	2	0	0	2
Space	1	1	0	2
REB & ACC	0	1	1	2
DRS overhead	1	0	0	1
Industry links	1	0	0	1
Seed funding	1	0	0	1
Matching funding	0	1	0	1
Travel funding	0	1	0	1
Unclear/ irrelevant	32	0	0	32
Total	94	15	2	111

Seven questions in the survey focus on Dalhousie Research Services (DRS); four on the Research Ethics Board (REB) and the Animal Care Committee; two on Legal supports; three on services offered by Industry, Liaison and Innovation (ILI); three on Financial Services; three on Procurement; four on support from departments, faculties or schools; two on resources available to the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS); and three on support from Facilities Management. Participants were asked their level of agreement on statements related to each of these support services on a four-point Likert-scale, where a score of 4 corresponds to strong agreement.

Average of support services (maximum positive score=4)		
Support unit	Number of Questions	Average
Dalhousie Research Services	7	2.30
Research Ethics Board & Animal Care Committee	4	2.82
Legal	2	2.23
Industry Liaison and Innovation	3	2.50
Financial Services	3	2.56
Procurement	3	2.35
Research unit, department, faculty, school, hospital	4	2.39
Resources for graduate students	2	1.98
Facilities Management	3	2.42

As was the case in 2012, participants were most positive in their perceptions of the REB and the Animal Care Committee. Participants were the most critical of about funding for graduate students. ILI, Procurement and Facilities Management saw the greatest improvement since 2012.

When specific elements of each support unit are examined, we saw that people generally felt they understand what services DRS offers, with an average score of 2.56 out of 4, or slightly positive. The Research Ethics Board and the Animal Care Committee consistently had positive average scores and had the highest scores across support units. The highest scores were for the Animal Care Committee's processing of applications and the feedback it offers for ethical conduct in research. Likewise, the overall average scores of Industry, Innovation Liaison and Innovation and Financial Services were positive. Both measures of legal supports were on average negative. When participants were asked about how their unit supported their research, they had positive average scores except for time release to do research and the amount of matching funds to make grant applications stronger. Funding to attract graduate students was on average rated negatively, however, space for graduate students had a positive average scoring. Although Facilities Management had a high average rating for obtaining space, on average it had negative scores for efficiency and staying on budget.

The average score increased for 24 questions on the survey, as seen on page 19-20, compared to 2012 and seven dimensions scores decreased. Industry Liaison and Innovation saw the greatest improvement since 2012, with the three questions pertaining to this department receiving the top three most improved scores. The average score for the ability of ILI staff to connect researchers to businesses and industry increased by 0.58 points. Conversely, the two questions concerning

the Animal Care Committee saw the greatest decreased average score. The committee's timeliness and ability to provide useful feedback decreased by 0.23 points and 0.21 points, respectively. However, as stated above, Animal Care Committee still has the highest overall scores.

All scores for ILI, Financial Services, Procurement, resources of graduate students, and Facilities Management improved, while both questions on legal supports decreased. Most support services offered by DRS and departments, faculties or schools saw small increases, while a few support services decreased slightly. Overall, the scores for DRS and departments, faculties, and schools have changed less than other groups. Changes to scores for Research Ethics Board and Animal Care Committee were mixed.

Summary of research support services average scores (maximum positive score=4)

	2017 Average	2012 Average	Change
DRS supports			
I have a good understanding of the range of services that Dalhousie Research Services offers to support my research.	2.56	2.61	-0.05
Dalhousie Research Services staff help me learn about Tri-Agency (NSERC, CIHR, SSHRC), institutional, international and other funding opportunities to fund my research.	2.47	2.18	0.29
Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for Tri-Agency and other grant funding opportunities.	2.29	2.15	0.14
Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program and/or other large-scale institutional funding opportunities.	2.43	2.42	0.01
Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for international funding opportunities.	2.19	1.97	0.22
Dalhousie Research Services helps me coordinate among units (e.g. Faculty of Graduate Studies, Financial Services/Procurement) in relation to grants and contracts.	1.86	1.84	0.02
Dalhousie Research Services supports me once my funding has been awarded.	2.31	2.33	-0.02
Research Ethics Board Animal Care Committee			
Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board is timely in the processing of my ethics applications.	2.67	2.62	0.05
Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board offers useful feedback that helps me ensure the ethical conduct of my research.	2.65	2.42	0.23
Dalhousie's Animal Care Committee is timely in processing my animal research applications.	3.03	3.26	-0.23
Dalhousie's Animal Care Committee offers useful feedback that helps me ensure the ethical conduct of my research.	2.94	3.15	-0.21
Legal supports			
When legal advice is needed, Dalhousie Research Services offers quality support.	2.3	2.38	-0.08
Dalhousie Research Services' Legal Advisor is quick to respond to queries related to research contracts	2.15	2.32	-0.17
Industry Liaison and Innovation			
Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me understand my commercialization options for my research work.	2.73	2.29	0.44
Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me connect to businesses and industry.	2.49	1.91	0.58
Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me expand or leverage my research dollars.	2.27	1.80	0.47

(Continued next page)

(Continued from previous page)

Financial Services supports			
Financial Services is efficient in the release of funds once a grant or contract has been approved for account opening by Dalhousie Research Services.	2.64	2.50	0.14
The processing of expenditures or charges against my grants or contracts is done in a timely manner.	2.68	2.62	0.06
The system provided by Financial Services to help me track my grant or research contract spending is useful.	2.35	2.26	0.09
Procurement supports			
Procurement helps me, or my research team, find cost-quotes for equipment for my grants and/or contracts.	2.12	2.11	0.01
Procurement offers practical support in my research-related purchases (e.g. offering a p-card, a travel card, quotes).	2.54	2.37	0.17
Procurement facilitates the purchase of equipment and/or software needed for my research in a timely manner.	2.38	2.16	0.22
Research unit, department, faculty, school, hospital supports			
The faculty/ school/ hospital I work in supports my research by offering seed funding and/or matching resources when required by granting agencies to make my applications stronger.	2.04	2.06	-0.02
Members of my research unit, department, faculty, school, or hospital (e.g. mentors and/or colleagues) offer helpful advice on my research funding applications.	2.88	2.72	0.16
My faculty/ school/ hospital provides a system of internal review and feedback on my applications for research funding.	2.7	2.42	0.28
My faculty/ school/ hospital provides a system of workload adjustment to facilitate my participation in research grants and contracts.	1.93	1.72	0.21
Resources for graduate students			
The Faculty of Graduate Studies has enough resources to be able to offer university-based funding at a level that helps me attract strong students to support my research.	1.45	1.33	0.12
Graduate students and Post-Doctoral fellows working with me have adequate office/lab space to do their research.	2.51	2.32	0.19
Facilities Management supports			
I am able to obtain the physical space required (e.g. labs, offices, buildings) for my research.	2.72	2.49	0.23
Facilities Management is efficient in transforming space to accommodate my research needs once a grant is awarded.	1.81	1.60	0.21
Facilities Management keeps within budget when renovating space for my research.	1.96	1.58	0.38

Cross tabulations of supports and key variables

This section analyzes questions on DRS support services, the REB, Legal supports, and Industry Liaison and Innovation by comparing opinions on statements about their supports across different demographic groups. This is done to pinpoint if different groups of researchers have different perceptions and how they can be better supported. Each question is analyzed with cross-tabulations against gender, faculties, academic positions, and those with and without Tri-Agency funding, other funding, and those holding contract funding.

The tables include all participants, however, those that identify as a gender other than male or female are not included in the written analysis because of the small number of participants identifying as such. Likewise, administrators and those with 'other' academic positions are not included in written analysis for the same reason.

Summary of cross-tabulations:

- Men had a more positive perception of research supports than women on every question, except the usefulness of the feedback provided by REB.
- Agriculture, Law, and Management were most frequently ranked in the top three most positive faculties for each question on the survey. Architecture and Planning, Dentistry, and Law were most frequently ranked as the three most critical faculties. Interpretation, however, should be made with caution because of low participation from some faculties.
- Several faculties had very few participants, meaning that interpretation of faculty cross-tabulations merit caution.
- Academic position did not appear to be consistently related to participants' perceptions of research support. There is no consistent pattern between academic position and opinions.
- Whether or not a participant held research funding does not appear to consistently be related to their perceptions of research support.

Dalhousie Research Services

The survey included seven questions that were directly pertinent to the support services offered by DRS. These questions concerned participants' understanding of DRS services; whether DRS helped researchers to learn about funding opportunities; whether adequate support was offered for various funding competitions (Tri-Agency, large-scale/ institutional grants, international); whether DRS helped with coordination among various support units; and whether DRS provided adequate support after funding has been awarded.

We first examine perceptions of understanding DRS services. Fifty-four percent of participants agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. This is a two percent decrease from 2012. The mean score was 2.56, which is between agree and strongly agree. This is a small decrease from 2.61 in 2012.

When perceptions are broken down by gender, 56 percent of men had a positive opinion of their understanding of DRS support services compared to 50 percent of women who feel the same. Women's opinion has remained more or less constant and men's opinions have decreased in the last five years.

I have a good understanding of the range of services that Dalhousie Research Services offers to support my research.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	10	16	1	27
2	41	41	2	84
3	36	46	2	84
Strongly Agree	15	27	0	42
Total	102	130	5	237
Strongly Disagree	10%	12%	20%	11%
2	40%	32%	40%	35%
3	35%	35%	40%	35%
Strongly Agree	15%	21%	0%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Perceptions of participants from different faculties varied greatly in their stated understanding of DRS supports. Those from the Hospitals, Architecture and Planning, and Medicine reported the least understanding while those from Law, Dentistry, and Agriculture reported having the greatest understanding. Some caution in interpreting the findings is warranted given small numbers of participants from some faculties.

