

Annual Report Office of Vice-Dean Research 2008

Introduction

The Office of the Vice-Dean Research (the *Research Office*) consists of the Research Facilitator, Iliia Starr¹ (who is also the Research Facilitator for Civil Law²) and the Vice-Dean Research. Tony VanDuzer was the Vice-Dean Research for 2008. As of January 1, 2009, Jamie Benidickson takes over this position.

The role of the Research Office is to encourage and support the successful engagement of Common Law faculty in research. Its specific responsibilities include support for faculty applying for research related funding, submissions for awards for faculty related to research, and Canada Research Chair (*CRC*) nominations and renewals, managing requests for conference travel funds and participating in the selection of internal faculty research awards, like the Borden Ladner Gervais Fellowship and the new Law Foundation Awards created this year. The Vice-Dean Research is also a member of the Research Commission of the University. Both the Vice-Dean Research and the Research Facilitator attend regular meetings of the University's Committee of Vice and Associate Deans, Research.

Most of the day-to-day work of the Research Office falls to the Research Facilitator. In the case of some research funding applications, faculty members do the majority or even all of the work preparing the application. In many other cases, the Vice-Dean Research and, more frequently, the Research Facilitator are involved in grant applications from the conception of the research idea, through successive drafts of the application to the preparation of the final submitted application. For awards, the Research Facilitator typically works closely with the nominee to prepare the supporting documentation and collect letters of support. He or she also works with Faculty and Central Administration communications personnel to provide research story ideas and review stories. In addition, the Research Facilitator manages the Common Law book display case in the Brian Dickson Law Library.

Overview of 2008³

Introduction

2008 was another extremely busy year for the Research Office. Activities related to Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Standard Research Grants and other traditional funding programs continued and several new kinds of grant applications were

¹ Sonya Nigam was the Research Facilitator until July 1, 2008. Iliia Starr assumed his position on September 15, 2008.

² The allocation of the Research Facilitator's time between the Sections is 2/3 Common Law and 1/3 Civil Law.

³ The names of applicants and nominees have been withheld to preserve confidentiality.

undertaken by faculty requiring varying degrees of support from the Research Office. As well the Research Office undertook responsibility for applications for a number of research awards and other honours. The ongoing growth in the work of the Research Office reflects both increasing engagement by faculty in major funded research activities as well as continuing increases in the number of faculty members.

Overall, faculty members were very successful in terms of research funding received in 2008. New funding from sources other than Common Law totalling \$1,220,692 was awarded in 2008, adding to over \$900,000 that was received in the year under existing grants. Contract research in the amount of \$61,412 was carried out by Common Law colleagues.

Research Funding Activities⁴

2008 marked the second year that the Research Office has provided a more structured internal review process in support of colleagues applying for SSHRC Standard Research Grants. Applicants are encouraged to prepare their applications early enough to permit them to be read by an external assessor as well as the Vice-Dean Research and the Research Facilitator. This process was used last year for the first time and may have contributed to the increased success rate for Common Law applications in this important competition. Four (4) of nine (9) individual Standard Research Grants applications were funded in 2008 compared to only one (1) of eight (8) the previous year. In total, seven (7) Standard Research Grants applications were submitted in October 2008 through the internal review process, six (6) by Common Law faculty as the Principal Investigator.

The Research Facilitator was intimately involved in a number of other major research funding applications in 2008. The Research Facilitator provided support for an unprecedented number of conference grant applications, including six (6) SSHRC Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences Grant applications, five (5) of which were filed in the November 2008 competition. A number of other major grant applications were made by faculty, including the SSHRC Community-University Research Alliances and International Opportunities Fund competitions, with respect to which the main role of the Research Facilitator was to provide information on funding requirements and assistance with the significant administrative burden associated with such applications.

On an ongoing basis, the Research Facilitator plays a major role in the administration of two projects funded by the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI). CFI grants are for research infrastructure (*i.e.* state-of-the-art work space and equipment) to support a program of research. They require the preparation of a detailed budget that includes work and materials estimates. CFI grants require substantial administrative work once awarded and are invaluable in allowing

⁴ Details of the grants applied for by Common Law Section colleagues are listed in Annex 1 to this Report. Highlights of grants received are set out in Annex 2 to this report.

educational institutions to set their own research priorities, and attract and retain highly skilled research personnel including specialists and graduate students.

