FGSR Faculty Council Meeting

January 30, 2026

Hosted by: Adam Sarty
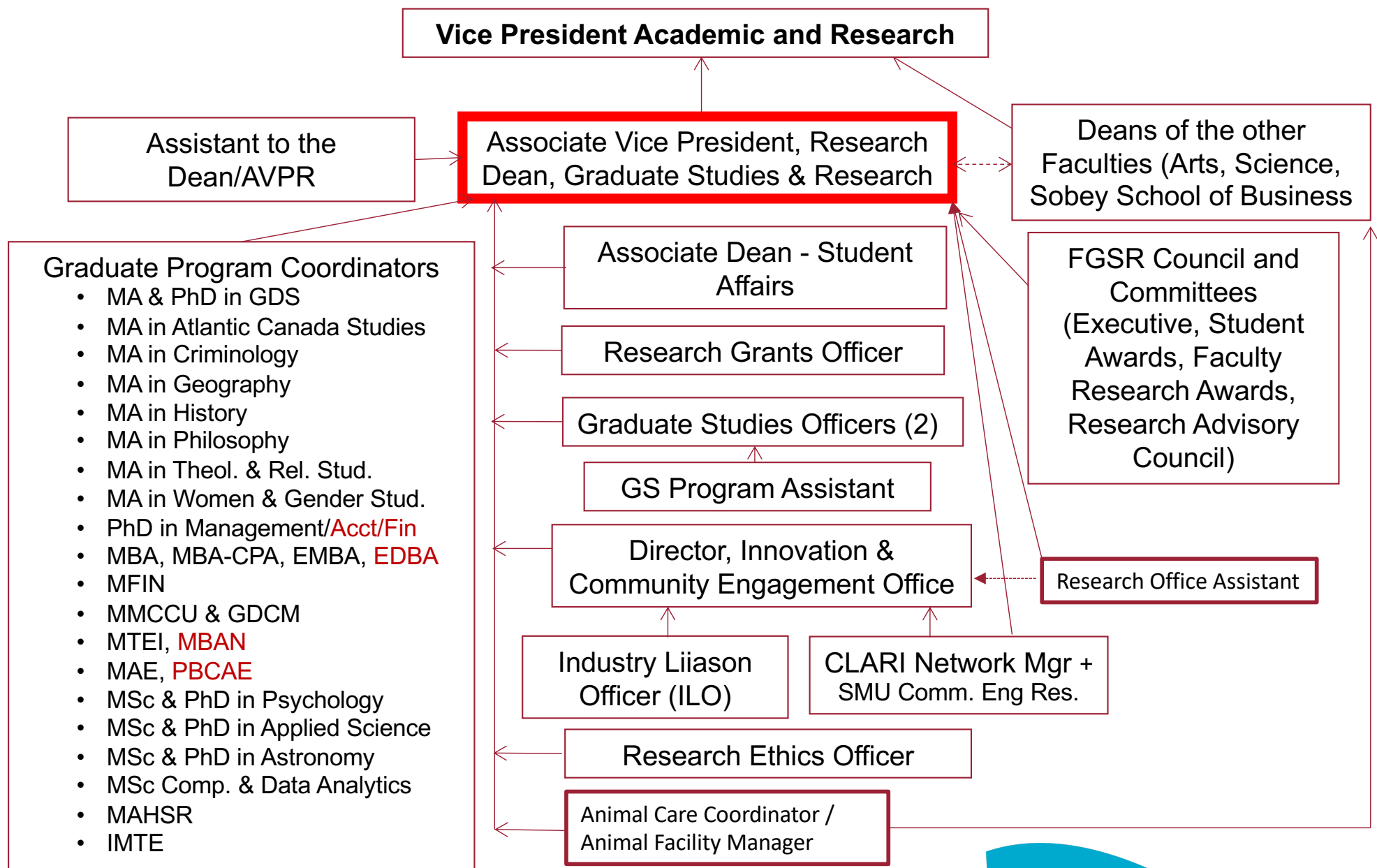
(*Associate VP Research /
Dean of Grad Studies & Research*)

and the FGSR Research
Office team

Saint Mary's University

Reminder / Overview of FGSR "Structure"

Vice President Academic and Research

Assistant to the Dean/AVPR

Associate Vice President, Research Dean, Graduate Studies & Research

Deans of the other Faculties (Arts, Science, Sobey School of Business

Graduate Program Coordinators
- MA & PhD in GDS
- MA in Atlantic Canada Studies
- MA in Criminology
- MA in Geography
- MA in History
- MA in Philosophy
- MA in Theol. & Rel. Stud.
- MA in Women & Gender Stud.
- PhD in Management/Acct/Fin
- MBA, MBA-CPA, EMBA, EDBA
- MFIN
- MMCCU & GDCM
- MTEI, MBAN
- MAE, PBCAE
- MSc & PhD in Psychology
- MSc & PhD in Applied Science
- MSc & PhD in Astronomy
- MSc Comp. & Data Analytics
- MAHSR
- IMTE

Associate Dean - Student Affairs

Research Grants Officer

Graduate Studies Officers (2)

GS Program Assistant

Director, Innovation & Community Engagement Office

FGSR Council and Committees (Executive, Student Awards, Faculty Research Awards, Research Advisory Council)

Research Office Assistant

Industry Liiason Officer (ILO)

CLARI Network Mgr + SMU Comm. Eng Res.

Research Ethics Officer

Animal Care Coordinator / Animal Facility Manager

GRADUATE STUDIES

Saint Mary's University

Review of Programs
(more student enrolment numbers/trends on upcoming slides)

Professional Programs

✓MBA MBA-CPA eMBA

✓**eDBA**

✓MFin

✓MTEI

✓MCDA **GDHDA**

✓**MBAN** **Personnel Psych Dip**

✓IMTE **MAHSR-P**

   ✓(MAE)

   ✓(MMCCU)

   ✓(GradDip CME)

   ✓(PBCAE)

- **Thesis-Required Programs**

✓All M.A. programs (ACS, Crim, Geog, Hist, GDS, Phil, Theo/RelSt, WGST)

✓All M.Sc. Programs (App. Psych - I/O & Forensic streams, Astr, Applied Science)

✓M App Health Serv Research **- T**

✓All PhD programs (GDS, Astr, I/O Psyc, Bus. Admin - **Management + Finance + Accounting** streams, Applied Science)

Review of Programs

Totals to ... 31 graduate credentials:

