

Meeting Notes
Planning and Budget Committee (PBC)
December 13, 2021
2:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Remote

Attendance

F. Strzelczyk, VPA and Provost (Chair)	D. Patel, GCSU
C. Bazan, Engineering	L. Pike, Budget Office
E. Kendall, Medicine	H. Usefi, Science
A. Marland, Humanities and Social Sciences	M. Woods, Medicine
K. Matthews, CIAP	
R. Nolan, CIAP	

Unable to Attend

F. Ahmed, MUNSU
K. Anderson, Education
P. Brett, Marine Institute
S. Mackenzie, Humanities and Social Sciences
J. Porter, Registrar's Office

1. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved as presented.

2. Review of notes from the November 24th meeting

The meeting notes from November 24th, 2021 were approved as presented.

3. Centre for Quantum Social and Cognitive Science

F. Strzelczyk introduced discussion, asking E. Kendall to provide background on proposal. E. Kendall provided brief background regarding proposal. This Centre was founded at University of Leister (U of L), while Dr. Emmanuel Haven was at U of L. U of L has re-aligned, and Dr. Haven is now with the Faculty of Business Administration. Centre will engage multiple disciplines and multiple universities, with the proposal for Memorial to be the home to this Centre and Dr. Haven to be Director of the Centre moving forward. The proposal is not seeking additional hiring, and links funding to activities of the Centre through grants. E. Kendall notes that there are currently no active grants or grant applications.

F. Strzelczyk clarified that PBC should review this proposal based on the Centres policy, and asked for discussion. Discussion ensued and included:

- How does this Centre align with the MUNL Strategic Plan? E. Kendall noted that this Centre is interdisciplinary and will have a public engagement focus, both of which are priorities in *Transforming Our Horizons*.
- A committee member asked if there are any perceived down sides to this Centre being approved? It was noted that a weakness is the lack of stable or consistent funding.

- Supporting academic colleagues in their endeavours should be encouraged, and this Centre does not seem to require additional resources.
- Committee member voiced some concerns regarding the fact the Dean of Business expressed support for Centre but did not offer financial support.
- Committee member voiced concern regarding proposed activities and questioned whether a Centre is needed to conduct such business. However, other committee members noted that there is a wide range of activities conducted by existing centres;
- Committee member noted that it is important to give colleagues the intellectual space to explore and collaborate on projects with others at MUNL and other colleagues at other institutions;
- Suggestion made for PBC to provide recommendations along with endorsement;
- It was noted that, if this proposal is approved, we will still need to review the Centre after the new policy is approved. This will provide an opportunity to review once the centre is established.

Proposal endorsed unanimously.

Action item: prepare letter notifying proponent of endorsement by PBC. This letter should recommend that the proponents explore ways of collaborating across disciplines at Memorial University.

4. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.