

ALES RESEARCH & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES TEAM - FAQ

Who are we?

David Bressler ALES Associate Dean Research dbressle@ualberta.ca 780-492-4932 or 780-668-7986 (cell)	Sarah Gooding ALES Research Manager sgooding@ualberta.ca 780-492-8313 or 780-964-5722 (cell)
Marina Offengenden ALES Research Coordinator offengen@ualberta.ca 780-492-6039	Chris Kazala ALES Research Coordinator ekazala@ualberta.ca 780-492-6731

Where are we located?

- To be determined
- Planned office time at Earth Sciences/South Academic Buildings and Li Ka Shing Centre; or set up an open google meeting during our current Covid-19 situation.

Who do you contact for support?

- We are all available for you to contact directly, but for dedicated support:
 - Marina will support RENR, REES and HE.
 - Chris will support AFNS.
 - Sarah will support Chris and Marina (e.g. complications, busy times, etc).
- We will maintain a tracking sheet to provide you with seamless and uninterrupted support.
- We will review the support assignment above in the coming months.
- Our processes may be adjusted as we adapt to the new system.
- Visit our webpage on the Faculty Intranet <https://intranet.ales.ualberta.ca/research/>

How do we serve/support the academic community?

- **Development of Large-scale Strategic Initiatives**
 - We are here to support the development of large multi-researcher, faculty and institutional applications; working alongside researchers, sponsors and stakeholders to help manage submissions and launch new large strategic research programs.
 - Sarah will take on this responsibility with support from Chris and Marina as availability and capability allow.
- **Research Funding Applications and Proposals**
 - We are here to provide advice and answer questions as you develop your research applications and proposals.

- We review research documents for eligibility, compliance and required elements, and work with you to obtain signature(s) and approval(s).
- Unfortunately, there will not be time for dedicated review of content and grantsmanship (how well an application tells a story); however, for some competitions there may be opportunity for this additional support.
- Efforts will be made to provide additional support for Assistant Professors and New Hires where possible and feasible.
- We will provide Department Chairs with a summary of activity by PI on a regular basis.
- **RSO on-line approval processes**
 - Marina or Chris will complete the review for Department/Faculty approval.
 - There may be some changes in the on-line approvals chain over the next few months.
 - The deadline to submit a proposal for internal review will be at 3 business days prior to RSO deadline (RSO requires 5 business days for full review of standard grants) but may be longer for some competitions as communicated by the team.
- **Research Application and Proposal Review:**
 - Budget and Budget Justification are correct and comply with UofA policy and sponsor guidelines.
 - Overhead (OH) or Direct Grant Administrative Costs (DGAC) are included.
 - Notice of pre-approval from the Dean must be included in the submission if there is any deviation on standard rates for OH or DGAC; or if there are any Faculty commitments (e.g. funding support or space).
 - Notice of pre-approval from the Chair must be included in the submission if there are any Department commitments (e.g. teaching release).
 - Formal documentation of pre-approvals must be in place prior to submission for internal review or it will be returned to the PI (without further review) for the PI to obtain pre-approval documentation from the Dean or Chair and resubmit.
 - Contributions (cash and in-kind) from other sources (supporting companies, researchers, other institutions, etc) have supporting documentation.
 - Certifications and Commercial Rights (e.g. IP) where appropriate.
 - Alignment to non-budget related sponsor guidelines in order to improve success rate for applications – only if submitted well before deadline.
- **Research Funding Opportunities**
 - Our main priority will be to better connect to the VPRI, RSO, Tri-Agency, and other major funding organizations so that we can be aware earlier of opportunities; and to allow for the development and communication of internal Faculty processes for competitions that require Faculty level adjudication. Sarah's will work to develop these relationships and processes.
 - Alternatively, researchers will provide us with early notification of intent to apply.
 - We will notify all ALES PIs of funding opportunities that are of broad interest; and notify relevant groups and individual PIs of more specific opportunities.
 - RSO Funding Opportunities list
 - <https://www.ualberta.ca/research-services-office/funding-opportunities/index.html>