- 22 Masters programs (2 with 2 streams, 1 with online stream)
- 5 PhD programs (one with 3 streams), 1 Doctorate
- 3 Grad Diplomas , 1 Post-Bacc Certificate

- Includes new/approved streams launched over last 2 years:
  - MAHSR - P
  - Grad Diploma in Personnel Psych; online stream MSc App Psyc
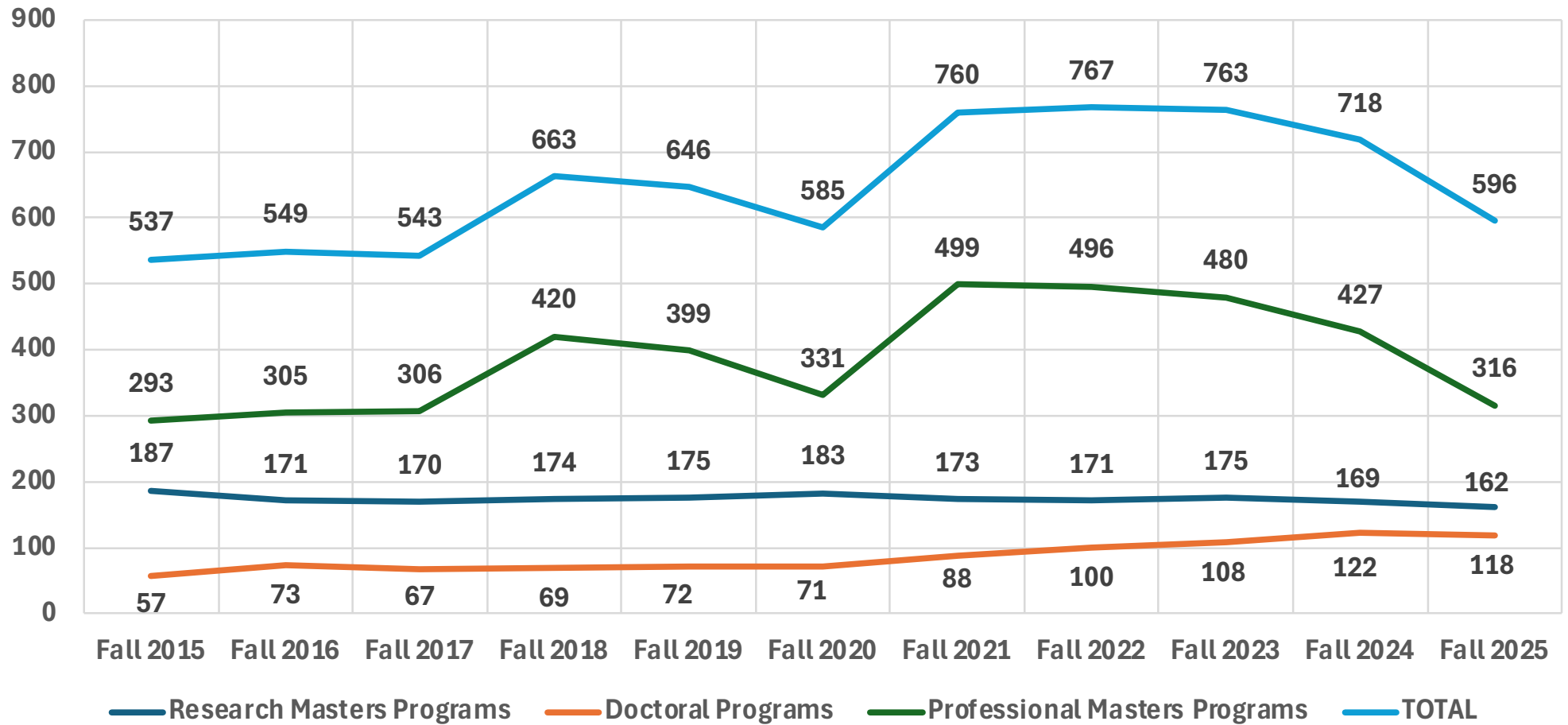 - Grad Diploma in Health Data Analytics

Overall GRADUATE Enrolment – 10 yr Trend

TERM	Research Masters Programs	Doctoral Programs	Professional Masters Programs	TOTAL
Fall 2015	187	57	293	**537**
Fall 2016	171	73	305	**549**
Fall 2017	170	67	306	**543**
Fall 2018	174	69	420	**663**
Fall 2019	175	72	399	**646**
Fall 2020	183	71	331	**585**
Fall 2021	173	88	499	**760**
Fall 2022	171	100	496	**767**
Fall 2023	175	108	480	**763**
Fall 2024	169	122	427	**718**
Fall 2025	162	118	316	**596**

** Fall Enrolments only (used as proxy for full year #s) **

SMU GRADUATE 10-year Enrolment Trend
(includes all - Full & Part Time, Within-TIme & Continuation)

	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	Fall 2025
TOTAL	537	549	543	663	646	585	760	767	763	718	596
Professional Masters Programs	293	305	306	420	399	331	499	496	480	427	316
Research Masters Programs	187	171	170	174	175	183	173	171	175	169	162
Doctoral Programs	57	73	67	69	72	71	88	100	108	122	118

Research Masters Programs ——— **Doctoral Programs** ——— **Professional Masters Programs** ——— **TOTAL**

** Fall Enrolments only (used as proxy for full year #s) **

Overall <u>Continuing</u> GRADUATE Enrolment – 4 yr Trend

Continuing Students - Domestic

TERM	Research Masters Programs	Doctoral Programs	Professional Masters Programs	TOTAL
Fall 2022	87	57	84	**228**
Fall 2023	91	65	56	**212**
Fall 2024	96	66	54	**216**
Fall 2025	88	79	52	**219**

Continuing Students - International

TERM	Research Masters Programs	Doctoral Programs	Professional Masters Programs	TOTAL
Fall 2022	21	23	177	**221**
Fall 2023	23	24	143	**190**
Fall 2024	21	30	178	**229**
Fall 2025	16	29	81	**126**

** Fall Enrolments only (used as proxy for full year #s) **

Overall <u>NEW</u> GRADUATE Enrolment – 4 yr Trend

New Students - Domestic

TERM	Research Masters Programs	Doctoral Programs	Professional Masters Programs	TOTAL
Fall 2022	52	16	44	**112**
Fall 2023	49	10	52	**111**
Fall 2024	42	22	49	**113**
Fall 2025	49	8	73	**130**

