

Glendon College Department of Political Science Research Release Program Principles, Procedure, and Criteria

The Research Release Program (YUFA Collective Agreement, Article 18.15) grants a 0.5 FCE teaching release to faculty members who apply and can demonstrate “involvement in a regular pattern of research/scholarly/creative activities as defined by the norms of the discipline and/or the faculty member’s field” (Art 18.15(e)). This document identifies the principles, procedure, and criteria that determine the eligibility for this release of YUFA faculty members within the Department of Political Science.

PRINCIPLES

1. These principles, procedures, and criteria for the Research Release Program are consistent with Article 18.15 of the YUFA Collective Agreement and are intended to be open, inclusive, and equitable.
2. All YUFA faculty members who can demonstrate a regular pattern of research activity will qualify for the 0.5 FCE annual release.
3. Equity issues apply to the Research Release Program, including evaluation of eligibility and allocation of research releases. 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 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 early September 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 for release, this statement of activities may indicate up to six previous years of completed research activities, ongoing research, and/or future plans for research activities.
4. The Department Chair will review all applications to confirm that they meet the criteria.
5. If the application meets 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.

CRITERIA

Research activity in Political Science is discussed in the department's Tenure & Promotion criteria under "Professional Contribution and Standing" – which "discourages a mechanistic process and does not rely on any formula which too readily emphasizes quantity at the expense of quality." 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 six previous 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. Therefore the following list of indicators of research activities is not exhaustive.

To be considered research active and thus eligible for a research release under article 18.15, faculty members should normally have either (1) four refereed publications from category (i) listed below, or one published peer-reviewed book plus two other publications, during the previous six years; or (2) one published peer-reviewed book, or two refereed publications from category (i) during the previous six years, and six items from either categories (ii) and (iii). Alternatively, faculty members may select a period of three years (this option may be particularly attractive to faculty members new to Glendon) in which case faculty members should have either (1) two refereed publications from category (i) listed below, or one published peer-reviewed book, during the previous three years; or (2) one refereed publication from category (i) during the previous three years and three items from either categories (ii) and (iii). To avoid "doubling up" on items, faculty members may count an unpublished or submitted work in category (iii), listed above, for one year and once the work is published, may then count it under category (i) for future years. This weighting system is consistent with the norms in the discipline, and the often lengthy time between the submission of a piece for peer-review and its publication.

Indicators of research activities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- (i) Dissemination of research in the form of peer reviewed (or critically reviewed) publications, including:
 - Publication of an authored book
 - Publication of articles in refereed journals and chapters in refereed books
 - Guest editorship of edited volumes/special issues
- (ii) Applications for external grants as well as successful grants awarded
- (iii) Evidence of on-going research activity that is reasonably expected to result in dissemination of research outcomes/scholarly creative activity as in (i) above, including:
 - Principal organizer of a conference
 - Peer-reviewed, published conference paper in conference proceedings
 - Works in progress and/or activities that are reasonably expected to result in publications or contributions such as submitted articles to peer reviewed

journals or book manuscripts in preparation

- Publication of research reports, book reviews, articles in news magazines or newspapers both in print and electronic media
- Invited or plenary papers at scholarly conferences
- Significant data collection and/or significant data analysis
- Substantive preparation for creative production, curation of exhibits, film production, and/or performance
- Secondary organizer of conference, or primary organizer of research cluster or section
- Presentations or papers at scholarly conferences, talks at public fora
- Co-applicant/co-investigator of successful external grant
- Graduate student training and/or supervision and/or committee membership (note: graduate student supervision may count only once, during the year of the student's graduation/completion)
- Organization or participation in workshops, on-going seminars and/or study groups
- Discussant on a roundtable or a panel