



<b>Support for Research, Scholarly Activity, and Scholarship Policy</b>	
<b>Category:</b> Academic-Administrative	<b>Approval Date:</b> January 21, 2022
<b>Policy Owner:</b> Vice President Academic and Provost	<b>Effective Date:</b> January 21, 2022
<b>Policy Administrator:</b> Associate Vice President, Teaching, Learning, and Research	<b>Review Period:</b> 5 Years
<b>Recommended by:</b> Deans' Council	
<b>Associated Documents</b> <a href="#">Research Grant Management Procedure</a> <a href="#">Contracts for Research, Scholarly Activity, and Scholarship Procedure</a> <a href="#">General Research Fund Procedure</a> Research Centres Procedure ( <i>under development</i> )	

## PURPOSE

To identify the role of Red Deer Polytechnic in supporting research, scholarly activity, and scholarship, and to specify the authority and responsibility for these activities at the Polytechnic.

## SCOPE

This policy, which forms part of the Polytechnic's scholarship plan, governs research, scholarly activity, and scholarship undertaken by members of the Polytechnic community including but not limited to, faculty, staff, students, visitors, volunteers, third-party contractors and guests, either alone or in collaboration with other post-secondary institutions, business, industry and not-for-profit sectors and local communities.

## POLICY

1. In alignment with the Government of Canada's [Institutional Eligibility Requirements](#), the Polytechnic recognizes "the vital importance of research, the new knowledge and applications that it creates, the knowledgeable and skilled human resources developed through the process of conducting research, as well as the importance of peer review, which ensures that funded research meets the highest standards of excellence".
2. Fostering innovation and providing opportunities for the Polytechnic's faculty, staff, students, and collaborators in business, industry, and the community to participate in research, scholarly activity, and scholarship is an important function of the Polytechnic as per the Alberta *Post-Secondary Learning Act*.

3. The Polytechnic values research, scholarly activity, and scholarship opportunities, either alone or collaboratively, in all four domains of Boyer's model, especially those that
  - a. enhance teaching and learning processes;
  - b. enrich undergraduate education;
  - c. engage Polytechnic faculty, staff, and students;
  - d. provide opportunities for experiential learning;
  - e. contribute to program relevance; and
  - f. contribute to the economic, social, and cultural well-being and development of communities.
4. The Polytechnic supports the principles of academic freedom of its faculty and students.
5. The Polytechnic is committed to and encourages equity, diversity, and inclusion in research, scholarly activity, and scholarship in alignment with the [Government of Canada's Dimensions Charter](#).
6. The Polytechnic provides a suitable environment for research, scholarly activity, and scholarship and supports its faculty, staff, and students through the provision of administrative infrastructure, physical facilities, and recognition of these activities through workload and appropriate inclusion in curricula. Support may include, but is not limited to, Library resources and services, Information Technology resources and services, printing services, project-specific equipment and consumables, and recognition programs.
7. The Polytechnic recognizes the work associated with research, scholarly activity, and scholarship and may consider such activities as workload that can be assigned to faculty and/or staff and pro-rated relative to the normal workload associated with those individuals. While financial support for such activities will be primarily from external sources, the Polytechnic maintains a reasonable level of support without significantly impacting its ongoing and primary focus on teaching and learning.
8. The Polytechnic assigns responsibility for the oversight and coordination of research, scholarly activity, and scholarship to the Vice President Academic and Provost. The following bodies support the Vice President Academic and Provost in carrying out this responsibility:
  - a. Office of Research and Scholarship
  - b. Research Ethics Board
  - c. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
  - d. Research Common
  - e. Research and Scholarship Committee
  - f. Recognition of Scholarly Activity Committee
  - g. Professional Development Committee
  - h. Recognized Research Centres.
9. All research, scholarly activity, and scholarship conducted at the Polytechnic or by a member of the Polytechnic community must be done in accordance with the Integrity in Research, Scholarly Activity, and Scholarship policy, the *Tri-Agency Framework for Responsible Conduct in Research*, as well as all other Tri-Council policies, any applicable

laws, disciplinary ethics and professional standards. Any such research and scholarly activity that involves humans or animals must receive ethical approvals as specified in the Research Involving Humans and Research and Teaching Involving Animals policies.

10. Students may have a significant role in research and scholarly activity. Faculty members are encouraged to include relevant research and research skills in their classes and to include students in their scholarly activity programs. Such opportunities may include independent study projects, community service learning projects, and capstone courses.
11. The Polytechnic provides the infrastructure for reporting and accountability required by research projects and funding agencies through its Research Grant Management Procedure and in accordance with the following:
  - a. *Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration*;
  - b. *Agreement on the Administration of Agency Grants and Awards by Research Institutions*; and
  - c. other Agency, sponsor, and grant-specific policies, agreements, and guidelines.
12. The Polytechnic, under its General Research Fund Procedure, maintains accounts to carry forward any residual Tri-Council grant funds from prior years to be held in trust for the relevant funding agency. Such funds are used to enhance the quality of research at the Polytechnic. Management of residual funds from other funders is subject to those funders' guidelines and addressed in the Research Grant Management Procedure.
13. The Polytechnic, under its Contracts for Research, Scholarly Activity, and Scholarship Procedure, accepts research, scholarly activity, and innovation contracts that are
  - a. consistent with the Polytechnic's teaching, research, and public service mandates, for which the required expertise, facilities, and services are available; of overall benefit to the Polytechnic, providing it with
    - i. resources, research equipment, or facilities not otherwise available from Polytechnic funds;
    - ii. academic benefits to staff; or
    - iii. educational opportunities for students extra to normal programs.

## **RELATED POLICIES**

[Academic Freedom](#)

[Intellectual Property](#)

[Integrity in Research, Scholarly Activity, and Scholarship](#)

[Research Involving Humans](#)

[Research and Teaching Involving Animals](#)

[Student Intellectual Property](#)