New Students - International

TERM	Research Masters Programs	Doctoral Programs	Professional Masters Programs	TOTAL
Fall 2022	11	4	191	**206**
Fall 2023	11	10	229	**250**
Fall 2024	10	4	151	**165**
Fall 2025	9	2	110	**121**

** Fall Enrolments only (used as proxy for full year #s) **

SMU Continuing Graduate Students - 4 year trend

	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	Fall 2025
Continuing International	221	190	229	126
Continuing Domestic	228	212	216	219
Continuing TOTAL	449	402	445	345
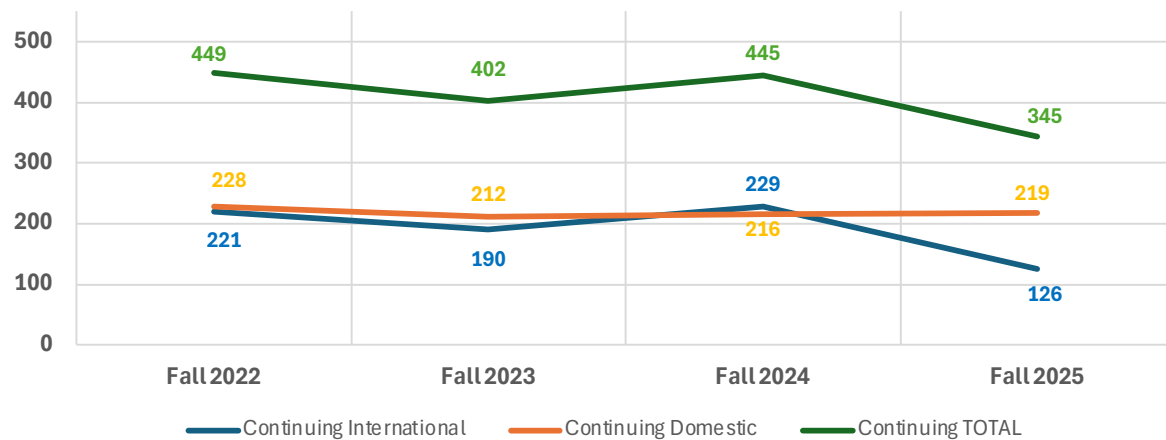
SMU New Graduate Students - 4 year trend

	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024	Fall 2025
New International	206	250	165	121
New Domestic	106	111	113	130
New TOTAL	318	361	278	251
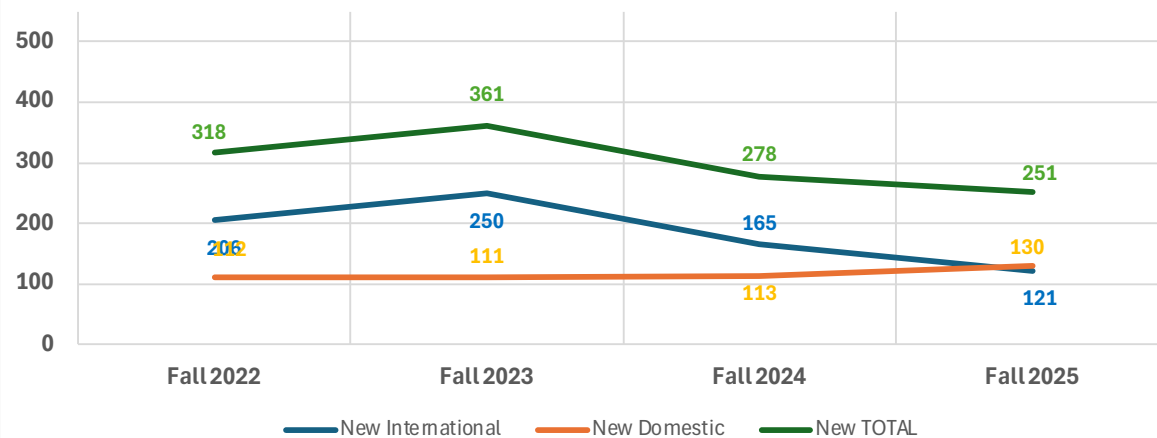
** Fall Enrolments only (used as proxy for full year #s) **

Professional Masters Programs – Application status for Fall 2026 (compared to 4 Yrs of Fall cohorts)

DEC. 31 COMPARISON				CONTEXT: From 2022-25 Application Data	
Program	Average # of Completed Apps 2022-2025	# of Completed Apps for Fall 2026	App Status: Fall 2026 compared to 2022-25	Proportion of total apps received by Comparison date	Proportion of ENROLED students that applied by Comparison date
IMTE	58	33	57%	38%	46%
MBA	22	31	143%	21%	25%
MTEI	52	17	33%	28%	27%
MFIN	44	11	25%	29%	33%
MScCDA	35	10	29%	33%	48%
MBAN	55	31	57%	31%	38%
TOTALS:	265	133	50%	30%	36%

Overall: down 50% across all Professional Masters programs
(*note* number of MBA apps is up)

Internal Graduate Student Funding
2025-26

- Total Amount of Internal Funding Awarded for 2025-26 = $2,389,862
(essentially identical to last years within a few $10'sk – not report TA funding this year since it was outside FGSR view)

FGSR Graduate Awards and Fellowships = $1,520,005

Named Awards = $467,607

Durland Scholarships in Graduate Research = $235,000

Program Scholarships = $167,250

External Graduate Student Funding
2025-26

- Total Amount of ==External Funding== Awarded for 2025-26= ==$2,446,382==
  ($250k less than last year... $78k more than 2 years ago)

SSHRC Doctoral	= $160,000
SSHRC CGSM	= $143,910
NSERC Doctoral	= $146,400
NSERC CGSM	= $71,820
CIHR CGSM	= $27,000
MITACS Stipends to Students through FGSR	= $418,333 *(↓ $94k)*
Research Fellowships Reported	= $1,154,119 *(↓ $115k)*
NS Graduate Scholarships	= $324,800

(and ↓ $78k because end of Research NS Scotia Scholar program)

Last Graduate Student notes:

- We have been doing more "professional development" sessions, organized through FGSR Associate Dean (e.g. with career services for resume prep / job search info).

- The non-credit FGSR "University Teaching" course is paused for the moment (as we lost the primary person who taught it for years - Will Kay), and we are looking at moving to a new model which could allow professors to volunteer to do modules (lectures) that fit into an overall "course package".   Hopefully we can try it next academic year.

- Have been informing professors (through Research Update emails) about webinars available through the CAGS National Community of Practice on Graduate Supervision.

- Have rolled out a voluntary Mentorship Agreement form that we hope more supervising professors will go through with the grad students.

