

Research Security Stream of the Incremental Project Grants (IPG) Program Concordia University Institutional Performance Outcomes 2023-2024

Projects	Outputs (investment of Research Security funding)	Performance Objectives	Performance Indicators and Target Outcomes	Outcomes reported for 2023-2024
<p>Research Security IT Support for the Research Community</p>	<p>\$70,000 towards the remuneration costs of dedicated personnel that are helping our research community in relation to Research Security.</p>	<p>Concordia research units and infrastructure platforms expressed important needs for additional It support, notably as it pertains to research data security and in relation to new requirements in the research funding environment. The full-time staff embedded at Concordia’s Information and Instructional Technology Services (IITS) and at the Office of Research play a pivotal role in raising awareness, planning, research security policy development, as well as providing tools, identifying risks and risk mitigation measures, and training on secure tools and services available.</p>	<p>The number of researchers, research units and infrastructure platforms benefitting from this support as well as time spent by the dedicated personnel on research support needs will be key indicators to monitor the impact of this investment.</p>	<p>Completed: Concordia University invested some of the Research Security IPG funding towards covering incremental costs in tools, software and other infrastructure dedicated to research security aspects at the University. Without this funding, some of these costs would not have been covered, resulting in possible research security issues for our research community. We consider that the aspects of this more general project that pertain specifically to research security are now completed and no longer require specific investments from the Research Security IPG funding. Future activities will be prioritized by the Senior Advisor on Research Security.</p>

<p>Research Data Management Planning</p>	<p>\$35,000 invested to help cover the remuneration costs of Concordia personnel involved in the implementation and internal communication outreach activities for the University's Research Data Management Strategy.</p>	<p>Over the next few years, the implementation of our RDM Strategy will be supported notably by Concordia Libraries staff which will meet with the research community, organize workshops, prepare supporting documentation, etc. Staff in the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies will also be involved in these activities.</p>	<p>It is expected that the number of researchers, research units and infrastructure platforms benefitting from this support as well as time spent by Concordia University staff in these outreach and support activities will be key indicators to monitor the impact of this investment. Internal funding will be used to cover the other share of the RDM Strategy outreach costs that do not pertain specifically to Research Security aspects.</p>	<p>Completed: Funding was invested to help cover the remuneration costs of Concordia personnel involved in the implementation and internal communication outreach activities for the University's Research Data Management Strategy. We consider that the aspects of this more general project that pertain to research security are now completed and no longer require specific investments from the Research Security IPG funding.</p>
<p>Physical Security of Research Laboratories</p>	<p>\$117,879 invested to further support improvements in the physical research security of Concordia research infrastructure: basic physical security measures such as locks, alarms, video cameras and other security systems; and staff costs of dedicated security personnel.</p>	<p>The investment will help further support and improve physical security at the University. One of our priorities for 2023-2024 will be to begin planning for an environmental scan to uncover Research Security strengths and weaknesses at the University, an establish a methodology to better plan investments in this area over the next few years.</p>	<p>Specific investments made in this area and progress on the environmental scan are possible performance indicators for this project.</p>	<p>In Progress: In year one of this IPG Research Security project, discussions took place with the University security services and other internal stakeholders as to how to approach this project and to plan for an environmental scan to be done in the coming months to determine what can be prioritized in terms of needs to enhance and support research security at the university. The IPG Research Security was invested to further support improvements in the physical research security of Concordia research infrastructure: basic physical security measures such as staff costs of dedicated security personnel that provide surveillance and security for our various research spaces on our two campuses.</p>

<p>Supporting Research Security Staff and Infrastructure Costs</p>	<p>\$57,055 invested to cover the remuneration costs of dedicated personnel, at Concordia University's Office of the Vice-President, Research and Graduate Studies (OVPRGS), that will be hired to help coordinate the efforts to develop and implement Research Security initiatives and support throughout the University.</p>	<p>A new position of Senior Advisor on Research Security will be created, who will be working in close collaboration with other OVPRGS staff, Concordia University's Information and Instructional Technology Services personnel and other Concordia sectors and services to support our various Research Security projects and initiatives. The overall objective of this investment is to significantly improve our capacity to identify, assess and mitigate potential risks associated with research security. This new position will be key to help coordinate our efforts and helping our research community in relation to Research Security. The resource will play an important role in championing these topics and raising awareness at Concordia about research security aspects. It will help better equip our research community in addressing these evolving requirements and issues. Within this project, we also expect to invest some funding towards incremental costs in tools and equipment dedicated to research security aspects.</p>	<p>The successful hiring process for this new position will be the main expected outcome for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The various initiatives that will stem from this new position will be other key indicators to monitor the impact of this investment.</p>	<p>In Progress: The hiring of a Senior Advisor on Research Security was successful. However, the person transferred out of the position to take on a Directorial role within the Office of Research, which now supervise the Senior Advisor to Research Security. A second hiring process took place to hire a new Senior Advisor, some months later which was also successful. Many initiatives took place during the year, notably:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Getting initial training on research security, which benefitted the Office of Research greatly by implementing a review system to ensure compliance with Federal Research Security Guidelines. - Becoming part of the research security teams ("Team Québec" and "Team Canada") and participating in relevant networking and information/best practices sharing activities: the Calgary conference on research security (to help establish our research security framework), connecting with the Québec representative (Laurie-Eve Rioux) of the Canadian Research Security Centre, etc. - Harmonizing research security approach and information sharing with other university sectors and services such as University Libraries and Information and Instructional Technology Services (IITS). This allowed for the strengthening of Data Security Policies and Intellectual Property protection in grants. - Establishing an inquiry on a Research Security database tool to help assess new potential research partners for tri-agency funding opportunities and other initiatives. - Providing training on research security and responding to the questions and preoccupations of Concordia faculty members and the university community in general.
---	--	--	--	--