

Glendon Multidisciplinary Studies Department Draft Statement

RESEARCH-BASED TEACHING REDUCTION **ARTICLE 18.15 – YUFA NEW COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT**

PREAMBLE

- 1) The Research Release Program (RRP) (see YUFA Collective Agreement, Article 18.15) grants a 0.5 teaching release to faculty members who are research active. This document identifies the criteria that determine the eligibility of YUFA faculty for the Multidisciplinary Studies Department for this release with the exception of faculty in the Biology program who have established a separate set of criteria.
- 2) All eligible faculty members in the Department should expect to qualify for a course release.
- 3) The Department acknowledges that factors mitigating research activity (e.g., parental leave, extraordinary personal circumstances, illness, administrative position(s)) will be considered in favour of the applicant. Where such mitigating factors exist, a faculty member may include in her/his application one (1) extra year of past research activity, i.e., seven (7) years rather than the six (6) stipulated in Procedures #2, below.
- 4) The Department recognizes that junior colleagues, especially in the probationary period prior to tenure, will not normally have as many tangible research outcomes as senior tenured colleagues. Just as SSHRC places less weight on published works in evaluating applications from “emerging scholars”, so the Department will not necessarily expect a probationary colleague to have established an extensive record of research achievement, but will expect him/her to be in the process of building one. This factor will be taken into account when applications from colleagues prior to tenure are being evaluated under the annual RRP.
- 5) The Multidisciplinary nature of our department not only means that we encompass a range of fields but also reflects the opportunity for colleagues to do work that does not fit neatly within one specific discipline or field of creative endeavors. Research, scholarly and creative activities can take many forms. This may apply to their approach and their methods and to the outputs of their research, scholarly or creative activities.

PROCEDURE

1. The annual call for submissions for the Research Release Program will take place at the start of the Fall semester.
2. Eligible faculty members will be invited to submit a CV and a brief statement (maximum one page) that outlines their current and ongoing research projects and highlights research activities during the previous six (6) years, in line with the Department’s criteria for the RRP, by September 15.
3. All applications for the Program will be reviewed by the Multidisciplinary Studies Department Research Release Committee (RRC) to be set up by the Chair of the department; it will consist of the Chair and two Professorial stream faculty members. If any member of the RRC applies, his/her application will be evaluated by the other members of the RRC.
4. If it is recommended by the committee that a faculty member should not be awarded a release, the faculty member will be provided with the reason(s) for this recommendation in writing by the Chair. If the faculty member requests reconsideration, his/her request will be assessed by all the full-time YUFA faculty members in the department who are covered by this document, excluding the faculty member in question. Any faculty

member who remains unsatisfied with the RRP committee's decision may appeal in writing to the principal.

5. The Chair will send all positive recommendations to the Principal by October 1. If the Principal does not accept the recommendation(s), the procedures outlined in Article 18.15(c) of the YUFA Collective Agreement will be followed.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES DEPARTMENT CRITERIA FOR RESEARCH ACTIVITY

1. The Multidisciplinary Studies Department recognizes peer-reviewed publications and significant creative endeavours as the principal method of assessment.
2. As a multidisciplinary department whose faculty members are drawn from the Humanities, the Social Sciences, the Performing Arts, and Computer Programming, for example, we recognize that the research activities of our faculty may be heterodox, interdisciplinary, and non-normative and as a result the criteria and indicators listed below are not understood to be exhaustive. Multiple examples of a single criterion shall be recognized individually
3. The Multidisciplinary Studies Department recognizes the importance of excellence in scholarship and creative endeavours, giving due consideration to quality in terms of publicly disseminated work. This will be taken into account by the RRC in making decisions under the RRP.
4. We also acknowledge the contributions to the disciplines and fields represented by our faculty members and value those contributions to the profession outside of publishing which give members of the department standing in the estimation of their peers and colleagues.
5. The department recognizes the high value of contributions which make research and publication possible through activities such as serving as journal editors and members of adjudicating committees of major grant-funding agencies.
6. The Department also recognizes contributions which serve to popularize the various fields and disciplines of its members by widening access to their scholarly production beyond the walls of academia, particularly since these may contribute to public awareness and public policy.
7. Single-authored contributions are highly valued, but the Department is also aware that collaborative work is also an important engine for the expansion of the frontiers of knowledge. The Department recognizes the merits of quality collaborative work in its assessment.
8. Research activities encompass a range of activities, and meaning full indicators of such activities may include, but are not restricted to, the following:

YUFA Collective Agreement Article 18.15 categories	Meaningful indicators
<p>i) Dissemination of research in the form of peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) publications and/or creative/scholarly activities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession in the form of peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) single-authored or co-authored monographs, edited volumes, textbooks, journal articles, book chapters, research reports and policy papers, translation of plays or other literary work, encyclopedia entries, or electronic publications. 2) Cultural productions, creative writing in the form of a script, play or opera for instance either published or performed; shown and exhibited works, visual art and film and theatre production and/or performance, including university productions; the curation of shows and exhibitions. This includes but is not limited to directing, acting, working on a choreography or as a dramaturge, production of costumes, sets and lighting design and installation. 3) The production of a video that is equivalent in significance and scope to a publication. 4) Presentation of peer-reviewed or invited papers at local, regional, national or international academic and non-academic seminars, conferences, and other meetings. 5) Work as Editor of a scholarly journal or as Guest Editor of an issue of a scholarly journal. 6) Designing and maintaining a new Digital project that is equivalent in scope to a publication
<p>ii) Applications for external grants as well as successful external grants</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Application or co-application for and/or receipt of external grants and

Awarded	other funding (from various agencies outside York University) for research projects
<p>iii) Evidence of on-going research activity that is reasonably expected to result in dissemination of research outcomes and/or scholarly/creative activity as in (i) above</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Research, fieldwork, and/or writing that are reasonably expected to result in the submission and dissemination of peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) single-authored or co-authored monographs, edited volumes, textbooks, journal articles, book chapters, research reports and policy papers, translation of plays or other literary work, encyclopedia entries, or electronic publications. 2) Research, fieldwork, or writing that are reasonably expected to result in the production of a substantial creative work such as a play, opera, exhibition, installation or literary work. 3) Dissemination/publication of non-refereed single-authored or co-authored journal articles, book chapters, edited collections, encyclopaedia articles, monographs, textbooks, or electronic publications. 4) Participation in a research project as lead investigator or as team member. 5) Organization or co-organization of local, regional, national or international workshops, colloquia, conferences, etc. 6) Discussant on a roundtable or panel. 7) Public reading of plays and other literary work; screenings; presentations of master classes to peers and the community at large; presentations for government institutions and interviews with the media. 8) Work on a commissioned public art project. 9) Graduate student training, especially primary supervision, but also supervisory committee membership.

iv) Other creative/scholarly activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Publication of book reviews in scholarly or other journals; articles and opinion pieces in news magazines or newspapers both in print and electronic media. 2) Significant data collection and/or significant data analysis. 3) Work as an Associate Editor or Book Review Editor of a scholarly journal. 4) Application or co-application for and receipt of internal research grants (for example, Glendon research grants or internal SSHRC research grants). 5) Application or co-application for and/or receipt of external grants and other funding (from various agencies outside York University) for holding conferences, colloquia, workshops, etc. and for publications, etc. 6) Chairing, or membership on, the Adjudicating Committees of funding agencies and foundations, book awards committees, etc. 7) Consulting and/or curation for outside agencies or groups and writing texts for exhibitions. 8) Ongoing curation of Digital Humanities projects, websites, etc. 9) Formal peer-review and mentoring of members of the profession (assessing and commenting on various types of publications, conference proposals, grant applications, T&P files, programme evaluation, etc.) 10) Attending skill based workshops to expand creative practice. 11) Serving as an artist/scholar in residence with a company, art institution, or other organization.
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The MDS Research Release Committee (RRC) will take into account all these and other factors laid out in a faculty member's Research Release Program statement in determining whether she/he may be deemed to have been involved over the past three years in a regular pattern of research/scholarly/creative activities.

9. In reviewing applications, the RRP Committee shall take the following factors into account:

9.1 The Chair will normally give greatest weight to research activities in the

twelve (12) months prior to the application, but given the fluctuating cycle of research activities that may be typical of particular fields and disciplines, s/he will also take into consideration research activities over the previous SIX (6) years (or the previous SEVEN (7) years in special circumstances of the kind outlined above in Preamble #3) This is based on the understanding that the unpredictability of publication outlets, conference scheduling, graduate supervision and public events means that “bunching up” of output markers in a single year is a common phenomenon in many disciplines and fields. Moreover, it is frequently the case that scholars and creative workers undertaking long-term, high-impact projects that require intensive research see years in which no output markers appear at all. In addition, early career researchers and faculty members coming off of administrative, parental and medical leaves are less likely to see output markers in the year previous to the application for a research release.

9.2 If a faculty member demonstrates that s/he has engaged in the research or creative activities in the year prior to each annual RRP exercise, s/he will **automatically** qualify for a Research Release:

9.2.1 The dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession in the form of a peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) single-authored or co-authored **monograph or a monograph that includes translation and commentary on primary documents or a critical edition of a text or texts.**

9.2.2 The dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession in the form of a peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) edited or co-edited **volume of essays** on a defined topic.

9.2.3 The dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession in the form of a peer-reviewed single-authored or co-authored **textbook.**

9.2.4 The dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession in the form of one substantial peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) single authored or co-authored journal article or book chapter, OR two shorter peer-reviewed or critically reviewed single authored or co-authored journal articles or book chapters.

9.2.5 The dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession of one or more peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) substantial encyclopaedia entries.

9.2.6 The dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession in the form of a single-authored or co-authored peer reviewed electronic publication, which may be analogous to, but are not limited to, a journal article in digital format or a substantial contribution to one or more Digital Humanities projects.