I have a good understanding of the range of services that Dalhousie Research Services offers to support my research.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	0	2	5	2	9
Architecture & Planning	0	3	0	1	4
Arts & Social Science	2	14	10	11	37
Computer Science	0	3	3	1	7
Dentistry	0	0	2	0	2
Engineering	1	3	6	5	15
Health	1	11	14	3	29
Law	0	0	2	0	2
Management	3	5	7	4	19
Medicine	13	26	25	5	69
Science	8	12	25	11	56
IWK, NSHA & QEII	3	8	1	1	13
Other	0	1	0	1	2
Unknown/ refusal	1	0	1	1	3
Total	32	88	101	46	267
Agriculture	0%	22%	56%	22%	100%
Architecture & Planning	0%	75%	0%	25%	100%
Arts & Social Science	5%	38%	27%	30%	100%
Computer Science	0%	43%	43%	14%	100%
Dentistry	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Engineering	7%	20%	40%	33%	100%
Health	3%	38%	48%	10%	100%
Law	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Management	16%	26%	37%	21%	100%
Medicine	19%	38%	36%	7%	100%
Science	14%	21%	45%	20%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	23%	62%	8%	8%	100%
Other	0%	50%	0%	50%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	33%	0%	33%	33%	100%
Total	12%	33%	38%	17%	100%

Understanding of DRS support services also varied by academic rank. Most Full Professors, 65 percent, agreed or strongly agreed that they understood the range of DRS supports, while 51 percent for Associate Professors, and 39 percent for Assistant Professors felt the same. In 2012 Associate Professors reported the least understanding of DRS support services. During the last five years, the number of Assistant Professors who agreed or strongly agreed with the statement has decreased by 22 percent.

I have a good understanding of the range of services that Dalhousie Research Services offers to support my research.						
	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	12	6	10	1	1	30
2	34	28	28	0	6	96
3	64	18	21	0	6	109
Strongly Agree	22	17	4	3	3	49
Total	132	69	63	4	16	284
Strongly Disagree	9%	9%	16%	25%	6%	11%
2	26%	41%	44%	0%	38%	34%
3	48%	26%	33%	0%	38%	38%
Strongly Agree	17%	25%	6%	75%	19%	17%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Participants who have Tri-Agency funding were more likely to agree or strongly agree that they understand DRS supports, with 65 percent reporting this. Almost the same amount of participants with other grants or contracts reported the same. It appears those holding funding felt that they have a good understanding of DRS. This is similar to the figures reported in 2012.

I have a good understanding of the range of services that Dalhousie Research Services offers to support my research.					
Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	20	56	39	17	132
Yes	15	41	72	30	158
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	22	54	46	23	145
Yes	13	43	65	25	146
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	29	72	76	34	211
Yes	6	24	35	14	79
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	15%	42%	30%	13%	100%
Yes	9%	26%	46%	19%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	15%	37%	32%	16%	100%
Yes	9%	29%	45%	17%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	14%	34%	36%	16%	100%
Yes	8%	30%	44%	18%	100%

When participants were asked whether DRS helped researchers learn about a variety of funding opportunities, 51 percent of participants agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. This is up from 33 percent in 2012. However, it should be noted that the wording of the statement was more specific than the one used in 2012 and this could account for the increase in positive sentiment. The mean score for the statement was 2.47, which is between disagree and agree. This is up from 2.18 in 2012.

Men had slightly more positive views about DRS' communication about funding opportunities than women. Fifty-four percent of men and 49 percent of women agreed or strongly agreed that DRS staff helped them learn about Tri-Agency funding. The percentages of people with positive opinions increased since 2012, but the gender difference remains almost the same.

Dalhousie Research Services staff help me learn about Tri-Agency, institutional, international and other funding opportunities to fund my research.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	18	18	2	38
2	31	40	1	72
3	35	49	2	86
Strongly Agree	13	21	0	34
Total	97	128	5	230
Strongly Disagree	19%	14%	40%	17%
2	32%	31%	20%	31%
3	36%	38%	40%	37%
Strongly Agree	13%	16%	0%	15%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

There was considerable difference in the perceptions towards this statement across faculties, schools, and hospitals. Researchers from Agriculture, Computer Science, and Management agreed with the statement the most, with 89, 86, and 79 percent, respectively, having a positive opinion. Researchers from Architecture and Planning, Dentistry, and the hospital disagreed the most. It should be noted that some caution in interpreting findings is warranted because of the small sample size in some faculties.

Dalhousie Research Services staff help me learn about Tri-Agency, institutional, international and other funding opportunities to fund my research.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	0	1	5	3	9
Architecture & Planning	2	1	1	0	4
Arts & Social Science	4	11	14	7	36
Computer Science	1	0	4	2	7
Dentistry	0	2	0	0	2
Engineering	0	6	7	2	15
Health	4	10	12	1	27
Law	1	0	0	1	2
Management	2	2	10	5	19
Medicine	15	26	21	6	68
Science	11	15	22	8	56
IWK, NSHA & QEII	4	3	3	0	10
Other	0	1	0	1	2
Unknown/ refusal	0	1	1	1	3
Total	44	79	100	37	260
Agriculture	0%	11%	56%	33%	100%
Architecture & Planning	50%	25%	25%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	11%	31%	39%	19%	100%
Computer Science	14%	0%	57%	29%	100%
Dentistry	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Engineering	0%	40%	47%	13%	100%
Health	15%	37%	44%	4%	100%
Law	50%	0%	0%	50%	100%
Management	11%	11%	53%	26%	100%
Medicine	22%	38%	31%	9%	100%
Science	20%	27%	39%	14%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	40%	30%	30%	0%	100%
Other	0%	50%	0%	50%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	33%	33%	33%	100%
Total	17%	30%	38%	14%	100%

When rank is examined, we see that Associate Professors agree most with the statement regarding learning about opportunities from DRS, with 58 percent reporting a positive opinion. Fifty-four percent of Full Professors and 45 percent of Assistant Professors reported the same. In 2012 the pattern was different, with half of Assistant Professors holding a positive opinion then and only around a third of Association and Full Professors saying the same.

Dalhousie Research Services staff help me learn about Tri-Agency, institutional, international and other funding opportunities to fund my research.

	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	21	10	13	1	2	47
2	38	19	20	1	5	83
3	54	29	19	0	6	108
Strongly Agree	15	11	8	2	2	38
Total	128	69	60	4	15	276
Strongly Disagree	16%	14%	22%	25%	13%	17%
2	30%	28%	33%	25%	33%	30%
3	42%	42%	32%	0%	40%	39%
Strongly Agree	12%	16%	13%	50%	13%	14%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

There was little difference of opinion between researchers with and without each type of funding. Participants with Tri-Agency funding were most likely to have a positive opinion of DRS communication about funding opportunities, 56 percent, followed by those with other grants, 53 percent, and 53 percent of those that that hold contracts. In 2012, there was also little difference in opinion between those with and without each type of funding.

Dalhousie Research Services staff help me learn about Tri-Agency, institutional, international and other funding opportunities to fund my research.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	26	40	46	12	124
Yes	25	44	64	25	158
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	26	42	51	18	137
Yes	25	43	59	19	146
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	38	61	78	26	203
Yes	13	24	31	11	79
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	21%	32%	37%	10%	100%
Yes	16%	28%	41%	16%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	19%	31%	37%	13%	100%
Yes	17%	29%	40%	13%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	19%	30%	38%	13%	100%
Yes	16%	30%	39%	14%	100%

When DRS support for grant applications is examined, the majority of participants feel unsupported. Only 39 percent of participants agree or strongly agree with the statement. No gender had an overall positive opinion of DRS' support for grant applications.

Forty-eight percent of men, however, were positive in their assessment compared to 33 percent of women. There was slightly more support for this statement compared to five years ago.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for Tri-Agency and other grant funding opportunities.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	24	19	3	46
2	40	46	1	87
3	22	45	0	67
Strongly Agree	10	17	1	28
Total	96	127	5	228
Strongly Disagree	25%	15%	60%	20%
2	42%	36%	20%	38%
3	23%	35%	0%	29%
Strongly Agree	10%	13%	20%	12%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

When faculties are examined, there is much variation. The faculties that are most positive about DRS grant application support are Computer Science, Agriculture, and Management. The facilities that are most dissatisfied are Dentistry, the hospitals, and Architecture and Planning. In the cases of Architecture and Planning as well as Dentistry there are only a small number of participants from these faculties, so some caution is warranted in the interpretations.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for Tri-Agency and other grant funding opportunities.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	3	0	2	4	9
Architecture & Planning	2	1	1	0	4
Arts & Social Science	6	14	11	5	36
Computer Science	0	2	1	4	7
Dentistry	1	1	0	0	2
Engineering	2	5	7	0	14
Health	5	11	11	1	28
Law	0	1	0	1	2
Management	2	5	8	4	19
Medicine	17	30	17	2	66
Science	14	20	16	6	56
IWK, NSHA & QEII	3	5	1	1	10
Other	0	1	0	1	2
Unknown/ refusal	0	1	1	1	3
Total	55	97	76	30	258
Agriculture	33%	0%	22%	44%	100%
Architecture & Planning	50%	25%	25%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	17%	39%	31%	14%	100%
Computer Science	0%	29%	14%	57%	100%
Dentistry	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%
Engineering	14%	36%	50%	0%	100%
Health	18%	39%	39%	4%	100%
Law	0%	50%	0%	50%	100%
Management	11%	26%	42%	21%	100%
Medicine	26%	45%	26%	3%	100%
Science	25%	36%	29%	11%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	30%	50%	10%	10%	100%
Other	0%	50%	0%	50%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	33%	33%	33%	100%
Total	21%	38%	29%	12%	100%

A minority of participants from across academic positions have a positive opinion of DRS support for grant applications. More Full Professors agree or strongly agree that they get grant support, 44 percent, compared to Associate Professors and Assistant Professors, who have 37 percent and 36 percent of participants reporting the same, respectively. The opinion of Assistant Professors are mainly unchanged since 2012, while the opinion of Full and Associate Professors has become more positive.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for Tri-Agency and other grant funding opportunities.