RESEARCH

Saint Mary's
University

2025 SMU RESEARCH RECOGNITION RECEPTION

By the Numbers: **111 RESEARCHERS <u>directly</u> received funding $10.28 Million** in Sept 2024 to Sept 2025

(103 full-time Professors, 6 Adjunct Professors, 2 SMU staff)

Faciliated By:	# Grants/Cont	Total Funding
CRC	6	$600,000
RGO	97	$4,028,703
OICE	116	$5,653,906
Total	**219**	**$10,282,609**

Plus acknowledging the additional annual support from Tri-Agencies for "indirect cost of research" support:
RESEARCH SUPPORT FUND   ~$1,260,406

(NOTE: direct student scholarship $ not included in these totals)
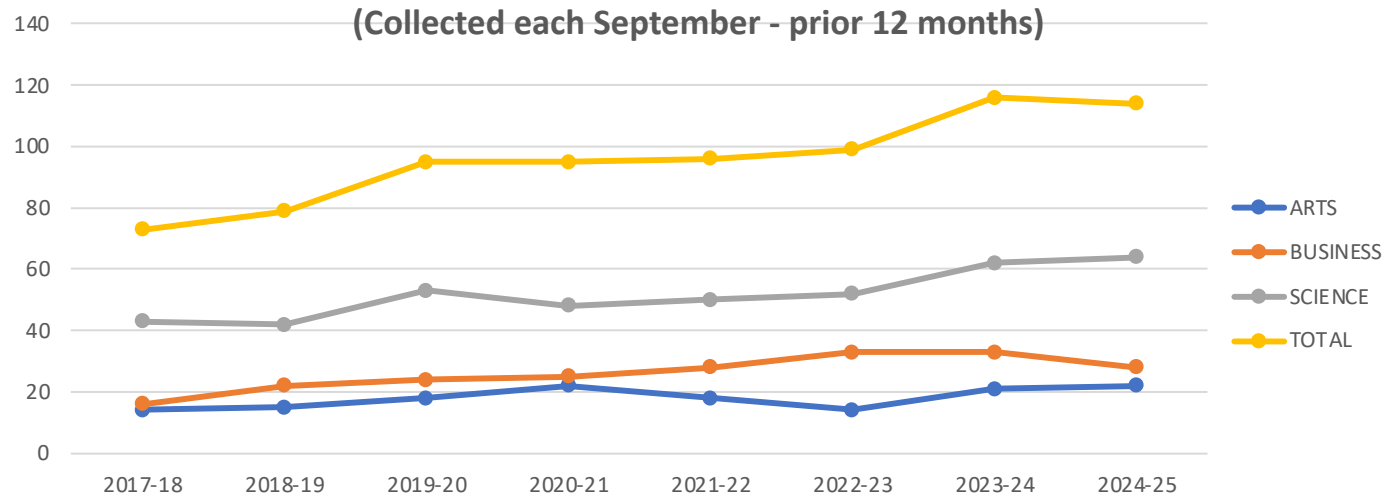
2025 SMU RESEARCH RECOGNITION RECEPTION

By the Numbers: **111 RESEARCHERS directly received funding $10.28 Million** in Sept 2024 to Sept 2025

(1... *Professors, 6 Adjunct Professors, 2 SMU staff)*

"RSF" is way Tri-Agencies provide support for the "indirect costs of research" (or "overhead") back to universities, based on the grants give that cover "direct costs of research" ... See our public accountability site:
www.smu.ca/fgsr/fgsr-research-support-fund.html

Other research grants/contracts outside Tri-Agencies provide this support for indirect costs via an "overhead payment" to SMU when providing these grants/contracts ... See our FAQ page:
www.smu.ca/fgsr/fgsr-grants-agreements-faq-for-faculty.html

Plus acknowledging the additional annual s... Agencies for "indirect cost of research" support:
RESEARCH SUPPORT FUND   ~$1,260,406

(NOTE: direct student scholarship $ not included in these totals)

RESEARCH – Recent Results/Trends

Charting 8 year progression – by Grant or Contract (facilitated by RGO or OICE)
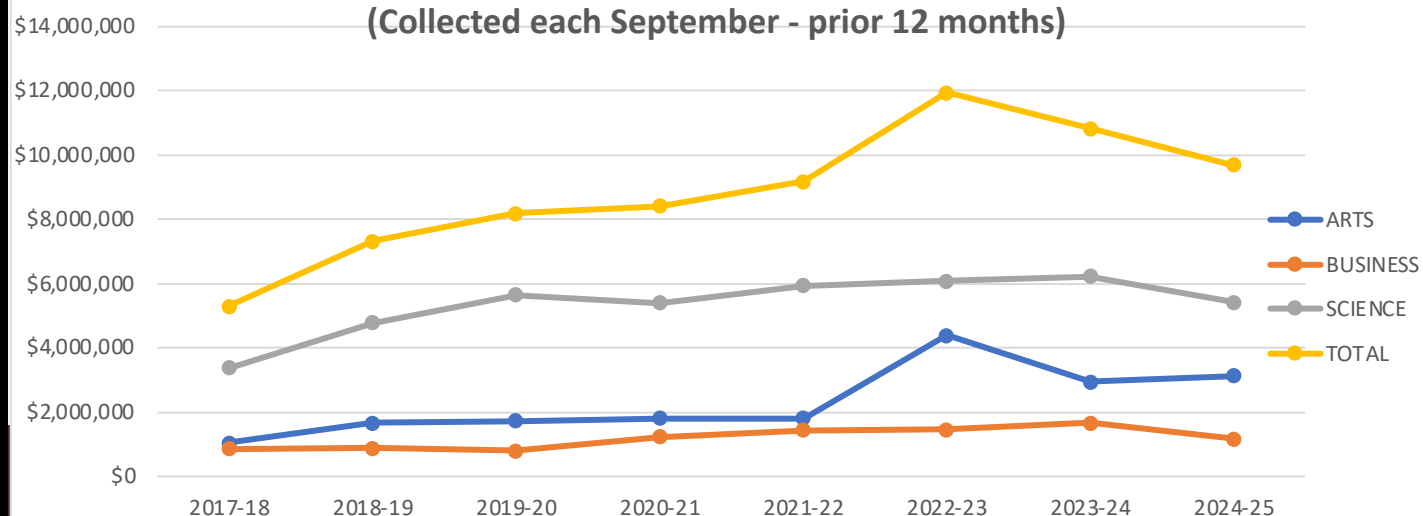### *(CRCs not included in this table)*

