



Grants for Catalyzing Research Clusters (GCRC) Program TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE REVIEW COMMITTEE 2022

Purpose

To review the impact, strengths and balance of the GCRC program, and to advise on any future changes to the program.

Terms of Reference

Without limiting its overall mandate, the Review Team will consider the following:

1. **Impact:** To review and evaluate whether the GCRC program is delivering strategic value to the University.
2. **Research Excellence:** To review and evaluate the quality, extent, range and balance of research activities supported by the program, with particular attention to the ability of the program to recognize and support research excellence of societal importance.
3. **Structure and Format:** To review the current structure and format of the program, and provide guidance on key strategic elements. For example:
 - Is the amount of funding appropriate to support the program's purpose and objectives?
 - Does our categorization of research areas for the purposes of peer review (i.e., STEM, Social Sciences, Health, Creative Arts) make sense?
 - Should the program institute cumulative funding caps and/or strategic quotas for each cluster category (emerging/established) to clarify the tension between supporting new and timely opportunities, and maintaining support for maturing research groups?
 - Is the program's current *bottom-up* approach in determining research areas that address key societal needs effective?
4. **Future Development:** To identify the program's strengths and any existing opportunities to implement improvements in program format and process, and its ability to identify and support areas of societal importance.
5. **Other Advice:** To provide advice, as appropriate, to the general purpose of this review. For example:
 - Are we assessing outcomes well? How might this be improved?
 - How can principles of equity, diversity and inclusion be better integrated into the program?