	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	30	18	9	1	0	58
2	42	26	28	2	7	105
3	44	17	14	0	5	80
Strongly Agree	13	8	7	1	2	31
Total	129	69	58	4	14	274
Strongly Disagree	23%	26%	16%	25%	0%	21%
2	33%	38%	48%	50%	50%	38%
3	34%	25%	24%	0%	36%	29%
Strongly Agree	10%	12%	12%	25%	14%	11%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Participants with funding felt better supported in their grant applications than those without it. Among those with funding, 45 percent of those with Tri-Agency grants, 42 percent with other grants, and 40 percent with contract funding felt supported in their grant opportunities. In 2012, participants with Tri-Agency funding also had a better opinion of DRS support for funding opportunities than those without it. There was little difference between those with and without non-Tri-Agency funding and contracts.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for Tri-Agency and other grant funding opportunities.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	32	49	31	10	122
Yes	30	57	51	20	158
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	31	53	36	15	135
Yes	31	54	46	15	146
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	39	82	59	21	201
Yes	23	24	23	9	79
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	26%	40%	25%	8%	100%
Yes	19%	36%	32%	13%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	23%	39%	27%	11%	100%
Yes	21%	37%	32%	10%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	19%	41%	29%	10%	100%
Yes	29%	30%	29%	11%	100%

When DRS support for large funding applications is examined, 49 percent of participants had positive perceptions of this support. The mean score was 2.43, which is between disagree and agree (closer to agree). This is essentially unchanged from 2.42 in 2012. One noteworthy change is that 18 percent fewer respondents indicated that this question is not applicable to their research.

As with other questions, men felt the most supported. Fifty-six percent of men and 49 percent of women had a positive opinion of support for large funding applications. The gender difference was larger than results from the 2012 survey.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program and/or other large-scale institutional funding opportunities.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	14	19	3	36
2	14	22	0	36
3	17	28	0	45
Strongly Agree	10	24	0	34
Total	55	93	3	151
Strongly Disagree	25%	20%	100%	24%
2	25%	24%	0%	24%
3	31%	30%	0%	30%
Strongly Agree	18%	26%	0%	23%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Compared to the other questions examined, there was more similarity of opinions among participants from different faculties with regards to DRS support for large funding applications. Participants from Computer Science, Arts and Social Sciences, and Medicine were most satisfied with DRS support for large-scale, institutional funding applications. Those from Architecture and Planning, Engineering, and Management were most dissatisfied. These results should be interpreted with some caution given the small number of participants from some faculties.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program and/or other large-scale institutional funding opportunities.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	2	2	0	4	8
Architecture & Planning	3	0	0	0	3
Arts & Social Science	6	3	11	2	22
Computer Science	1	0	1	3	5
Dentistry	1	0	1	0	2
Engineering	1	5	3	1	10
Health	3	3	4	2	12
Law	1	0	0	1	2
Management	1	4	3	1	9
Medicine	13	12	16	10	51
Science	11	9	7	10	37
IWK, NSHA & QEII	1	2	1	2	6
Other	0	0	1	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	1	0	1
Total	44	40	49	36	169
Agriculture	25%	25%	0%	50%	100%
Architecture & Planning	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	27%	14%	50%	9%	100%
Computer Science	20%	0%	20%	60%	100%
Dentistry	50%	0%	50%	0%	100%
Engineering	10%	50%	30%	10%	100%
Health	25%	25%	33%	17%	100%
Law	50%	0%	0%	50%	100%
Management	11%	44%	33%	11%	100%
Medicine	25%	24%	31%	20%	100%
Science	30%	24%	19%	27%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	17%	33%	17%	33%	100%
Other	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Total	26%	24%	29%	21%	100%

When academic position is examined, we see that 56 percent of Full Professors, 35 percent of Associate Professors and 48 percent of Assistant Professors agreed or strongly agreed that they are supported in applications to large funding opportunities. Although the proportion of people with positive opinions increased from 2012, Associate Professors had the lowest level of agreement on this front in that survey.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program and/or other large-scale institutional funding opportunities.

	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	22	13	10	0	1	46
2	20	17	7	2	0	46
3	33	9	6	1	6	55
Strongly Agree	20	7	10	0	0	37
Total	95	46	33	3	7	184
Strongly Disagree	23%	28%	30%	0%	14%	25%
2	21%	37%	21%	67%	0%	25%
3	35%	20%	18%	33%	86%	30%
Strongly Agree	21%	15%	30%	0%	0%	20%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Whether a participant held funding is associated with a more positive opinion of DRS support for large funding applications. A majority of participants holding Tri-Agency Awards, 56 percent, agreed or strongly agreed they were supported. About 51% of those holding other grants felt the same, and 52% of those holding contract agreed or strongly agreed they were supported. Similarly, in 2012, participants with Tri-Agency funding also had a higher opinion of DRS in this respect than those without it, while the opposite is true for other funding and contracts.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program and/or other large-scale institutional funding opportunities.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	26	20	21	8	75
Yes	23	26	35	28	112
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	23	22	24	14	83
Yes	26	25	32	22	105
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	36	29	37	21	123
Yes	13	18	19	15	65
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	35%	27%	28%	11%	100%
Yes	21%	23%	31%	25%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	28%	27%	29%	17%	100%
Yes	25%	24%	30%	21%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	29%	24%	30%	17%	100%
Yes	20%	28%	29%	23%	100%

When support for international funding opportunities is examined, we see that only 38 percent of participants had a positive opinion. This figure is up eight percent from 2012. The average score is 2.19, which is between disagree and agree. This is up from 1.97 in 2012.

There are few differences across genders with respect to this form of support. There is less than a three percentage point difference in perceptions between men and women. This is similar to views in 2012.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for international funding opportunities.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	21	19	3	43
2	19	32	0	51
3	23	27	1	51
Strongly Agree	5	13	0	18
Total	68	91	4	163
Strongly Disagree	31%	21%	75%	26%
2	28%	35%	0%	31%
3	34%	30%	25%	31%
Strongly Agree	7%	14%	0%	11%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Perspectives of participants varied across faculties towards opinion of DRS support for international funding applications. The majority of participants from Engineering, Agriculture, Computer Science, and Health had a positive opinion. These faculties were the most positive. In contrast, participants from Architecture and Planning, Dentistry, and Medicine were the most critical. These results should be interpreted with some caution given the small number of participants from some faculties.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for international funding opportunities.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	0	3	2	2	7
Architecture & Planning	3	0	0	0	3
Arts & Social Science	10	8	8	4	30
Computer Science	2	1	2	2	7
Dentistry	1	1	0	0	2
Engineering	1	3	5	2	11
Health	1	5	5	2	13
Law	1	0	0	1	2
Management	2	4	4	1	11
Medicine	14	18	13	1	46
Science	15	9	16	3	43
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0	4	1	1	6
Other	1	0	1	0	2
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	0	0	0
Total	51	56	57	19	183
Agriculture	0%	43%	29%	29%	100%
Architecture & Planning	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	33%	27%	27%	13%	100%
Computer Science	29%	14%	29%	29%	100%
Dentistry	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%
Engineering	9%	27%	45%	18%	100%
Health	8%	38%	38%	15%	100%
Law	50%	0%	0%	50%	100%
Management	18%	36%	36%	9%	100%
Medicine	30%	39%	28%	2%	100%
Science	35%	21%	37%	7%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0%	67%	17%	17%	100%
Other	50%	0%	50%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	28%	31%	31%	10%	100%

When academic position is examined, Full Professors were most likely to report a positive opinion toward support for international opportunities, with 45 percent agreeing or strongly agreeing, compared to 34 percent of Associate Professors and 38 percent Assistant Professors. In 2012, Assistant Professors expressed the most positive opinions.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for international funding opportunities.

	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	25	17	10	1	2	55
2	29	15	15	0	4	63
3	33	12	11	1	3	60
Strongly Agree	11	5	4	0	0	20
Total	98	49	40	2	9	198
Strongly Disagree	26%	35%	25%	50%	22%	28%
2	30%	31%	38%	0%	44%	32%
3	34%	24%	28%	50%	33%	30%
Strongly Agree	11%	10%	10%	0%	0%	10%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

When we examine the relationship between holding grants and support for international funding opportunities we see that a greater proportion of those holding grants agreed or strongly agreed that they are supported. Forty-six percent of those holding Tri-Agency grants had positive views. Forty-five percent of those with other grants, and 51 percent of those holding a contract felt the same. In 2012, those with grants had more favorable views, however, the gap in perceptions has widened since then. Those with contracts had lower perceptions at that time than those without.

Dalhousie Research Services staff offer the support I need to apply for international funding opportunities.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	28	28	18	7	81
Yes	30	34	43	12	119
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	29	30	26	5	90
Yes	29	33	35	14	111
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	41	48	36	9	134
Yes	17	15	24	10	66
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	35%	35%	22%	9%	100%
Yes	25%	29%	36%	10%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	32%	33%	29%	6%	100%
Yes	26%	30%	32%	13%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	31%	36%	27%	7%	100%
Yes	26%	23%	36%	15%	100%

When DRS support in coordinating across units is examined, only 20 percent of participants had a positive opinion. The dissatisfaction with this aspect of support is echoed by the open response questions in the survey, where researchers cited this as a major obstacle to productive research. In particular, many participants mentioned issues with coordinating between Dalhousie and the hospitals. The mean score for this aspect of support was 1.86, which is between disagree and strongly disagree. This is the lowest score for a DRS support and this is mostly unchanged from 2012.