# of Annual Research Grants & Contracts
(Collected each September - prior 12 months)
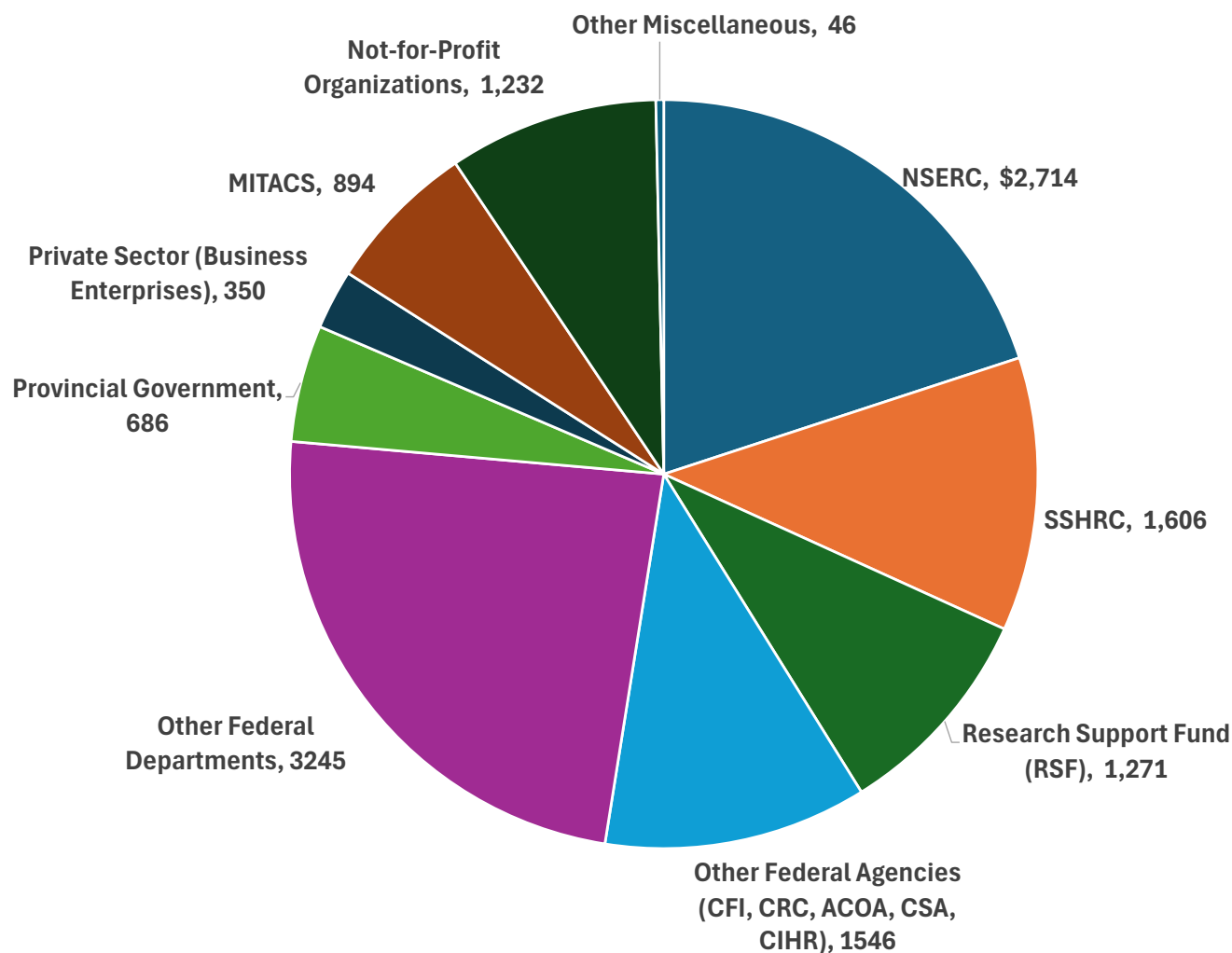