9.2.7 The primary supervision and successful completion of two (2) Ph.D.theses or eight (8) M.A. Major Research Papers or equivalent, or membership of eight (8) supervisory Ph.D committees, or a combination of these(e.g., one Ph.D. thesis

primary supervision + four M.A. MRPs). The supervision and production of Ph.D. theses and M.A. MRPs is essential to the dissemination/publication of academic research, as recognized in the sciences in which such projects would be considered and counted as co-publications between a graduate student and supervisor. A 0.5 course Research Release based on this criterion will be awarded for the year after that in which these supervisory credits accumulate to the level indicated at the start of this clause, as long as s/he demonstrates that s/he is actively engaged in at least one (1) other research activity listed above in categories (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) in the year an application is made using this clause as the rationale for gaining a 0.5 course Research Release.

- 9.2.8 The presentation of TWO (2) peer-reviewed or invited papers at local, regional, national or international academic and non-academic seminars, conferences, and other meetings.
- 9.2.9 Editorial work as the Chief Editor or Guest Editor of a scholarly journal, leading to the dissemination/publication of academic research within and/or beyond the boundaries of the profession.
- 9.2.10 The curation of a substantial and critically reviewed exhibition.
- 9.2.11 The production of a substantial and critically reviewed film, play or opera.
- 9.2.12 The production of a video that is equivalent in significance and scope to a publication.
- 9.2.13 The creation and launch of a Digital Humanities project equivalent in scope to a publication.
- 9.2.14 An application or co-application for, and/or successful receipt of, an external grant or other funding (from various agencies outside York University) to support a research project.

9.3 Since the dissemination/publication of a peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) single-authored or co-authored **monograph** represents a highly superior demonstration of research activity, the dissemination/publication of such a work shall qualify a faculty member for a Research Release in each of FIVE (5) years following the appearance of the work, so long as s/he demonstrates that s/he is actively engaged on a research project in each of the five years.

9.4 Since the dissemination/publication of a peer-reviewed (or critically reviewed) single-authored or co-authored **edited volume** represents a superior demonstration of research activity, the dissemination/publication of such a work shall qualify a faculty member for a Research Release in each of THREE (3) years following the appearance of the work, so long as s/he demonstrates that s/he is actively engaged in a research project in each of those three years.

9.5 The successful receipt of a **SSHRC or other major external research grant** shall qualify a faculty member for a Research Release in each of the years of the original term of the grant.

9.6 In cases where the various scenarios adumbrated in points #9.2, 9.3, 9.4 and 9.5 above do not apply, in light of the fluctuating cycle of research activities typical in numerous disciplines and fields (see point #9.1 above), a faculty member will qualify for a Research Release if s/he provides adequate evidence for ongoing research over the previous SIX (6) years through a combination of research activities as defined in Categories (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv), listed in point #8, above, and provides an effective description of his/her ongoing research programme. Faculty members with on-going research activity that is reasonably expected to result in dissemination of research outcomes should expect to receive a research release. In this case, the **minimum threshold** for gaining a Research Release may be achieved in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, the following:

- 9.6.1 four contributions in Category (i) and/or Category (ii) over a six-year cycle;
- 9.6.2 a combination of contributions in Categories (i), (ii), (iii) and/or (iv) over a six-year cycle. This threshold may be achieved in a number of ways, including, but not limited to, the following: (a) an average of two (2) contributions in Categories (iii) and/or (iv) per annum over a six year cycle; or (b) a combination of two (2) contributions in Categories (i) and/or (ii) and six (6) in Categories (iii) and/or (iv) over a six-year cycle; or (c) a combination of three (3) contributions in Categories (i) and/or (ii) and four (4) contributions in Categories (iii) and/or (iv) over a six-year cycle.

10. It is understood that, as outlined in Art. 18.15(e), the review of a faculty member's research activities does not require that s/he demonstrate engagement in all the research activity indicators listed in Point #8, Categories (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) to qualify for a Research Release.

11. In evaluating applications, the RRC will give extra weight to demonstrably excellent scholarship, giving preference to quality over quantity and, where appropriate, rendering otiose the sample minimum thresholds outlined above in #9.6. The Chair and RRC will also take into full account situations where a major ongoing research project involves greater than normal research activities without immediate outputs and situations where a faculty member has been involved in a higher than normal level of graduate supervision (especially primary supervision, but also in combination with membership of multiple supervisory committees).

12. The RRC should remain mindful that the various activities mentioned in Points #8 and #9 are intended to be examples of meaningful indicators of research activities; in adjudicating applications, the RRP Committee shall also take into account all other indicators included by faculty members in their applications for the RRP.

13. Eligible probationary faculty members in the professorial stream who are not in receipt of a teaching load reduction under the terms of their initial appointment will automatically

receive a 0.5 course research-based teaching load reduction under this Program in each of the first three (3) years of their probation. ¹