Twenty-six percent of men agreed or strongly agreed that DRS helps them coordinate among units in relation to grants or contracts compared to 14 percent of women. These results are almost the same as those in 2012.

Dalhousie Research Services helps me coordinate among units (e.g. Faculty of Graduate Studies, Financial Services/Procurement) in relation to grants and contracts.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	32	32	4	68
2	37	47	1	85
3	9	21	0	30
Strongly Agree	2	7	0	9
Total	80	107	5	192
Strongly Disagree	40%	30%	80%	35%
2	46%	44%	20%	44%
3	11%	20%	0%	16%
Strongly Agree	3%	7%	0%	5%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

The negative opinion is also seen across every faculty. Agriculture, Law, and Engineering were the most positive. By contrast, Architecture and Planning, Computer Science, Dentistry, and Medicine, and the hospitals were most dissatisfied. These results should be interpreted with some caution given the small number of participants from some faculties.

Dalhousie Research Services helps me coordinate among units (e.g. Faculty of Graduate Studies, Financial Services/Procurement) in relation to grants and contracts.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	2	4	3	0	9
Architecture & Planning	2	1	0	0	3
Arts & Social Science	13	8	4	1	26
Computer Science	3	3	1	0	7
Dentistry	1	1	0	0	2
Engineering	4	5	3	1	13
Health	9	11	4	1	25
Law	1	1	0	0	2
Management	4	6	3	0	13
Medicine	22	28	6	1	57
Science	17	18	10	3	48
IWK, NSHA & QEII	2	6	0	0	8
Other	1	0	0	1	2
Unknown/ refusal	1	1	0	1	3
Total	82	93	34	9	218
Architecture & Planning	67%	33%	0%	0%	100%
Dentistry	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%
Law	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	25%	75%	0%	0%	100%
Medicine	39%	49%	11%	2%	100%
Computer Science	43%	43%	14%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	50%	31%	15%	4%	100%
Health	36%	44%	16%	4%	100%
Management	31%	46%	23%	0%	100%
Science	35%	38%	21%	6%	100%
Engineering	31%	38%	23%	8%	100%
Agriculture	22%	44%	33%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	33%	33%	0%	33%	100%
Other	50%	0%	0%	50%	100%
Total	38%	43%	16%	4%	100%

When academic position examined we see consistency in opinion across academic ranks. Full Professors were most positive, with 20 percent agreeing or strongly agreeing that DRS helps them coordinate across units, compared to 13 percent of Associate Professors and 19 percent of Assistant Professors. In 2012 Assistant Professors also held the most positive views.

Dalhousie Research Services helps me coordinate among units (e.g. Faculty of Graduate Studies, Financial Services/Procurement) in relation to grants and contracts.

	Professor	Associate professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	45	25	12	1	2	85
2	49	24	23	1	5	102
3	17	7	6	1	3	34
Strongly Agree	6	0	2	1	1	10
Total	117	56	43	4	11	231
Strongly Disagree	38%	45%	28%	25%	18%	37%
2	42%	43%	53%	25%	45%	44%
3	15%	13%	14%	25%	27%	15%
Strongly Agree	5%	0%	5%	25%	9%	4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

There was an inconsistent relationship between whether a participant held funding and whether they felt DRS helps them coordinate among units. Those holding Tri-Agency awards had more favourable views than those without, however, those without other grants had more favorable view than those holding them and there was almost no difference between those holding and not holding contracts. In 2012, participants with Tri-Agency and other funding had higher opinions than those without, the opposite was the case for those holding contracts.

Dalhousie Research Services helps me coordinate among units (e.g. Faculty of Graduate Studies, Financial Services/Procurement) in relation to grants and contracts.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	38	41	11	4	94
Yes	52	60	24	6	142
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	43	37	20	5	105
Yes	48	64	15	5	132
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	64	67	24	6	161
Yes	27	33	11	4	75
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	40%	44%	12%	4%	100%
Yes	37%	42%	17%	4%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	41%	35%	19%	5%	100%
Yes	36%	48%	11%	4%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	40%	42%	15%	4%	100%
Yes	36%	44%	15%	5%	100%

When post-funding support is examined, we see that 44 percent of researchers had a positive view towards this aspect of support. The mean score for it was 2.31, which is between disagree and agree. This is mainly unchanged from 2012.

A greater proportion of men, 51 percent, than women, 36 percent, agreed or strongly agreed that DRS supports them once they receive an award. In 2012, there was little difference across genders.

Dalhousie Research Services supports me once my funding has been awarded.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	15	21	2	38
2	36	32	2	70
3	24	37	1	62
Strongly Agree	5	17	0	22
Total	80	107	5	192
Strongly Disagree	19%	20%	40%	20%
2	45%	30%	40%	36%
3	30%	35%	20%	32%
Strongly Agree	6%	16%	0%	11%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

When the same question is examined in relation to faculties, we see that Computer Science, Law, and Management had the most positive opinion. The faculties that were most critical are Architecture and Planning, Dentistry, and the hospitals. These results should be interpreted with some caution given the small number of participants from some faculties.

Dalhousie Research Services supports me once my funding has been awarded.					
Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	1	4	2	2	9
Architecture & Planning	3	0	0	0	3
Arts & Social Science	6	10	10	2	28
Computer Science	0	2	5	0	7
Dentistry	1	0	0	0	1
Engineering	5	4	3	2	14
Health	7	8	7	3	25
Law	0	1	0	1	2
Management	2	7	6	2	17
Medicine	12	18	21	5	56
Science	10	22	16	4	52
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0	2	1	0	3
Other	0	0	1	1	2
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	2	1	3
Total	47	78	74	23	222
Agriculture	11%	44%	22%	22%	100%
Architecture & Planning	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	21%	36%	36%	7%	100%
Computer Science	0%	29%	71%	0%	100%
Dentistry	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Engineering	36%	29%	21%	14%	100%
Health	28%	32%	28%	12%	100%
Law	0%	50%	0%	50%	100%
Management	12%	41%	35%	12%	100%
Medicine	21%	32%	38%	9%	100%
Science	19%	42%	31%	8%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0%	67%	33%	0%	100%
Other	0%	0%	50%	50%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	67%	33%	100%
Total	21%	35%	33%	10%	100%

When academic position is examined we see that Full Professors held the most positive opinions towards post award support. Forty-four percent of Full Professors agreed or strongly agreed, compared to 29 percent of Associate Professors and 47 percent of Assistant Professors sharing positive opinions. In 2012, Assistant Professors were most satisfied and Full Professors and Associate Professors were tied as most dissatisfied.

Dalhousie Research Services supports me once my funding has been awarded.

	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	26	14	8	0	3	51
2	43	27	11	2	1	84
3	43	10	13	1	8	75
Strongly Agree	11	7	4	1	1	24
Total	123	58	36	4	13	234
Strongly Disagree	21%	24%	22%	0%	23%	22%
2	35%	47%	31%	50%	8%	36%
3	35%	17%	36%	25%	62%	32%
Strongly Agree	9%	12%	11%	25%	8%	10%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

There is an inconsistent relationship between holding funding and participants' evaluation of post award support. Those holding Tri-Agency grants had a more positive opinion than those not holding them, as was the case with those holding other awards. However, a smaller proportion of participants holding contracts had a positive opinion, compared to those not holding contracts. In 2012, participants with other funding and contracts had lower opinions than those with them and those with Tri-agency had more positive views than those not holding funding.

Dalhousie Research Services supports me once my funding has been awarded.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	20	32	27	10	89
Yes	32	52	53	13	150
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	25	42	34	9	110
Yes	27	43	46	14	130
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	35	57	60	13	165
Yes	17	27	20	10	74
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	22%	36%	30%	11%	100%
Yes	21%	35%	35%	9%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	23%	38%	31%	8%	100%
Yes	21%	33%	35%	11%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	21%	35%	36%	8%	100%
Yes	23%	36%	27%	14%	100%

Research Ethics Board

There are two questions regarding the Research Ethics Board (REB) examining the timeliness of processing applications and whether the advice it provides is useful to researchers. When the timeliness of the REB processing of applications is analyzed, we see that 61 percent of participants were satisfied with how quickly the REB processes ethics applications. The mean score was 2.67, which is between agree and strongly agree. This is a slight improvement from the score of 2.62 in 2012.

As with many other support services, men had a more positive opinion than women toward the timeliness of processing ethics applications. 62 percent of men had a positive opinion, compared to 56 percent of women. This is the opposite of the trend in the 2012 survey.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board is timely in the processing of my ethics applications.

	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	5	11	1	17
2	19	10	1	30
3	21	21	0	42
Strongly Agree	9	13	0	22
Total	54	55	2	111
Strongly Disagree	9%	20%	50%	15%
2	35%	18%	50%	27%
3	39%	38%	0%	38%
Strongly Agree	17%	24%	0%	20%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

There is a wide range of views across participants of different faculties regarding the timeliness of the REB processing of applications, however, opinion is largely positive. Researchers from Law, the Hospitals, and Health had the most positive opinion. Participants from Dentistry, Engineering, Computer Science, and Agriculture tended to disagree or strongly disagree.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board is timely in the processing of my ethics applications.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	1	1	0	1	3
Architecture & Planning	1	1	2	0	4
Arts & Social Science	6	3	8	2	19
Computer Science	1	2	1	0	4
Dentistry	0	2	0	0	2
Engineering	0	0	0	0	0
Health	1	7	6	9	23
Law	0	0	1	0	1
Management	2	2	2	5	11
Medicine	4	7	12	6	29
Science	3	4	8	3	18
IWK, NSHA & QEII	1	0	7	0	8
Other	0	1	0	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	0	1	1
Total	20	30	47	27	124
Agriculture	33%	33%	0%	33%	100%
Architecture & Planning	25%	25%	50%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	32%	16%	42%	11%	100%
Computer Science	25%	50%	25%	0%	100%
Dentistry	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Engineering	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Health	4%	30%	26%	39%	100%
Law	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Management	18%	18%	18%	45%	100%
Medicine	14%	24%	41%	21%	100%
Science	17%	22%	44%	17%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	13%	0%	88%	0%	100%
Other	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%
Total	16%	24%	38%	22%	100%

When academic status is examined we see that 57 percent of Full Professors had a positive opinion on the timeliness of the processing of REB applications, compared to 66 percent of Associate Professors and 59 percent of Assistant Professors. Opinions were similar to 2012, however, those of Assistant Professors have improved since then.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board is timely in the processing of my ethics applications.