VALUE of Annual Research Grants & Contracts
(Collected each September - prior 12 months)
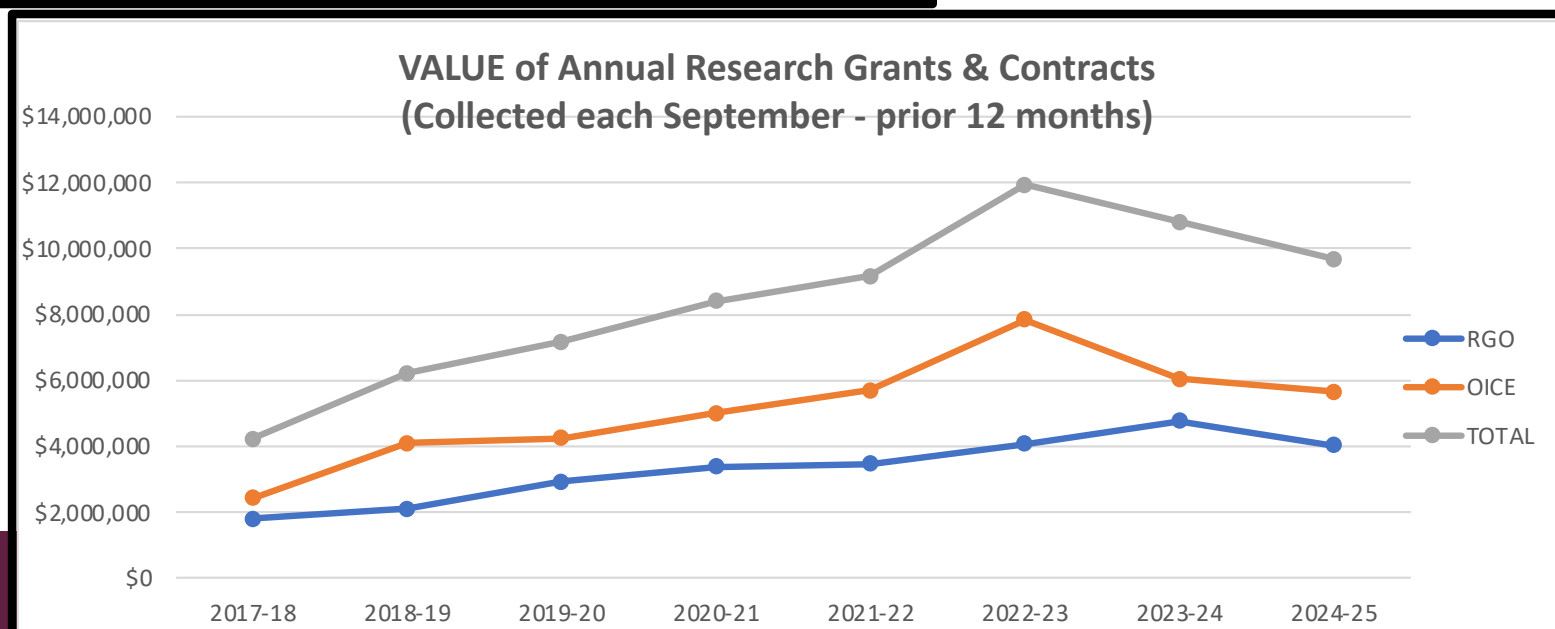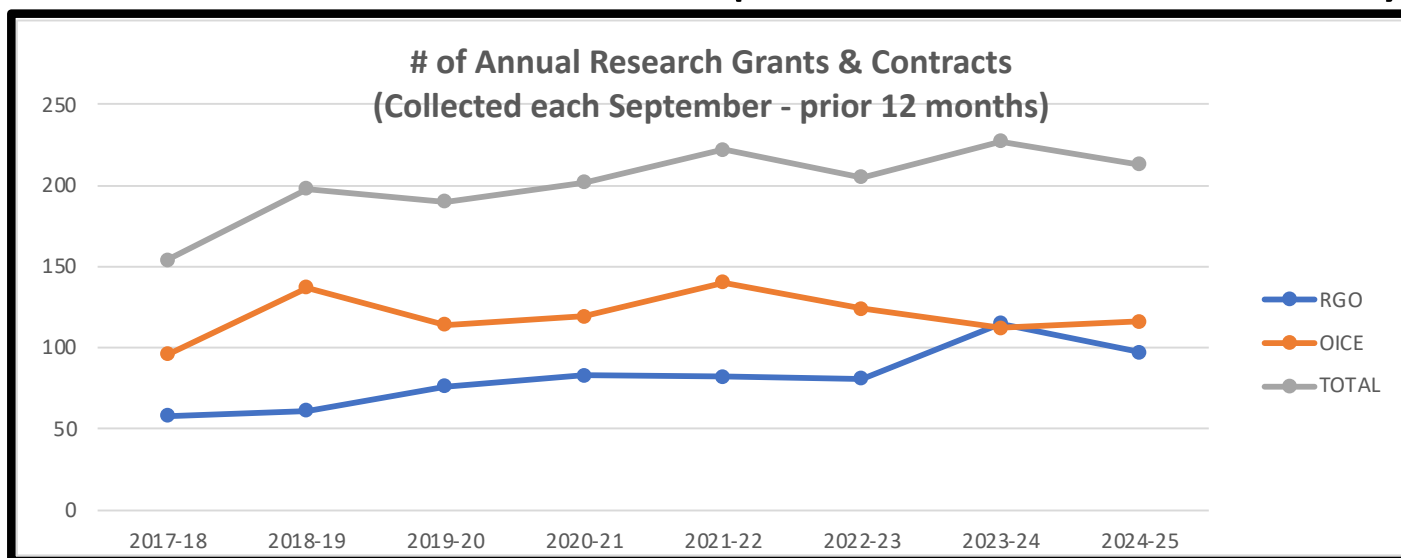
RESEARCH – Recent Results/Trends

Charting 8 year progression – by Faculty (Arts, Sobey School of Business, Science)
(CRCs not included in this table)

# of Faculty receiving Annual Research Grants & Contracts
(Collected each September - prior 12 months)

Legend: ARTS, BUSINESS, SCIENCE, TOTAL

VALUE of Annual Research Grants & Contracts
(Collected each September - prior 12 months)

Legend: ARTS, BUSINESS, SCIENCE, TOTAL

RESEARCH – Recent Results/Trends

External Research Revenue ($000's)	2022-23	2023-34	2024-25	Total
Total External Research Revenue	$ 16,294	$ 14,395	$ 13,590	$ 44,279

2024-25

- Other Miscellaneous, 46
- Not-for-Profit Organizations, 1,232
- MITACS, 894
- Private Sector (Business Enterprises), 350
- Provincial Government, 686
- Other Federal Departments, 3245
- Other Federal Agencies (CFI, CRC, ACOA, CSA, CIHR), 1546
- Research Support Fund (RSF), 1,271
- SSHRC, 1,606
- NSERC, $2,714

RESEARCH – Recent Results/Trends

External Research Revenue ($000's)	2022-23	2023-34	2024-25	Total
Total External Research Revenue	$ 16,294	$ 14,395	$ 13,590	$ 44,279

