

SSHRC Insight Grant: Strategies for Success

August 8, 2023 @ 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

SSHRC Insight Grant: *Strategies for Success*

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 @ 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm



Christy Anderson,
Professor, Department of Art
History



Samuel Ronfard,
Assistant Professor, Department
of Psychology

Register: cris.utoronto.ca/rdf/programs

- Thank you for joining us, the session will begin shortly
- You are currently placed on mute
- Reminder: this session will be recorded and transcribed

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Prof. Christy Anderson

Professor, Department of Art History (UTSG)

Prof. Samuel Ronfard

Assistant Professor, Department of
Psychology (UTM)

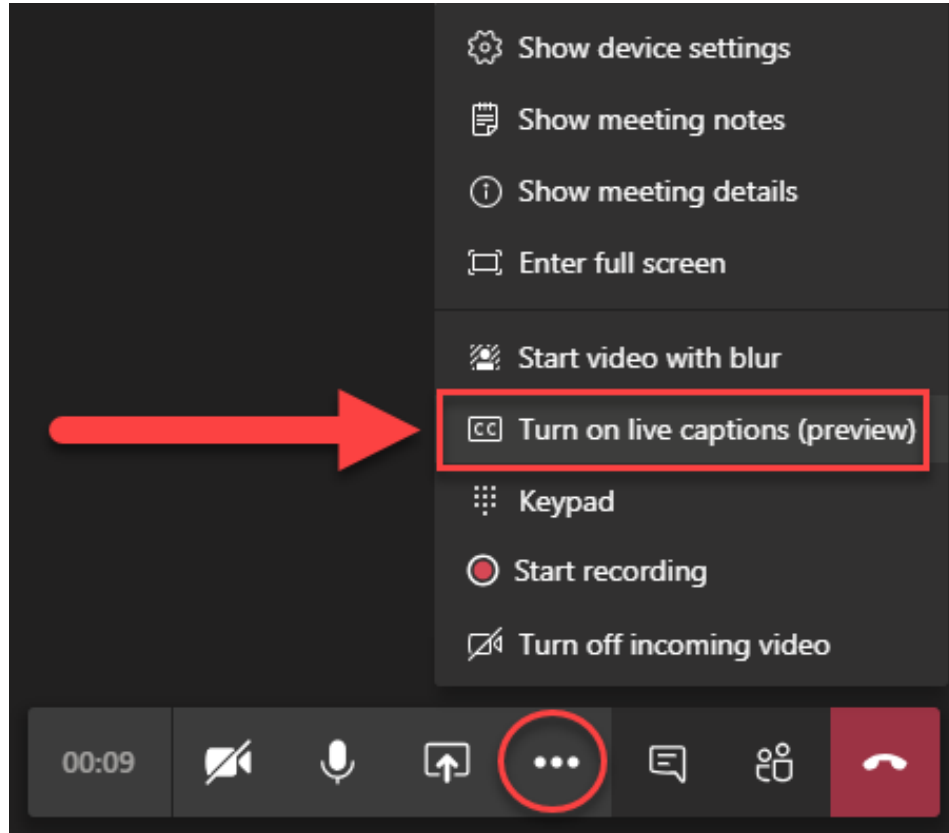
Mark Bold


Research Funding Manager, Social Sciences
& Humanities, Research Services Office

Wei Ye

Research Funding Officer, Social Sciences &
Humanities, Research Services Office

Turning captions on and off



- Go to your meeting controls
- Select **More options**  > Turn on/off live captions



Land Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates.

For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit.

Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

Housekeeping

- This webinar is being recorded & transcribed
- Please mute your audio and turn off your video
- A link to the recording will be sent to all participants after the session
- Presenter slides will also be shared
- We will hold questions until the end
- Please put questions into the chat box



Agenda

| Time | Topic |
|-----------------|--|
| 1:30 pm-1:35 pm | Welcome & Housekeeping |
| 1:35 pm-1:45 pm | Overview of SSHRC Insight Grant with Wei Ye |
| 1:45 pm-2:35 pm | Faculty Panel and Q&A with Profs Christy Anderson & Samuel Ronfard |
| 2:35 pm-2:55 pm | RSO Tips and Q&A with Mark Bold |
| 2:55 pm-3:00 pm | Closing Remarks |

Presenters



Christy Anderson

Professor, Department of
Art History (UTSG)