	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	8	7	4	0	2	21
2	12	8	10	2	1	33
3	18	20	15	1	2	56
Strongly Agree	9	10	5	0	2	26
Total	47	45	34	3	7	136
Strongly Disagree	17%	16%	12%	0%	29%	15%
2	26%	18%	29%	67%	14%	24%
3	38%	44%	44%	33%	29%	41%
Strongly Agree	19%	22%	15%	0%	29%	19%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Five percent fewer participants with non-Tri-Agency funding had a positive opinion, compared to those without such funding. There was little difference between participants with and without Tri-Agency and contract funding, three percent and two percent respectively. The opinion of participants with non-Tri-Agency funding has decreased since 2012. In 2012, participants with Tri-Agency funding had a better opinion than those without it.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board is timely in the processing of my ethics applications.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	10	23	30	15	78
Yes	11	13	26	12	62
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	11	14	27	14	66
Yes	10	22	29	13	74
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	16	26	42	20	104
Yes	5	10	14	7	36
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	13%	29%	38%	19%	100%
Yes	18%	21%	42%	19%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	17%	21%	41%	21%	100%
Yes	14%	30%	39%	18%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	15%	25%	40%	19%	100%
Yes	14%	28%	39%	19%	100%

When participants were asked whether the REB provides useful feedback, 63 percent of researchers agreed or strongly agreed with the statement, up 14 percent from 2012. The mean score is 2.65, which is between agree and strongly agree. This is a slight increase from 2.42 in 2012.

There is a sizable difference, however, between the opinion of men and women towards the feedback offered by the REB. Sixty-three percent of women had a positive opinion compared to 57 percent of men. Despite a small gender-difference, these values are notable because this is the only instance of women feeling more supported than their male colleagues. In 2012 women also had more favorable views towards REB feedback.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board offers useful feedback that helps me ensure the ethical conduct of my research.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	6	12	2	20
2	14	12	0	26
3	25	23	0	48
Strongly Agree	9	9	0	18
Total	54	56	2	112
Strongly Disagree	11%	21%	100%	18%
2	26%	21%	0%	23%
3	46%	41%	0%	43%
Strongly Agree	17%	16%	0%	16%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

The opinions of different facilities varied greatly. Participants from the hospitals, Medicine and Management had the most favourable opinions. However, it is worth noting that most participants from these faculties reported that this question is not relevant to them and that they would likely consult another review board. Participants from Engineering, Law, Architecture and Planning, and Agriculture were most critical. These results should be interpreted with some caution given the small number of participants from some faculties.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board offers useful feedback that helps me ensure the ethical conduct of my research.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	2	0	0	1	3
Architecture & Planning	1	2	1	0	4
Arts & Social Science	7	5	5	2	19
Computer Science	1	1	1	1	4
Dentistry	0	1	1	0	2
Engineering	0	0	0	0	0
Health	1	6	11	5	23
Law	0	1	0	0	1
Management	2	1	5	3	11
Medicine	5	1	16	8	30
Science	4	6	6	2	18
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0	0	7	1	8
Other	0	1	0	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	1	0	1
Total	23	25	54	23	125
Agriculture	67%	0%	0%	33%	100%
Architecture & Planning	25%	50%	25%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	37%	26%	26%	11%	100%
Computer Science	25%	25%	25%	25%	100%
Dentistry	0%	50%	50%	0%	100%
Engineering	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Health	4%	26%	48%	22%	100%
Law	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Management	18%	9%	45%	27%	100%
Medicine	17%	3%	53%	27%	100%
Science	22%	33%	33%	11%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0%	0%	88%	13%	100%
Other	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Total	18%	20%	43%	18%	100%

Across academic positions, participants had positive views of the feedback offered by the REB. More Assistant Professors had positive opinion of feedback, 74 percent, compared to Full Professors and Associate Professors, 57 and 58 percent respectively. The percentage of Assistant Professors and Full Professors with a positive opinion increased significantly since 2012.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board offers useful feedback that helps me ensure the ethical conduct of my research.

	Professor	Associate professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	7	10	5	0	1	23
2	13	9	4	1	2	29
3	19	18	21	1	2	61
Strongly Agree	8	8	5	1	2	24
Total	47	45	35	3	7	137
Strongly Disagree	15%	22%	14%	0%	14%	17%
2	28%	20%	11%	33%	29%	21%
3	40%	40%	60%	33%	29%	45%
Strongly Agree	17%	18%	14%	33%	29%	18%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Participants with Tri-Agency funding and contracts have a 12 percent and 20 percent lower proportion of participants with positive opinions compared to those without funding, respectively. The difference was just two percent for those with other grants. The opinion of participants with other funding has improved since 2012 while those with Tri-Agency funding and contracts was mainly unchanged.

Dalhousie's Research Ethics Board offers useful feedback that helps me ensure the ethical conduct of my research.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	12	14	35	18	79
Yes	12	16	26	8	62
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	10	15	29	13	67
Yes	14	15	32	13	74
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	19	16	49	21	105
Yes	5	14	12	5	36
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	15%	18%	44%	23%	100%
Yes	19%	26%	42%	13%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	15%	22%	43%	19%	100%
Yes	19%	20%	43%	18%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	18%	15%	47%	20%	100%
Yes	14%	39%	33%	14%	100%

Legal

Two questions in the survey asked about legal supports. Participants were asked whether DRS offers quality legal advice when it is needed and whether DRS Legal Advisor responds quickly to inquiries related to research contracts. When asked about the quality of legal advice, 45 percent of participants had a positive opinion. The mean score was 2.3, which is between disagree and agree. This is a decrease from the score of 2.83 in 2012.

When gender is examined, 48 percent of men agree or strongly agree that they get quality legal support. For women, 47 percent have positive opinions. The gender difference has decreased since 2012. Five years ago, 53 percent of men had a positive opinion, compared to 41 percent of women.

When legal advice is needed, Dalhousie Research Services offers quality support.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	8	15	1	24
2	14	21	0	35
3	14	29	0	43
Strongly Agree	6	4	0	10
Total	42	69	1	112
Strongly Disagree	19%	22%	100%	21%
2	33%	30%	0%	31%
3	33%	42%	0%	38%
Strongly Agree	14%	6%	0%	9%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

There is little agreement among participants from different faculties. Participants from Law, Medicine, and Science had the most positive opinions. In contrast, those from Dentistry, Architecture and Planning, and Engineering had the most negative opinions. Results for this table, however, should be interpreted with some caution given low numbers of participants from some faculties.

When legal advice is needed, Dalhousie Research Services offers quality support.					
Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	2	2	1	1	6
Architecture & Planning	1	2	1	0	4
Arts & Social Science	5	2	2	1	10
Computer Science	1	2	3	0	6
Dentistry	0	1	0	0	1
Engineering	3	5	3	0	11
Health	0	8	3	1	12
Law	0	0	2	0	2
Management	0	4	2	1	7
Medicine	6	9	17	3	35
Science	8	7	15	2	32
IWK, NSHA & QEII	2	0	0	1	3
Other	1	0	0	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	0	0	0
Total	29	42	49	10	130
Agriculture	33%	33%	17%	17%	100%
Architecture & Planning	25%	50%	25%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	50%	20%	20%	10%	100%
Computer Science	17%	33%	50%	0%	100%
Dentistry	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Engineering	27%	45%	27%	0%	100%
Health	0%	67%	25%	8%	100%
Law	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Management	0%	57%	29%	14%	100%
Medicine	17%	26%	49%	9%	100%
Science	25%	22%	47%	6%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	67%	0%	0%	33%	100%
Other	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	22%	32%	38%	8%	100%

When academic position is examined we see that the majority of participants had negative opinions of the legal support offered. 41percent of Full Professors, however, agreed or strongly agreed that they receive quality legal support. Forty-two percent of Associate Professors felt the same and 43 percent of Assistant Professors had positive opinions of legal support. The proportion of professors at all ranks holding positive opinions decreased since 2012.

When legal advice is needed, Dalhousie Research Services offers quality support.

	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	18	11	4	1	1	35
2	28	8	8	0	0	44
3	27	10	7	2	4	50
Strongly Agree	5	4	2	0	1	12
Total	78	33	21	3	6	141
Strongly Disagree	23%	33%	19%	33%	17%	25%
2	36%	24%	38%	0%	0%	31%
3	35%	30%	33%	67%	67%	35%
Strongly Agree	6%	12%	10%	0%	17%	9%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Only a minority of participants, with and without funding, had a positive opinion of legal support. Forty-two percent of those with Tri-Agency grants, 44 percent with other grants, and 43 percent with contracts agreed or strongly agreed with the statement on this support. The proportion of participants with positive opinions has decreased for those holding grants and contracts since 2012.

