

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Principals, Deans, Academic Directors & Chairs, Vice Deans - Research  
(Humanities & Social Sciences)

FROM: Peter Lewis, Acting Vice-President, Research

DATE: 2 March 2010

RE: **SSHRC's New Program Architecture**

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I am writing to advise you of important changes that SSHRC has made to its Program Architecture and to engage you and your colleagues in the dialogue with SSHRC about its draft programs. This information was posted on the SSHRC website on March 1st (<http://www.sshrc.ca/site/about-crsh/president/renewal-renouvellement-eng.aspx>). Their deadline for feedback is March 31st.

SSHRC's new Program Architecture is intended to offer researchers simpler, more flexible and more effective application and assessment mechanisms, and to improve service to SSHRC's constituents. To achieve this, and to reduce the large range of programs currently offered, SSHRC has re-organized its program suite under three new program umbrellas:

- **Talent:** to develop the next generation of researchers, the Talent umbrella comprises scholarships and fellowships.
- **Insight:** to support research in all forms and modes undertaken by individuals and groups. The Standard Research Grant, now called "Research Grant", falls within this umbrella, and offers greater flexibility in the tenure and amount of request.
- **Connection:** to facilitate knowledge mobilization and exchange across academic and non-academic audiences.

Under the Insight and Connection programs, funding can be sought by individuals, teams, formal partnerships that involve researchers and partners across agencies, institutions, public and private and the not-for-profit sectors. Program changes will be phased in over a 2 year period. This Fall's Standard Research Grant competition will be delivered as it has been in the past. In addition, the scholarship and fellowship programs under the Talent umbrella will remain unchanged for the near term.

The University of Toronto wishes to fully engage all of you in these changes:

- Our website will very shortly have a page dedicated to the details of SSHRC's program architecture and draft calls, with space for U of T community comment and questions at: [www.research.utoronto.ca/for-researchers-administrators/funding-sources/tri-council/sshrc/](http://www.research.utoronto.ca/for-researchers-administrators/funding-sources/tri-council/sshrc/)

- Research Services will hold three information sessions this month, one on each campus. Specific dates, times and locations will follow.
- We have invited representatives from SSHRC to visit UofT and present the new program suite. While it appears the earliest date for a visit to Toronto is April (after the March 31st feedback deadline), their visit will be an excellent opportunity for you to learn more and exchange perspectives on the new architecture.

This is an exciting time for change at SSHRC, and an excellent opportunity for the University of Toronto to engage in that change. I strongly encourage you to participate in this dialogue. Should you opt to communicate directly with SSHRC on their new architecture, I would be grateful if you would copy me for information.

Should you have any questions, please contact Drew Gyorke ([drew.gyorke@utoronto.ca](mailto:drew.gyorke@utoronto.ca)) or Sarah Scott ([sja.scott@utoronto.ca](mailto:sja.scott@utoronto.ca)).

cc: Judith Chadwick, Assistant Vice-President, Research Services