External Research Revenue (in Thousands of $)
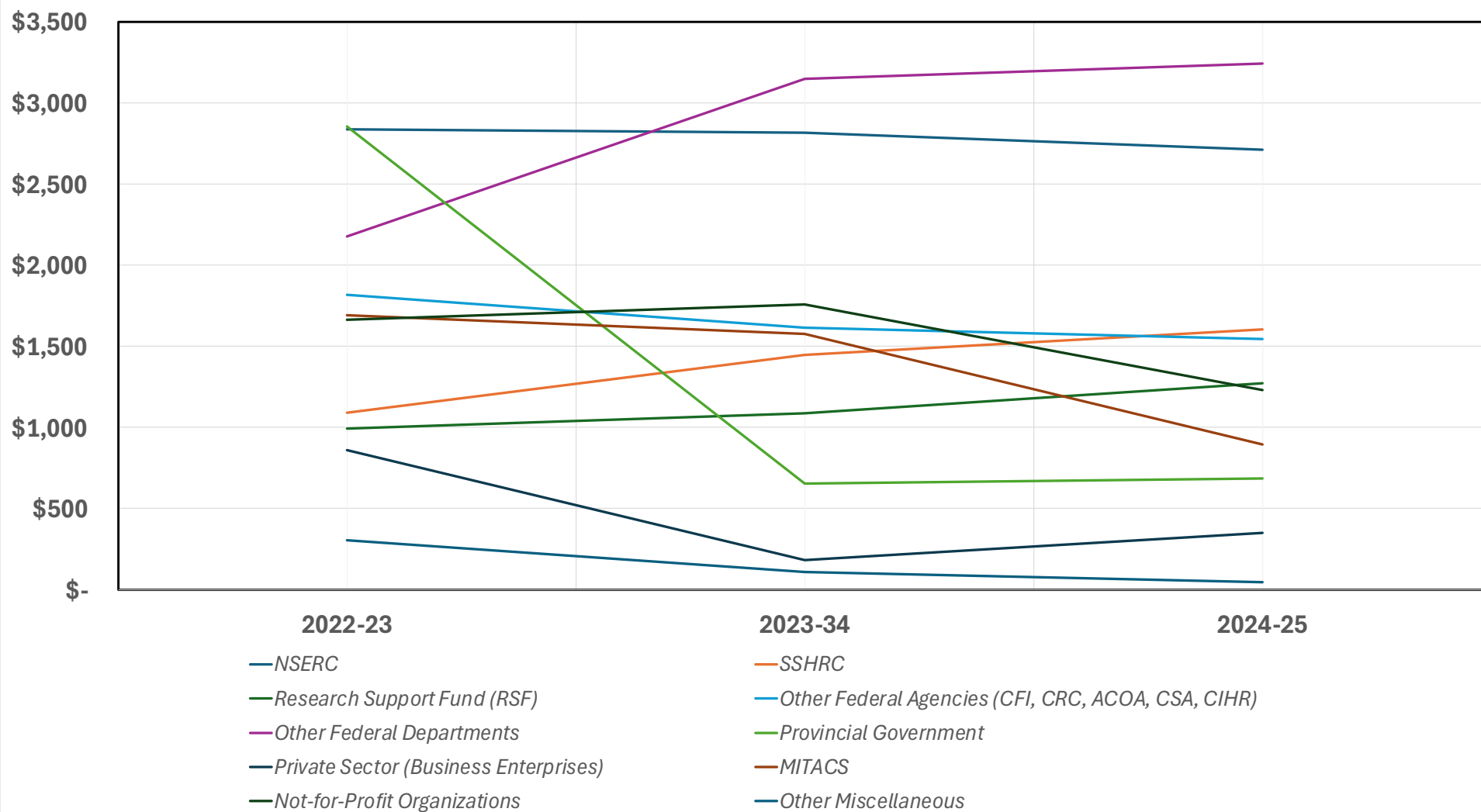
Legend:
- NSERC
- SSHRC
- Research Support Fund (RSF)
- Other Federal Agencies (CFI, CRC, ACOA, CSA, CIHR)
- Other Federal Departments
- Provincial Government
- Private Sector (Business Enterprises)
- MITACS
- Not-for-Profit Organizations
- Other Miscellaneous

Annual Review Info and Update Notes from the Research Office
(some things are new, some are ones we like to Remind annually)

REMINDER – Research Agreements Policy:

- see our FAQ Page for Applying for Grants & (mostly) Contracts (https://www.smu.ca/fgsr/fgsr/grants-agreements-faq-for-faculty.html)

- the process for applying for contracts, and getting assistance/support is outlined, including ensuring early connection with Office of Innovation and Comm Engagement (OICE) within FGSR

- other notable part of the Policy:
  - Simplified policy for university required charge for "overhead" (indirect cost of research): minimum is flat rate of 20% of total direct research costs
  - The use (or distribution) of this collected overhead includes re-directing a portion back for use by the professor holding the contract (20% of the collected overhead is re-directed back this way to the PI)

Annual Review Info and Update Notes from the Research Office
(some things are new, some are ones we like to Remind annually)

Research Data Management:

- Federal Tri-Agencies *have* moved forward on implementing a national Research Data Management Policy (https://www.science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_547652FB.html)

- Next steps:
  - Inclusion of Research Data Management (RDM) Plans will be required on selected grant program applications
  - all universities have public RDM Institutional Strategies (to remain eligible for TriAgency funding) ...

    SMU's is NOW POSTED on our FGSR Research page!

- Assistance locally with RDM experts in Library – Peter Webster (lead)

- National Portage portal: Data Management Planner Assistant (https://portagenetwork.ca/tools-and-resources/dmp-assistant/)

Annual Review Info and Update Notes from the Research Office
(some things are new, some are ones we like to Remind annually)

REMINDER – Spending & Hiring using your Research Grant Accounts:

- Realize that keeping up with proper processes, and allowances/eligibility, can be challenging (including using/interpreting our tools)

- Now with Tri-Agencies "Principles-based Accounting", we do not have special NSERC/SSHRC "books" anymore to say what research expenses are eligible and which aren't ...

  Rather, ALL SMU research-account spending is governed by same set of guiding principles to determine eligibility:

Annual Review Info and Update Notes from the Research Office
(some things are new, some are ones we like to Remind annually)

REMINDER – Spending & Hiring using your Research Grant Accounts:

- Rather, ALL SMU research-account spending is governed by same set of guiding principles to determine eligibility:
  - **contribute to the direct costs of the research/activities for which the funds were awarded, with benefits directly attributable to the grant**
  - **not be provided by the administering institution to their research personnel**
  - **be effective and economical**
  - **not result in personal gain for members of the research team**

- Have Developed a "*Researcher Accountability Statement*" that we emailed around a year or so ago – addresses many areas of concern noted at our last Tri-Agency audit: will implement in next 1-2 weeks (all grant holders will get an email with the form)

- SEE our "Researcher FAQ" page:
  - https://www.smu.ca/fgsr/research-faq.html

Annual Review Info and Update Notes from the Research Office
(some things are new, some are ones we like to Remind annually)

Canada Research Chair update:

- Assessment and decision of "host program/departments" for the 3 available upcoming Tier II Chairs will happen over next 4-6 weeks (submissions were made in September – thank you – but we needed to slow down the process, sorry ... But will move it forward now)

Impact+ Training opportunities (Doctoral, Postdoc):

- Info will be distributed for potential nominations Monday (very restrictive program....)

Faculty Council – CLARI

January 30, 2026

CLARI
Change Lab Action Research Initiative

Saint Mary's University

CLARI Highlights

Fiscal Year		Total Project	
2019	8	$	58,135
2020	19	$	137,169
2021	26	$	193,082
2022	25	$	186,320
2023	27	$	183,092
2024	21	$	145,464
2025	15	$	112,340
All	**141**	**$**	**1,015,602**

2019	2	$	14,586
2020	9	$	64,400
2021	5	$	37,376
2022	3	$	22,000.00
2023	7	$	52,500.00
2024	3	$	19,500.00
2025	4	$	30,000.00
All	**33**	**$**	**240,362**

Received ~$112k for CER in FY25. 15 community research projects were funded. Four projects at SMU.

>$1 million invested directly in community research projects since 2017.

Provincial Government has not provided funding for 26-27 FY.