When legal advice is needed, Dalhousie Research Services offers quality support.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	13	14	20	4	51
Yes	22	32	32	7	93
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	14	20	23	3	60
Yes	22	26	29	8	85
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	20	28	31	6	85
Yes	16	18	21	5	60
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	25%	27%	39%	8%	100%
Yes	24%	34%	34%	8%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	23%	33%	38%	5%	100%
Yes	26%	31%	34%	9%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	24%	33%	36%	7%	100%
Yes	27%	30%	35%	8%	100%

Participant were also asked their opinions on if DRS’s legal advisor was quick to respond to queries. Only 36 percent of respondents had a positive opinion. This is a 10 percent decrease from 2012. The mean score was 2.15, which is between disagree and agree. The mean score was 2.32 in 2012. The majority of participants held negative views.

Just 36 percent of men and 33 percent of women reported positive views. Similarly, women were more critical in 2012. Only 37 percent had a positive opinion, compared to 50 percent of men then.

Dalhousie Research Services’ Legal Advisor is quick to respond to queries related to research contracts.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	11	17	0	28
2	13	23	1	37
3	12	19	0	31
Strongly Agree	6	3	0	9
Total	42	62	1	105
Strongly Disagree	26%	27%	0%	27%
2	31%	37%	100%	35%
3	29%	31%	0%	30%
Strongly Agree	14%	5%	0%	9%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Although opinions of participants from different faculties vary, no faculty had more than 50 percent of participants expressing positive opinions. Law, Management, the hospitals, Arts and Social Sciences and Agriculture had the most positive opinions. By contrast Dentistry, Engineering, and Computer Science had the most negative opinions. Results for this table, however, should be interpreted with some caution given low numbers of participants from some faculties.

Dalhousie Research Services' Legal Advisor is quick to respond to queries related to research contracts.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	2	2	2	1	7
Architecture & Planning	0	3	1	0	4
Arts & Social Science	4	1	3	1	9
Computer Science	2	2	1	0	5
Dentistry	0	1	0	0	1
Engineering	3	4	1	0	8
Health	3	4	1	1	9
Law	0	1	0	1	2
Management	0	3	2	1	6
Medicine	10	13	10	3	36
Science	9	8	9	2	28
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0	1	1	0	2
Other	1	0	0	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	0	0	0
Total	34	43	31	10	118
Agriculture	29%	29%	29%	14%	100%
Architecture & Planning	0%	75%	25%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	44%	11%	33%	11%	100%
Computer Science	40%	40%	20%	0%	100%
Dentistry	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Engineering	38%	50%	13%	0%	100%
Health	33%	44%	11%	11%	100%
Law	0%	50%	0%	50%	100%
Management	0%	50%	33%	17%	100%
Medicine	28%	36%	28%	8%	100%
Science	32%	29%	32%	7%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0%	50%	50%	0%	100%
Other	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	29%	36%	26%	8%	100%

When academic position is examined we see that most participants had a negative opinion over how quickly the legal advisor responds to queries. Only 27 percent of Full Professors expressed a positive opinion, compared to 45 percent of Associate Professors and 43 percent of Assistant Professors. The proportion of Full Professors with positive opinions has decreased by 17 percentage points since 2012. Associate and Assistant Professors are largely unchanged.

Dalhousie Research Services' Legal Advisor is quick to respond to queries related to research contracts.

	Professor	Associate professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	28	8	2	1	1	40
2	23	9	10	2	1	45
3	14	9	8	1	2	34
Strongly Agree	5	5	1	0	0	11
Total	70	31	21	4	4	130
Strongly Disagree	40%	26%	10%	25%	25%	31%
2	33%	29%	48%	50%	25%	35%
3	20%	29%	38%	25%	50%	26%
Strongly Agree	7%	16%	5%	0%	0%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

There is no consistent relationship between holding funding and opinion of the Legal Advisor's timeliness. Participants that hold a Tri-Agency award or a contract had less favorable opinions than those without such funds. Those with other grants had better opinions than those without this kind of funding. This pattern was different in 2012, when Tri-Agency and contract funding was associated with more positive opinions and other funding was associated with more negative views.

Dalhousie Research Services' Legal Advisor is quick to respond to queries related to research contracts.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	10	17	16	3	46
Yes	30	29	21	7	87
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	12	21	12	2	47
Yes	29	25	25	8	87
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	19	26	24	4	73
Yes	22	20	13	6	61
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	22%	37%	35%	7%	100%
Yes	34%	33%	24%	8%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	26%	45%	26%	4%	100%
Yes	33%	29%	29%	9%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	26%	36%	33%	5%	100%
Yes	36%	33%	21%	10%	100%

Industry Liaison and Innovation

Three questions asked about the support services offered by Industry Liaison and Innovation (ILI). The questions asked whether it helped participants to understand the commercialization options for their research, connect with businesses and industry, and expand or leverage research funds.

When examining whether participants believe that ILI is helpful with understanding the commercialization options for research, 66 percent agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. This is a large increase from the 44 percent who said the same in 2012. The mean score was 2.73, which is between agree and strongly agree. This is up from 2.29 in 2012.

Views across genders were largely favorable. Seventy-three percent of men had a positive opinion of ILI's help in understanding commercialization opportunities. Sixty-nine percent of women felt the same. Since 2012, the percentage of both men and women with positive views of ILI has increased considerably.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me understand my commercialization options for my research work.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	5	11	1	17
2	4	8	1	13
3	11	33	0	44
Strongly Agree	9	17	1	27
Total	29	69	3	101
Strongly Disagree	17%	16%	33%	17%
2	14%	12%	33%	13%
3	38%	48%	0%	44%
Strongly Agree	31%	25%	33%	27%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

There is considerable difference in opinions of participants across faculties. The hospitals, Science, and Engineering had the most positive opinion of ILI in its assistance with understanding commercialization. Architecture and Planning, Dentistry, Law, Arts and Social Sciences and Management had the most negative views. Results for this table, however, should be interpreted with some caution given low numbers of participants from some faculties.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me understand my commercialization options for my research work.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	1	1	4	1	7
Architecture & Planning	0	1	0	0	1
Arts & Social Science	4	0	2	0	6
Computer Science	0	2	3	2	7
Dentistry	0	0	0	0	0
Engineering	1	2	6	4	13
Health	2	2	4	3	11
Law	1	0	0	0	1
Management	2	0	1	0	3
Medicine	7	4	16	10	37
Science	2	3	10	9	24
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0	0	2	2	4
Other	0	1	0	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	0	1	0	1
Total	20	16	49	31	116
Agriculture	14%	14%	57%	14%	100%
Architecture & Planning	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	67%	0%	33%	0%	100%
Computer Science	0%	29%	43%	29%	100%
Dentistry	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Engineering	8%	15%	46%	31%	100%
Health	18%	18%	36%	27%	100%
Law	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Management	67%	0%	33%	0%	100%
Medicine	19%	11%	43%	27%	100%
Science	8%	13%	42%	38%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0%	0%	50%	50%	100%
Other	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	0%	100%	0%	100%
Total	17%	14%	42%	27%	100%

Academic position has a clear impact on participants' opinion of ILI helping participants understand potential for commercialization. Seventy-five percent of Full Professors have a positive opinion, followed by 64 percent of Associate Professors and 55 percent of Assistant Professors. Opinions of Full and Associate Professors have improved since the 2012 survey.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me understand my commercialization options for my research work.

	Professor	Associate professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	9	7	7	0	0	23
2	11	2	2	2	0	17
3	38	8	6	0	1	53
Strongly Agree	20	8	5	0	1	34
Total	78	25	20	2	2	127
Strongly Disagree	12%	28%	35%	0%	0%	18%
2	14%	8%	10%	100%	0%	13%
3	49%	32%	30%	0%	50%	42%
Strongly Agree	26%	32%	25%	0%	50%	27%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

A greater proportion of participants with Tri-Agency and other grants agreed or strongly agreed that ILI helps them understand opportunities of commercialization. Participants with Tri-Agency and non-Tri-Agency funding had six and seven percentage points more positive views than those without such funding, respectively. Holding a contract had little impact on opinion towards understanding commercialization options, with just two percentage points difference between those with and without a contract. This was similar to what was seen in the 2012 survey.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me understand my commercialization options for my research work.

Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	10	3	14	8	35
Yes	13	15	38	25	91
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	12	6	22	9	49
Yes	11	12	30	25	78
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	18	7	33	18	76
Yes	5	11	19	16	51
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	29%	9%	40%	23%	100%
Yes	14%	16%	42%	27%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	24%	12%	45%	18%	100%
Yes	14%	15%	38%	32%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	24%	9%	43%	24%	100%
Yes	10%	22%	37%	31%	100%

When asked about ILI’s assistance in connecting researchers with business and industry, participants are evenly split, with 50 percent of participants agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement. Although about half of participants were unsatisfied with this aspect of support, ILI has improved since 2012, when only 26 percent had a positive opinion. The mean score for this form of support was 2.49, which is very close to agree. The mean score increased from 1.91 in 2012.