Wei Ye

Research Funding
Officer, Social Sciences
& Humanities, Research
Services Office



Samuel Ronfard

Assistant
Professor, Department of
Psychology (UTM)

Mark Bold

Research Funding
Manager, Social
Sciences & Humanities,
Research Services
Office

Insight Grant in brief

- Most flexible SSHRC funding opportunity: short or long-term for any subject under SSHRC's mandate
- \$7,000 to \$400,000 over 2, 3, 4 or 5 years, maximum annual budget of \$100,000
- **Applicants/Co-Applicants/Collaborators**
 - Applicants can be emerging or established scholars
 - Applicants and Co-applicants: main affiliation with Canadian postsecondary institution (int'l co-applicants not allowed)
 - Collaborators do not need this main affiliation
- **Evaluation criteria and scoring (for full criteria/sub-criteria, see [IG webpage](#)):**
 - Challenge 40% (relevance, originality, lit review, theoretical framework, methodology, training, impact)
 - Feasibility 20% (timeline, expertise of applicant/team, budget, KM plan)
 - Capability 40% (past experience in research, KM, impact on professional practices and policies, training & mentoring)

Insight Grant in brief cont'd

| | 2020 | | 2021 | | 2022 | |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | UofT | national | UofT | national | UofT | national |
| <i>Number of Eligible Applications</i> | 119 (of 119) | 1213 | 88 (of 91) | 1084 | 104 (of 104) | 1145 |
| <i>Number of Awards</i> | 70 | 637 | 57 | 560 | 46 | 510 |
| <i>Success Rate</i> | 58.8% | 52.5% | 64.8% | 51.7% | 44.2% | 44.5% |
| <i>Total Amount Requested</i> | \$20,740,358 | \$224,744,976 | \$14,984,492 | \$210,915,050 | \$19,382,160 | \$233,136,322 |
| <i>Total Amount Awarded</i> | \$10,752,570 | \$104,001,032 | \$8,477,763 | \$96,443,016 | \$8,156,367 | \$89,470,021 |
| <i>Average Request</i> | \$174,289 | \$185,280 | \$170,278 | \$194,571 | \$186,367 | \$203,613 |
| <i>Average Grant</i> | \$153,608 | \$163,267 | \$148,733 | \$172,220 | \$177,310 | \$175,431 |

Insight Grant in brief cont'd

Funding streams

Stream A: requested budgets between \$7,000 - \$100,000

Stream B: requested budgets between \$100,001 - \$400,000*

*At UofT:

2020 Competition

53 stream A applications, 31 successful (58%)

66 stream B applications, 39 successful (59%)

2021 competition

38 stream A applications, 30 successful (79%)

50 stream B applications, 27 successful (54%)

2022 competition

63 stream A applications, 28 successful (44%)

41 stream B applications, 18 successful (44%)

| IG | IDG |
|---|--|
| Potentially large-scale initiatives that are more aligned with past research contributions | Short term projects, early stage research, clearly delimited |
| Challenge = 40%, Feasibility = 20%, Capability = 40% | Challenge = 50%, Feasibility = 20%, Capability = 30% |
| 2-5 years, \$7000 - \$400,000 | 1-2 years, \$7000 - \$75,000 |
| Int'l co-applicants not allowed | Int'l co-applicants allowed |
| No reserved funding envelope for Emerging or Established scholars, but Stream A has higher targeted success rate. | 50% of funding envelope reserved for Emerging scholars |
| Applications assessed by both SSHRC IG adjudication committee members and external assessors | Single-stage IDG adjudication committee review (no external assessors) |
| CV requirement for IG application: SSHRC CV (as part of the SSHRC application site) | CV requirement for IDG application: Canadian Common CV |

Eligibility

- Eligibility to be the Applicant (SSHRC) – must have a formal affiliation with SSHRC-eligible Canadian postsecondary institution (primary affiliation cannot be with a non-Canadian postsecondary institution)
- [Eligibility to be PI \(UofT\)](#)
 - Faculty
 - [My Research Applications \(MRA\)](#)
 - Access to MRA for Status Only or Retired/Emeritus
 - Exceptional cases (Teaching Stream, Librarians) – **NOTE that as of Aug 4, 2022, Teaching Stream faculty members and Librarian 3 and 4 (and as of Jan 18, 2023, Librarian 1 and 2) were given the PI role in MRA (so all approvals will be done through MRA)**
 - Postdoctoral fellows and PhD candidates in final year
 - Apply directly to SSHRC (see “Administering Organization” section of [IG application instructions](#) for more)
 - Must hold appropriate affiliation within 5 months of the start date of the grant (i.e., by September, 2024) ***
- Co-applicant – same eligibility rules as the Applicant
- Collaborator – no required affiliation (IG funds cannot be used for Collab research costs)