CLARI Project Funding

Connect (highlights)

- Action Research Network
    - Current Research Partnerships for faculty engagement
        - Open-Source, Community-Centric Deer Fence Design (HRM, Common Roots Urban Farm)
        - Family Services of Nova Scotia – Research Collaboration
    - SMU Advancement is supporting search for other funding opportunities for CER
    - Increasing engagement with other Canadian CER entities (SFU, McMaster, CCECanada) to promote knowledge sharing among CER faculty and staff

- Engagement with Government
    - Continue to engage faculty and students with government
    - Our primary relationship with OPIN (Office for Public Sector Innovation) has diminished as their role has been minimized within the NS Government.

- 2025 Project Funding (~$112K)
    - 15 projects funded
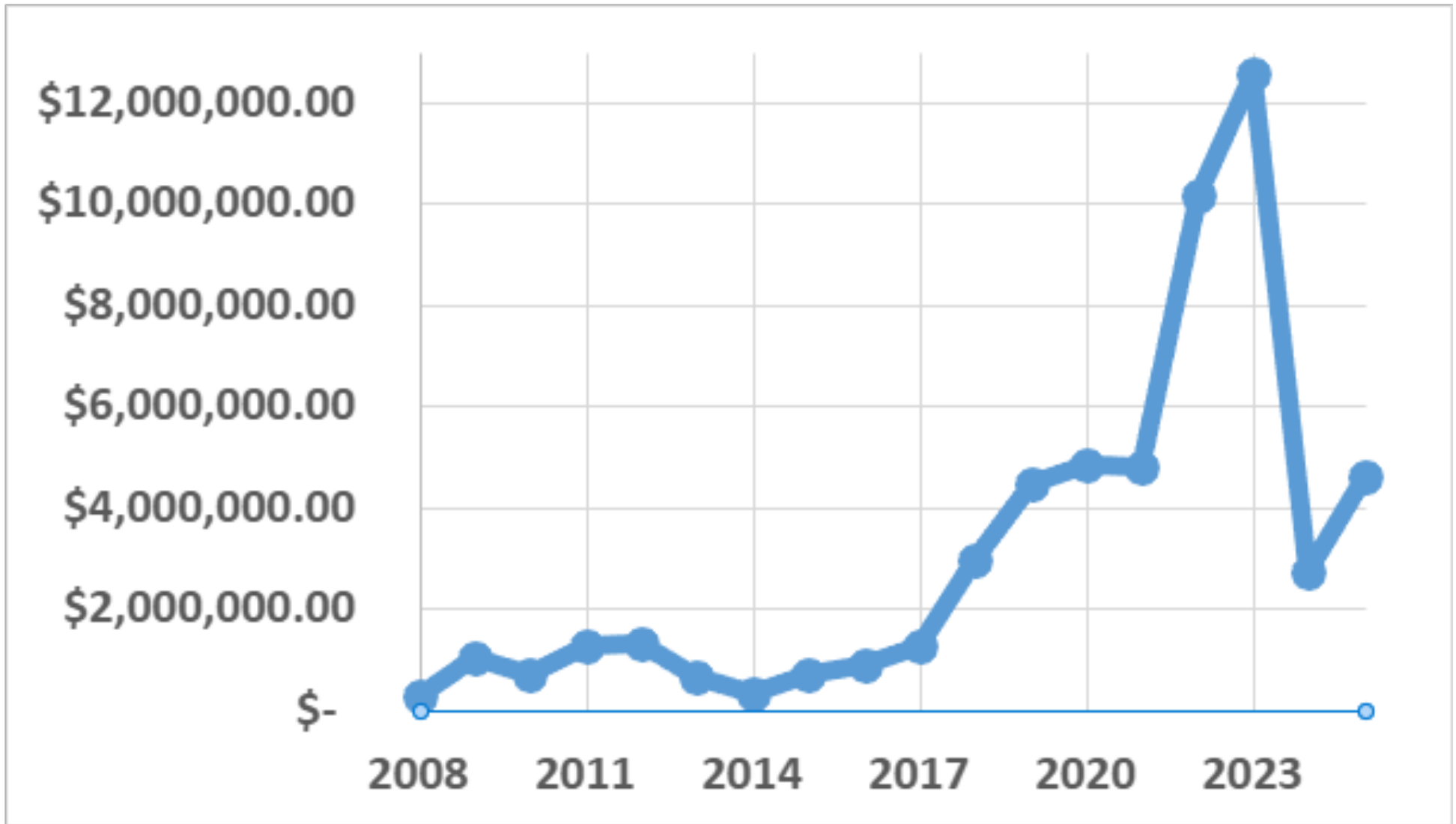   - 4 involving SMU faculty as PI

Faculty Council - OICE

Saint Mary's University

SMU External Funding

Research Expo

When: Friday, March 6, 2026

Where: Loyola Conference Hall

Time: 1:00pm to 4:00pm

Save Your Spot invitations were emailed out. If you are interested in giving a short pitch presentation or exhibiting at a booth, please reach out to Danielle Goodfellow.

OICE and CLARI

Kevin Buchan, Director
kevin.buchan@smu.ca

Danielle Goodfellow, Industry Liaison Officer
danielle.goodfellow@smu.ca

Vanisa Omicevic, Research Office Assistant
oice@smu.ca

Ray MacNeil, CLARI Network Manager
ray.macneil@smu.ca

Saint Mary's University

Human Research Ethics Board

Fall 2025 and Winter 2026

Continuity of the research ethics review process

A valued and essential component of the research enterprise.

Requests to the REB for Initial REB review have arrived appropriately for the Winter term during November, December 2025 and January 2026.
The REB is currently processing as quickly as possible.

Thank you for submitting work on time and the positive feedback we have received! Collectively we are celebrating 30+ additional proposals to the REB during this time! Congratulations!

We appreciate the patience while we work to get back to everyone! We are all exclusively reading!

Path for incoming requests

The REB receives approximately 1800 requests per academic year.

As general information, please contact and submit work to the REB's delegated locations:

ethics@smu.ca for general inquiries, consult and Initial REB Review requests:
·   Request for Exemption Review
·   Form 1 (New application)
·   Form 1C (New application with current external REB clearance)

and

ethics.continuingreview@smu.ca for Continuing REB Review requests:
·   New Information and Unanticipated Issues Report
·   Change to a Cleared Research Report
·   Annual Status Report
·   End of Study Report
·   Compliance

We thank you kindly! Be in touch with us!

Thank You for listening!

Questions?

Saint Mary's University