Men were more satisfied with ILI’s ability to connect them to business and industry. Fifty-seven percent of men and 46 percent of women agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. Since 2012, the number of participants with positive opinions has increased for both men and women.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me connect to businesses and industry.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	7	16	0	23
2	7	12	0	19
3	4	22	1	27
Strongly Agree	8	16	0	24
Total	26	66	1	93
Strongly Disagree	27%	24%	0%	25%
2	27%	18%	0%	20%
3	15%	33%	100%	29%
Strongly Agree	31%	24%	0%	26%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Opinion varies among participants from different faculties with respect to ILI’s ability to connect participants to business. The hospitals, Engineering, and Agriculture had the most positive opinion. Architecture and Planning, Dentistry, Law, and Management had the most negative with no one repressing positive views at all. It should be noted that several of the faculties had very small samples sizes and therefore some caution in interpretation is warranted.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me connect to businesses and industry.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	0	2	3	2	7
Architecture & Planning	1	1	0	0	2
Arts & Social Science	4	0	1	0	5
Computer Science	1	2	1	2	6
Dentistry	0	0	0	0	0
Engineering	2	1	4	5	12
Health	4	1	3	1	9
Law	1	0	0	0	1
Management	2	1	0	0	3
Medicine	8	9	10	7	34
Science	4	7	7	8	26
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0	0	0	2	2
Other	0	1	0	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	1	1	0	2
Total	27	26	30	27	110
Agriculture	0%	29%	43%	29%	100%
Architecture & Planning	50%	50%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	80%	0%	20%	0%	100%
Computer Science	17%	33%	17%	33%	100%
Dentistry	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Engineering	17%	8%	33%	42%	100%
Health	44%	11%	33%	11%	100%
Law	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Management	67%	33%	0%	0%	100%
Medicine	24%	26%	29%	21%	100%
Science	15%	27%	27%	31%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%
Other	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	50%	50%	0%	100%
Total	25%	24%	27%	25%	100%

The majority of Full and Associate Professors felt that ILI could connect them to business and industry, with 53 and 58 percent agreeing or strongly agreeing that this was the case. By contrast, 42 percent of Assistant Professors shared a positive opinion. The opinion of Full and Associate Professors have seen a stark improvement since 2012. Five years ago, 29 percent of Full Professors and 20 percent of Associate Professors had a positive opinion.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me connect to businesses and industry.						
	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	15	7	8	0	0	30
2	21	1	3	2	2	29
3	22	3	5	0	0	30
Strongly Agree	18	8	3	0	1	30
Total	76	19	19	2	3	119
Strongly Disagree	20%	37%	42%	0%	0%	25%
2	28%	5%	16%	100%	67%	24%
3	29%	16%	26%	0%	0%	25%
Strongly Agree	24%	42%	16%	0%	33%	25%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Six percentage points more participants with Tri-Agency funding have a positive opinion of ILI's ability to connect them to business and industry than those without it. Participants with other funding and contracts have five and two percent fewer participants with a positive opinion of this support. The proportion of participants with positive opinions has increased across all funding groups since 2012.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me connect to businesses and industry.					
Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	9	6	8	5	28
Yes	20	24	22	25	91
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	13	10	15	11	49
Yes	17	20	15	19	71
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	20	13	18	17	68
Yes	10	16	12	13	51
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	32%	21%	29%	18%	100%
Yes	22%	26%	24%	27%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	27%	20%	31%	22%	100%
Yes	24%	28%	21%	27%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	29%	19%	26%	25%	100%
Yes	20%	31%	24%	25%	100%

When ILI’s ability to help participants leverage research dollars is examined, 41 percent of respondents had a positive opinion. Only 22 percent of participants said the same in 2012. The mean score was 2.72, which is between agree and strongly agree (closer to agree). This is a stark improvement from the mean score of 1.80 in 2012.

When we examine gender, we see that most participants of all genders had negative views. Forty-six percent of men and 32 percent of women agreed or strongly agreed with the statement on ILI helping participants expand or leverage their research dollars. In 2012, the pattern was reversed.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me expand or leverage my research dollars.				
	Female	Male	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	9	23	0	32
2	10	14	1	25
3	4	20	0	24
Strongly Agree	5	12	0	17
Total	28	69	1	98
Strongly Disagree	32%	33%	0%	33%
2	36%	20%	100%	26%
3	14%	29%	0%	24%
Strongly Agree	18%	17%	0%	17%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Opinions vary across faculties. The hospitals, Agriculture, and Computer Science had the most positive opinions of ILI’s ability to help participants leverage research dollars. Architecture and Planning, Dentistry, Law, Arts and Social Sciences, and Health had the most negative opinion. It should be noted that some of these faculties have very small sample sizes and therefore a cautious interpretation is needed.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me expand or leverage my research dollars.

Faculty/ School/ Hospital	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
Agriculture	0	2	4	1	7
Architecture & Planning	2	0	0	0	2
Arts & Social Science	4	1	1	0	6
Computer Science	1	1	3	1	6
Dentistry	0	0	0	0	0
Engineering	3	3	4	3	13
Health	5	1	2	0	8
Law	1	0	0	0	1
Management	2	0	1	1	4
Medicine	10	12	6	6	34
Science	7	7	8	5	27
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0	0	0	2	2
Other	0	1	0	0	1
Unknown/ refusal	0	1	1	0	2
Total	35	29	30	19	113
Agriculture	0%	29%	57%	14%	100%
Architecture & Planning	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Arts & Social Science	67%	17%	17%	0%	100%
Computer Science	17%	17%	50%	17%	100%
Dentistry	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Engineering	23%	23%	31%	23%	100%
Health	63%	13%	25%	0%	100%
Law	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Management	50%	0%	25%	25%	100%
Medicine	29%	35%	18%	18%	100%
Science	26%	26%	30%	19%	100%
IWK, NSHA & QEII	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%
Other	0%	100%	0%	0%	100%
Unknown/ refusal	0%	50%	50%	0%	100%
Total	31%	26%	27%	17%	100%

Irrespective of academic position, the majority of professors had a negative perception of ILI's ability to help researchers leverage funds. As is the case with several other questions, Associate Professors had the most negative opinion. Forty-five, 36, and 39 percent of Full, Associate, and Assistant Professors, respectively, had a positive opinion of this support. In 2012 Assistant Professors had the most positive opinions. A greater proportion of participants across all ranks have a positive perception of this support compared to then.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me expand or leverage my research dollars.						
	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Administrator	Other	Total
Strongly Disagree	23	8	8	0	0	39
2	20	6	3	2	2	33
3	21	4	5	0	1	31
Strongly Agree	14	4	2	0	1	21
Total	78	22	18	2	4	124
Strongly Disagree	29%	36%	44%	0%	0%	31%
2	26%	27%	17%	100%	50%	27%
3	27%	18%	28%	0%	25%	25%
Strongly Agree	18%	18%	11%	0%	25%	17%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Participants with each form of funding had a better overall opinion of ILI than those without funding. Thirteen percent more participants holding Tri-Agency funding had positive opinion of this support than those without it. Six percent more participants holding other funding had a positive view of this support. Holding a contract had only a marginal difference on perceptions of this funding, with just a one percentage point difference between those with and without a contract. A greater proportion of funded respondents had positive opinions in 2012 too, however, there was less differences between those with and without funding then.

Staff at Industry Liaison and Innovation have helped me expand or leverage my research dollars.					
Funding	Strongly Disagree	2	3	Strongly Agree	Total
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	13	8	6	4	31
Yes	26	25	24	17	92
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	17	13	12	6	48
Yes	22	21	18	15	76
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	26	16	18	11	71
Yes	13	17	12	10	52
<i>Holds Tri-Agency Award</i>					
No	42%	26%	19%	13%	100%
Yes	28%	27%	26%	18%	100%
<i>Holds Other Grant</i>					
No	35%	27%	25%	13%	100%
Yes	29%	28%	24%	20%	100%
<i>Holds Contract</i>					
No	37%	23%	25%	15%	100%
Yes	25%	33%	23%	19%	100%

Appendix 1: Details on methods

The survey data was collected using the online surveying service, Opinio between October 2nd and October 23rd, 2017. An email containing the link to the survey was sent to faculty and administrative staff at Dalhousie University and University of King's College. Coleen Branscombe, Administrative Assistant with the Office of the Vice President Research distributed the email to 989 participants and Nancy Hayter, Executive Director of Dalhousie Research Services sent the survey invitation to 32 Department Heads and Associate Deans who did not appear on the other list. Of the 1,021 researchers and administrative staff who received an invitation, 379 participants fully or partially completed the survey, resulting in a 37.12% response rate.

The survey consisted of 54 questions and closely followed the format of the DRS support survey conducted in 2012. The survey was created in consultation with the DRS units.

The goal of this survey was twofold: 1) to assess research support services and 2) to educate participants on the various support services offered by different units.

The survey was administered by Dr. Howard Ramos, professor in the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology and Associate Dean of Research for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. His research assistant, Kathleen MacNabb (MA student in sociology) assisted with data cleaning, analysis, and reporting of survey data.

Appendix 2: Details on qualitative coding

Only minor changes were made to the coding schemes that were used in the 2012 analysis to allow for longitudinal comparisons. See below for the detailed coding schemes and the outline of changes that were made to incorporate responses that were absent from the dataset five years ago.

Coding for Question 33: Please list the five most important supports you need to facilitate your research.

1- Administrative Support- timely processing of proposals, time release of funds, streamline signatures, support identifying interview contacts, immigration support, problem solving,

2- Industry Links- commercial research investors

3- Access to qualified personnel/RAs/Experts- Mentors, RAs, research nurses, for statistical advice, grant writer, tech support

4- Emotional/ Mentoring Support- fairness, interest in my research, understanding, compassion, departmental support, help for novice researchers, respect for diverse disciplines and methodologies, mentorship, encouragement

5- Grant Application Services/Support- peer review, quality review, feedback, help facilitating applications, cv assistance, SSHRC advice, NSERC information,

6- Information Management- competition notifications, pertinent and relevant (timely) info, information management, information on process, targeted information/opportunities, access to info on grants, knowledge of opportunities.

