

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS, GLENDON COLLEGE, YORK UNIVERSITY RESEARCH RELEASE PROGRAM (Article 18.15)

Release from 0.5 FCE of teaching is available through the Research Release Programme (see YUFA Collective Agreement, Article 18.15) to all members of the Economics Department. In order to be eligible for release, colleagues must have a regular 2.5 FCE teaching load, apply, and demonstrate a 'regular pattern of research / scholarly / creative activities.' This document sets out both the criteria by which such a regular pattern of activity will be assessed and the procedure through which the Economics Department will make recommendations for releases.

PRINCIPLES

1. The Economics Department's annual Research Release Program is consistent with Article 18.15 and is intended to be open, inclusive and equitable.
2. All eligible YUFA faculty in the Economics Department with a regular 2.5 FCE or equivalent teaching load who demonstrate an active research program should expect to qualify for a 0.5 release. In addition, "eligible probationary professorial stream faculty who are not in receipt of a teaching load reduction under the terms of their appointment will receive a 0.5 research based teaching load reduction under this program in the first three years of probation" (18.15(e)), after which they may participate in the regular research-based teaching load reduction process.
3. The Department acknowledges that equity issues apply to all aspects of the Release Program. Factors mitigating regular research activities (e.g., parental or other leaves, illness, administrative service positions, etc.) will be reasonably considered in favour of the applicant.
4. In case of a disagreement, applicants are entitled to appeal unit-level decisions and/or grieve the Principal under the procedures outlined below and in line with Article 18.15 (Research Release Program) and/or Article 9 (Grievance and Arbitration) of the YUFA Collective Agreement.

PROCEDURE

1. Applications for release will be submitted by September 1st of each year for the subsequent academic year in order to allow the releases to be included in the course planning exercise in the autumn.
2. Applications will consist of a short statement (not to exceed one page) that clearly describes the candidate's regular pattern of research activities.
3. As evidence of eligibility, the statement may indicate up to 3 previous calendar years of completed research activities, his or her ongoing research, and/or future plans for research activity.
4. The Department Chair plus one full-time YUFA faculty member ("the committee"), who will be rotated every year, will review all applications to confirm that they meet the criteria set below and in line with Article 18.15 of the YUFA Collective Agreement.
5. If the application is considered to meet the criteria, the Chair will recommend to the Principal that the applicant be granted release for the subsequent academic year.

6. If the application is not considered to meet the criteria, the colleague will be informed of the reason(s) in writing. If the colleague requests reconsideration, the application will be reassessed by a committee of two YUFA faculty members selected by the colleague plus one selected by the Chair.
7. If the Principal does not accept the recommendation to award release, members may exercise their rights to grieve the decision in line with the YUFA Collective Agreement.

NOTE ON THE TRANSITION (2017-18 AND 2018-19)

Following the “suggested procedure”, the application process for the two transition years (2017-18 and 2018-19) will be conducted together in October 2016. If a colleague does not apply in the initial round in October 2016, or does not meet the criteria, they will be informed of their situation and will be given an opportunity to apply in September 2017 for the second year of the transition period. Applicants should indicate if they have a preference for one year over the other (they do not need to have a preference). Applicants with sabbatical in one of the two years will be allocated to the other year. Finally, once the initial allocation for the two transitional years is complete, it will be checked for curricular balance and, with input from the Business Coordinator, may be adjusted by the Chair if necessary.

CRITERIA

In principle, evidence of research activity includes, but is not limited to, any criteria already in line with the Department’s Tenure & Promotion criteria under “Departmental Expectations in Scholarships”. These criteria refrain from strict formulaic evaluation of scholarship. In Economics, we recognize the cyclical pattern of research, and that the research process may be particularly time-consuming because of the nature and range of research practices. Thus, in evaluating an application for the annual Research Release Program, a careful and balanced consideration of the candidate’s research activities for up to three previous calendar years and present research activities will be followed. Furthermore, we also recognize that research activities may be heterodox, given faculty members’ diverse critical perspectives, methodologies and fields of specialization.

The Department Committee shall confirm that the request for research release meet the departmental criteria for a ‘regular pattern of research / scholarship / creative activity’ in the following academic year if a faculty member obtain a total of 3 research credits over the 3-year period preceding the year of completion of the eligibility exercise (with the caveat that these credits cannot all arise from the “Other research activities” category).

The number of credits accumulated in any 3-year period will be counted as follows:

Nature of research activity	Research credits
<i>Dissemination</i>	
Monograph/book	3
Edited volume	2
Peer-reviewed journal article	2
Peer-reviewed book chapter	2
Guest editorship of special journal issue	1
Presentation at a conference	0.5
<i>External grants</i>	
Holding a research grant as principal applicant/investigator	3
Holding a research grant as co-applicant/co-investigator	2
Holding an external conference or knowledge mobilization grant as principal applicant	2
Holding an external conference or knowledge mobilization grant as co-applicant	1
Receiving an allocation from a grant held by an institute or a research group	1
<i>Other research activities</i>	
Significant data collection (ethnography, 20+ interviews, 50+ surveys)	1
Significant data analysis (ex. transcription and analysis ; large-scale macro-comparative data analysis)	1
Refereeing a paper	0.5
Submission of an external grant application ¹	0.5

¹ Cannot be combined with holding a research grant as principal applicant/investigator or co-applicant/co-investigator.