Last year, the Acting Dean successfully applied to the Law Foundation of Ontario for an additional \$50,000 to support research in the Common Law Section. Following a consultation with faculty, the Research Office created four (4) new competitions for awards funded by this additional allocation from the Law Foundation: the Law Foundation Research Fellowship, the Law Foundation Transition Grant, the Law Foundation Collaborative Research Grant and the Law Foundation SSHRC Application Support Grant. The latter is available to colleagues who applied for SSHRC Standard Research Grants but did not receive funding to support a research project associated with developing an improved application. The program attracted a number of applications involving fourteen (14) Common Law colleagues. All of the available funds were awarded in October 2008 and the winners will be producing the results of their research in 2009. This funding envelope has been renewed for 2009-2010.

Though most grant applications from 2008 are still pending, already colleagues have been successful in several competitions. Some of the major research grants awarded in 2008 include the following:

- Professors Amir Attaran, Constance Backhouse, Brad Morse, and Teresa Scassa received SSHRC Standard Research Grants;
- Professors Stewart Elgie and Nathalie Chalifour received a SSHRC Strategic Knowledge Clusters grant in the amount of \$1.73 million for his project entitled, “Sustainable Prosperity Research and Policy Network”;
- Professor Lucie Lamarche received a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) grant of more than \$220,000 for the creation of a new multimedia lab along with nine (9) work stations for research assistants as well as invited researchers; and
- Professor Amir Attaran received a SSHRC Strategic Research Grant (Management, Business and Finance) of over \$115,000 for his project entitled, “The Management of Drug Benefits and Access to Medicines in Canadian Health Systems: New Legal Trends and Policy Hazards.”

*Research Awards and Honours*⁵

Several applications for awards for faculty submitted last year through the Research Office were successful in 2008. The prestigious 2008 Killam Prize was awarded to Professor Constance Backhouse along with four other prominent scholars from universities across Canada. Professor Backhouse’s

⁵ Details of the awards and honours applied for on behalf of Common Law Section colleagues are listed in Annex 1 to this Report. Highlights of awards received are set out in Annex 2 to this Report.

University Research Chair was also renewed for a one (1) year term (since extended to four (4) years). In 2008, the Research Facilitator coordinated applications for several important prizes for faculty members, including the David W. Mundell Medal and two applications for Fellowships in the Royal Society of Canada.

Other Activities

Both the Research Facilitator and the Vice-Dean Research attend regular meetings of the University Committee of Vice and Associate Deans Research. The Research Facilitator also meets frequently with his or her counterparts from all the other Faculties of the University as well as attends regular Research Managers Meetings organized by Research Grants and Ethics Services. The Vice-Dean Research is the Common Law Section representative on the University's Research Commission. The Vice-Dean Research also organizes and participates in the committees established to decide on the winners of some faculty research awards, like the Borden Ladner Gervais Research Fellowship, and some student scholarships such as the Jordan Watt Scholarship.

In 2008, the Vice-Dean Research participated in regular meetings of the Research Advisory Board of the Law Commission of Ontario to provide advice on current and future research projects of the Commission, as well as to act as a liaison between the Commission and the Common Law Section. The Vice-Dean Research also coordinated two visits to the Common Law Section by Patricia Hughes, the Executive Director of the Commission.

Along with the Research Facilitator and the very helpful support of Amanda Leslie (Communications Manager) and the Web Master, the Vice-Dean Research engaged in designing and implementing several significant improvements to the Common Law website's 'Research' web pages. Modifications were implemented to make the Research web pages a more useful resource for colleagues and a better vehicle for showcasing the research of the section. The following improvements were made:

- We have added new web pages on
 - "Research News"
 - "Information for Faculty" that contains information on sources of available funding, both internal and external, including application forms for internal funding for conference travel.
- We will soon be adding new web pages on
 - "Recent Books" that will have a list of book titles and cover shots.
 - "Faculty Research on SSRN" that lists the works of colleagues who have published on SSRN. The names on the list will be linked to a separate page for each author, which would include their photo, a link to their bio, and the titles and publication information relating to their publications on SSRN.

- “Faculty Awards and Distinctions” is being assembled by the Research Facilitator (including University Research Chairs, CRCs, Honourary Doctorates, etc.)

Looking ahead to 2009, the Research Office will be putting together and presenting on the Research web pages a list of awards for which faculty may apply, as well as embarking on a campaign to substantially expand the content of faculty research on the website.