7- Overhead- Responses pertaining to overhead concerns

8- Differential Fees- International and differential fees

9- Cheaper Renovations- Reasonable refurbishment

10- Deadline Flexibility- realistic deadlines,

11- Infrastructure/ Ecosystem- Simpler applications, less paperwork, minimise regulatory personnel, do away with undue admin, relevant programs, less bureaucracy, efficiency, support staff, people, IT support, less admin interference, communication b/w departments, collaboration, simplicity, off loading review/ committee obligations to overworked faculty, transparency, electronic signatures

12- REB/Animal Care- timely ethics response, quick review of low risk ethics, individualised ethics, rapid REB reviews, no middle man, better guidelines

13- Legal Advice- Timely legal services/review, less fear of being sued,

14- Managing Finances- Speaks to supports of financial services: Helpful financial support, repayment simplicity, financial services, accounting, budgeting info/forms, efficient purchasing, managing grant, transparent purchasing department, flexible, clear reporting on budget accounts, payroll, purchase cards.

15- Seed Funding

16- Graduate student funding – includes postdocs, funding, support, recruitment

17- Internal Funding

18- Small Grants/bursaries

19- Matching Funding- Co-funding

20- Other Funding- post-doctoral funding, travel funding, fellowships, for RAs, for books, non-Tri-Agency funds, maintenance of equipment, grants for team building, knowledge translations funding, unspecified/ general funding

21- Space- Space for research and access to resources in that space: Lab, research space, office space, RA space, library space, quiet space, clinical research center

22- Equipment/Software/Data resources- Help finding software, software, field vehicle, equipment facilities, Equipment, computers and related technology, equipment facilities, clinical research center, software, field vehicle, data purchase

23- Time/Teaching Release- Includes work-load accommodation: Workload accommodation, teaching relief, protected time, course relief, time, time to conduct research, sabbaticals,

24- Other- tuition decrease, postage, advocacy, undergraduate student concerns, qualitative research support

25- Unclear, irrelevant- Includes comments on question itself, odd irrelevant answers, NA, answers that are so vague that I cannot understand them

Changes from 2012 matrix:

Further defined 'Industry links' to include commercial partners' investment in research; added tech support to 'Access to qualified personnel'; added help for novice investigators, fairness, respect for all diverse disciplines/ methodologies, and sharing experience to 'Emotional support' and renamed category to 'Emotional/ Mentorship support'; added transparency and offloading of administrative duties to 'Infrastructure' and renamed category to 'Infrastructure/ Ecosystem' to better capture comments about DRS process and procedures; added CIHR information to 'Grant Application Services'; added electronic signatures to 'Infrastructure' and changed the name to 'Infrastructure/ Ecosystem'; added better guidelines to 'REB/ ACC'; added unspecified/ general funding and KT funding, and bridge funding to 'Other funding'; added advocacy, lobbying, undergraduate student concerns to 'Other'; changed 'Equipment/ Software' to 'Equipment/ Software/ Data (includes data purchase, statistical assistance); added 'Unknown' category for exceptional vague responses

Coding for Question 34: Are there any barriers to your research that Dalhousie Research Services could remove to help you with your research?

Funding Barriers

- 1-Seed funding
- 2-Internal funding
- 3- Equipment Funding
- 4- Small Grants
- 5- Grad Student Funding
- 6- Co-Funding-collaborations
- 7- Fair Overhead
- 8- Reasonable Tuition
- 9- Other research funding

Space and Time Barriers

- 10-Space
- 11- Facility Maintenance- too costly and slow
- 12- Time

Individualised/Situational Barriers

13- Individualized/Situational Accommodation- Support system for individual case-by-case bases that do not fit into the norm, such as collaborations between Dal and Kings/Dal and Medical Clinics/resource access non-Dal employees, be able to problem solve.

Access Barriers

- 14- Industry Contacts- Need help making connections with industry
- 15- Access to Mentors- Highly qualified people, professionals, Mentors (training).
- 16- Access to Assistants- RAs, writing assistants, nurses.

Administrative Barriers

- 17- Strong Admin Support- Existing admin should be knowledgeable, unified quality voice.
- 18- Clear Admin Roles/Services- Clarity of services offered, roles played, lean

Process and Management Barriers

- 19- Process Simplification- Of process, bookkeeping, deadlines, paperwork, timely processing, simplification, too many undue roadblocks, less bureaucracy
- 20- Grant Management- Post grant services, electronic budgeting needs to be updated, reasonable purchasing, more efficient, lack of autonomy, lack of relation building with financial services.
- 21- Legal Advice- That is clear and timely
- 22- Efficient Ethics Review/Animal Care- not one size fits all, focus on efficiency, untimely, understaffed
- 23- Grant Info/Preparation- Quality review process, advice, outside of Tri-Agency, hard to find info online

Other

- 24- Individual Consideration- Consideration of each new project from the bottom up in a holistic way
- 25- Clinical Research Supports- for clinical research.
- 26- Qualitative Research Support- Dal should have free access to qualitative software, lack of respect for qualitative research
- 27- Other- Not specific, programs, lack of research culture in faculty, cultural differences, good work in engineering, statistical support, call for more tenure-track positions, media attention,

Changes from 2012 matrix: Added other research funding to 'Funding barriers' to capture travel expenses and publishing in OA journals; further defined 'Grad Student Funding' to include differential fees/ expensive international students; defined 'Space' to include temperature; defined 'Time' to include teaching load release requests; added 'Equipment/ software/ research resources' to 'Space and Time barriers'; added 'Communication' to 'Administrative Barriers' to capture the lack of communication between DRS and researchers and other departments; further defined 'Process Simplification' to include streamlining, transparency, and coordinating with other institutions; defined 'Individual considerations' to mean respect for various form of research; renamed 'Helpful access barriers' to 'Access barriers' to reflect all concerns regarding not having access to qualified assistance or experts, moved 'Equipment' to 'Space and time barriers'; added timely communication to 'Clear administrative roles'; added timely access to 'Grant management'; added less buracracy and siloed services to 'Process simplification'; removed the 'Funding 2' category; included statistical support, advocacy, and suggestions far beyond DRS mandate to the 'Other' category, moved 'Individual Respect/ Consideration/ Support Barriers nodes to the 'Other' category'; added 'Unknown' category for responses that are very vague or argue that DRS should not exist

Coding for Question 35: Often researchers are supported by researchers, colleagues and institutions outside of their research unit and Dalhousie University. If you have received support from outside of the university, what kind of support was offered to you?

Colleague/Feedback/Support

- 1- Clinical Trial Coordination
- 2- External Researcher/Colleague- Review/Feedback, Proposals, grant applications, mentorship
- 3- External Collaboration
- 4- Research Coordinator
- 5- Administrative/ Logistic support
- 6- Legal Service
- 7- Analytic Support- Data analysis
- 8- Research Assistant/ Access to grad students

Specific Organizational non-financial

- 9- IWK
- 10- CDHA
- 11- Innovacorp
- 12- NSERC
- 13- NSHA (non-financial)
- 14- NSHRF (non-financial)
- 15- Information/ webinars from funding agencies

Non-Specific Organizational Non-Financial

- 16- Conferences/Lectures
- 17- Industry Support
- 18 -Library Support
- 19- Generalized support

Monetary Support

- 20- External Grant Money
- 21- Financial Support
- 22- Travel Funds
- 23- Research Fellowship
- 24- Equipment Financing
- 25- Contracts
- 26- Program Funding

Specific Organizational Financial

- 27- CDHA In-Kind Financial
- 28- Provincial/ Municipal Government Funding
- 29- Federal Government Funding
- 30- SickKids Peer Review/Grant
- 31- IWK Funding

- 32- Novartis Pharmaceuticals
- 33- SSHRC Grant
- 34- HDFC
- 35- CIHR
- 36- Private company/ NGO

Non-Specific Organizational Financial

- 37- US Foundation Grants
- 38- Other University Funds
- 39- Library Fellowship
- 30- Hospitals/ NSHA
- 41- In-Kind Support
- 42- European research institutes
- 43- Philanthropic support

Space

- 44- Infrastructure/Space- for work
- 45- Clinical Research Centers
- 46- Time
- 47- Equipment/ Software/ Research resources

- 48- Other- Group leader, comments on the question

- 49-Unclear, irrelevant comments

Changes from 2012 matrix: removed ‘Mentorship’ category from ‘Colleague/ Feedback/ Support’ because it is captured in ‘External Researcher/ Colleague’; defined ‘External Researcher/ Colleague’ to include grant application and publication review; added ‘Funding from Unspecified source’; removed ‘Logistic support’ and put it in ‘Administrative support’; defined ‘Research Assistants’ to include graduate students; added various specific and non-specific organizations but kept all previous organizations; added ‘Equipment/ Software/ Research Resources’ to capture assays, lab facilities, data; added ‘NSHA(non-financial)’m ‘NSHRA(non-financial), and ‘Information/ webinars from funding agencies’ to capture ethics review/ advice; defined ‘Provincial gov’t’ to include Municipal gov’t; added ‘Unclear or irrelevant comments’ for comments on survey, unclear, very vague or completely irrelevant answers

Coding for Question 54: Is there anything that you would like to add?

Personnel

- 1- Faculty hiring- more required
- 2- Graduate student recruitment- increased funds and incentives to attract grad students

Monetary

- 3- Seed funding
- 4- Travel funding
- 5- Matching funds

6- Funding general- more required

Time

7-Time- time for research/ teaching release

Space

8- Space- for research

DRS

9- Review- of grants, budgets, application, proposals; little value-added, cursory

10- REB & ACC- inefficient

11- Support- more equitable (not just favoured research areas or previous winners), beyond Tri-Agency,

12- Communication- lacking, inaccurate, dedicated contact person, with other support services, / schools/ universities

13- Consistency- contradicting staff, staff more responsive

14- Convenience- streamline the process, electronic

15-Overhead

16- DRS other- offloading responsibilities, need for performance metrics

Other support services

17- Financial services- online tracking, complicated, delaying research

18- Facilities Management- expensive, slow

19- Procurement- to slow

Other

20-Positive comments- improvement, helpful

21- Other- other specific comments

22- Unclear or irrelevant comments- NA, comments on the survey