

University Delegates (UD) Meeting Minutes August 5th, 2021

1. Scientific Director Recruitment-CIHR has started the search for the next **Scientific Director of the Institute of Cancer Research**. The job search will be open until September 30, 2021.  
See <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52604.html>
2. CIHR has begun recruiting for a **Vice-President (VP) of Research Programs**, a role that oversees the development, implementation, management, and continuous improvement of CIHR's funding competitions and related functions. Information is on the CIHR HR website.
3. CIHR held four **"Ask Me Anything"** webinars related to the Fall 2021 Project Grant competition in The AMA sessions focused 1) Competition timelines, 2) Changes (extension to the Authority-to-Use-Funds date, extension to Early Career Researcher (ECR) status, TriAgency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee), 3) Application requirements(Summary of Progress, Applicant Profile CV, response to previous reviews), 4) Funding (the across-the-board cut and Priority Announcements), and 5) Peer review (remote peer review, the Reviewer-in-Training program, and the quality of reviews). The meeting summary will be published on CIHR's webinar page in both official languages shortly. I will forward the summary when it becomes available.
4. The Tri-Agencies have launched a one-year pilot of a **Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee**. Guidelines Applications considered relevant for review by this committee must pertain to two or more research across disciplines and subject areas such as the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering, and health and wellness, and must clearly articulate interdisciplinary approaches. See [Collaborations between federal research funding organizations - CIHR \(cihr-irsc.gc.ca\)](https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/52604.html). If you have any questions regarding development of a Interdisciplinary grant, please contact [mrdo@dal.ca](mailto:mrdo@dal.ca)
5. **Fall 2021 Project Grant Competition**-The Project Grant competition is set to return to its regular, pre-pandemic schedule for the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 competitions.  
Registration Deadline: August 18, 2021  
Application Deadline: September 15, 2021  
Peer Review Committee Meetings: November 16 – December 16, 2021 (virtual)  
Release of Notice of Recommendation (NOR): January 19, 2022  
Anticipated Notice of Decision (NOD): February 2, 2022  
Funding Start Date: April 1, 2022  
CIHR is reviewing the strengths and limitations of in-person and virtual project grant peer review and will update the community at a later date.
6. Fall 2021 **Reviewer in Training (RiT) program** is now open on the CIHR website for interested parties. The deadline for submissions is August 20, 2021. RiT has been very successful to date with 122 participants of 403 applicants for the Spring 2021 Project Grant Competition. 97% of

participants recommend the program to their peers. If you are interested in applying, please contact [mrdo@dal.ca](mailto:mrdo@dal.ca).

7. The impact of the return of Foundation grant holders to the Project Grant competitions will be announced by CIHR when the analysis is complete.
8. CIHR remains committed to Review Quality Assurance (RQA). The process is designed to encourage and support high quality reviews as well as recognize good performance by reviewers. The CIHR Standards of Practice for Peer Review (SPPR) were created to promote transparency and support review quality excellence by clearly outlining peer reviewer responsibilities. See <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/51640.html> for details.
9. For the Spring 2021 Project Grant competition, CIHR equalized for ECRs and French language applications. It was not necessary to equalize for female applicants in this competition.
10. CIHR is starting consultation for the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) over the next 5 years.

**Reminder:** ResearchNet keeps a list of current funding opportunities. [ResearchNet - RechercheNet](#)