Tony VanDuzer

Annex 1**Summary of Common Law Grant & Honours Applications in 2008**

Type of Application	Number of Applications
<u>Grants</u>	
SSHRC Standard Research Grants	7
SSHRC Research Development Initiatives	1
SSHRC Aid to Scholarly Journals	2
SSHRC Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences	6
SSHRC Community-University Research Alliance (CURA)	1
SSHRC International Opportunities Fund	1
International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Conference Grant	1
Foundation for Legal Research	4
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Conference Grant	2
uOttawa Quality of Learning Grant	1
uOttawa Interdisciplinary Initiatives Grant	2
uOttawa Grant under Policy 94: Policy on the Pro-Active Recruitment of Women Professors	1
uOttawa Conferences/Workshops On Campus Grant Applications	2
uOttawa Research Development Program Grant	1
Total Submitted	32

Type of Application	Number of Nominations
<u>Honours</u>	
SSHRC Gold Medal	1
David W. Mundell Medal	1
Royal Society of Canada Fellowship	2
Total Submitted	4

Annex 2

Highlights of Grants and Honours Received in 2008

Grants

Professors Amir Attaran, Constance Backhouse, Brad Morse, and Teresa Scassa received **SSHRC Standard Research Grants**.

Professors Stewart Elgie and Nathalie Chalifour were awarded a **SSHRC Strategic Knowledge Clusters** grant for his project entitled, “Sustainable Prosperity Research and Policy Network.”

Professor Lucie Lamarche obtained a **Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Leaders Opportunity Fund** grant for the creation of a new multimedia lab along with nine (9) work stations for research assistants as well as invited researchers.

Professor Amir Attaran received a **SSHRC Strategic Research Grant (Management, Business and Finance)** for his project entitled, “The Management of Drug Benefits and Access to Medicines in Canadian Health Systems: New Legal Trends and Policy Hazards.”

Professors Lucie Lamarche and Brad Morse each received **Development of Interdisciplinary Initiatives** grants from **uOttawa**. Professor Sophie Theriault of Civil Law was a co-applicant.

Professors Brad Morse and Patrick Fafard (Graduate School of Public and International Affairs) received a grant from the **Office of the Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians (OFI)** for their international and interdisciplinary conference being held in March/April 2009.

Professor Martha Jackman received a SSHRC grant to develop a proposal for a second **SSHRC Community-University Research Alliance (CURA)** grant for a project entitled, “Reconceiving Human Rights Practice for the New Social Rights Paradigm.”

Professors Ellen Zweibel and John Manwaring have received a **Fund for the Development of Initiatives on the Quality of Learning and Student Experience Grant** for their project entitled, “Maximizing Active Learning and Professor-Student Interaction: Introducing Media Notes to Teach Collaborative Problem Solving in Law and other Disciplines.

Professor Jennifer Chandler received a **Stem Cell Network (SCN)** grant for a one-year project entitled, “Legal Restrictions on Stem Cell Research and the Constitutional Rights of Potential Parents.”

Professors Yves Le Bouthillier and Heather McLeod-Kilmurray received a **SSHRC Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences** grant for a

conference entitled, “Climate Law in Developing Countries: North and South Perspectives.” Additional grants of \$10,000 and \$3,000 were received from the **International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** and **uOttawa**, respectively, also to support the conference.

Professor Rakhi Ruparelia was awarded the **Borden Ladner Gervais LLP Research Fellowship** for her project entitled, “The Use of Civil Actions to Respond to Racial Profiling.”

Professor Amir Attaran received a **SSHRC Aid to Research Workshops and Conferences** grant for a workshop entitled “The First Decade Workshop on Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Laws in Canada.”

Professor Ed Ratushny received a **Foundation for Legal Research** grant for his book entitled, “The Conduct of Public Inquiries in Canada.”

Professor Elizabeth Sheehy received a **uOttawa Research Development Program** grant for a workshop on “Battered Women Who Kill.”

Professor McLeod-Kilmurray received a **uOttawa** grant under **Policy 94: Policy on the Pro-Active Recruitment of Women Professors.**

Professor Morse received a **uOttawa Quality of Learning** grant.

Professor Lucie Lamarche received a **Foundation for Legal Research** grant

Honours

Professor Constance Backhouse’s **University Research Chair (URC)** was renewed for a one year term (since extended to four (4) years).

Professor Constance Backhouse is one of five prominent scholars from universities across Canada to be honoured with the prestigious **2008 Killam Prize.**

Professor Constance Backhouse is also a **Trudeau Fellow** for 2008.

Dean Bruce Feldthusen won the **2006-08 Canadian Journal of Law and Society (CJLS) Article Prize** for his article, “Civil Liability for Sexual Assault in Aboriginal Residential Schools: The Baker Did It.”

Professor Tracey Lindberg won the **Canadian Association for Graduate Studies/University Microfilms International (CAGS/UMI) Distinguished Dissertation Award**, as well as **uOttawa’s University Gold Medal.**