***NOTE: at UofT, the “appropriate affiliation” would be one that is eligible to be PI on a grant (as per “Eligibility to be PI (UofT)” guidelines/link referred to above). If you are a Postdoc or PhD student who is thinking of applying for the IG, please contact Wei Ye at Research Services (wei.ye@utoronto.ca) well before the IG deadline and before you start the application in order to clarify what this means in relation to your eligibility to hold the grant at UofT as the PI.

Eligibility cont'd

- If you applied (as main applicant) for the 2023 IDG and were *unsuccessful*, then you may apply for the 2023 IG (but not if your 2023 IDG was successful).
- If you apply for the IG in Oct 2023, then you can also apply for IDG in Feb 2024, but objectives must be significantly different.
- Current IG holders: Can submit if you currently hold an IG award, but only if in final year (that is, the year in which you received your final grant instalment (usually the year before your final automatic extension year))

Eligibility cont'd

- [Subject matter](#) – Applications must meet two criteria:
 1. The proposed research or related activities must be primarily in the social sciences and humanities (i.e., aligned with SSHRC's [legislated mandate](#)).
 2. The intended outcome of the research must primarily be to add to our understanding and knowledge of individuals, groups and societies—what we think, how we live, and how we interact with each other and the world around us.
 - If your application is Health- or Psychology-related – check [guidelines](#), **but most importantly** speak to SSHRC IG program staff (insightgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca)
 - Projects whose primary objective is curriculum development, program evaluation, preparation of teaching materials, organization of a conference or workshop, digitization of a collection, or creation of a database are not eligible for funding

Panel - Adjudication Process & Proposal Tips

Professor Christy Anderson

- Full Professor, Department of Art History
- SSHRC IG awardee
- 2022 SSHRC IG adjudication committee member (Committee 3: Fine arts, Research-creation)

Professor Samuel Ronfard

- Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology
- SSHRC IG awardee
- 2022 SSHRC IG adjudication committee member (Committee 10B: Psychology)

ROUND 1

Perspectives on the adjudication process and insights on crafting a strong proposal






ROUND 2

Some things you wish you had known that you learned from your insider perspective as a successful applicant/committee member



Q&A #1

Q & A #1 – How to ask questions

- Please use the chat
- Click on the  icon in the bottom menu to bring up the Meeting Chat pop-out window
- Type your question and hit Enter on your keyboard or click the  button to submit.
- We will **not** be using the “Raise your hand”  feature.

Please note: You may be asked to Unmute to clarify your question



Budget

- Minimum essential funding
 - Committee may recommend cuts if budget is deemed insufficiently justified or not appropriate
 - at 30% may fail on Feasibility
 - at 50% must fail on Feasibility
 - know the typical budgets in your field, unrealistically high or low budgets will lower score
 - justify all costs (HOW and WHY)
 - be consistent with proposal description
 - budget for any one year cannot exceed \$100,000
 - do not include ineligible expenses
 - e.g. remuneration & travel for guest speakers and presenters, overhead, payments to Applicant/Co-Apps/Collabs.
 - Upon initial review, if 30% or more of budget is ineligible, then application will not reach committee
 - Research expenses for collaborators
 - avoid red flags!

Budget

In 2022 IG competition:

- For UofT applicants, 46 applications out of 104 were funded
- Of those 46 funded applications, 13 were fully funded (28%)

| | Stream A | Stream B |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| # of funded applications | 18 | 28 |
| Total amount requested for funded applications | \$1,582,249 | \$7,474,563 |
| Total amount awarded for funded applications | \$1,432,241 | \$6,724,017 |
| Avg grant requested for funded applications | \$87,903 | \$266,949 |
| Avg grant awarded for funded applications | \$79,569 | \$240,143 |
| Avg budget reduction for funded applications | \$8,334 | \$26,805 |
| # of FULLY funded applications | 4 (22.2%) | 9 (32.1%) |
| Avg budget reduction (for grants not fully funded) | \$10,715 | \$39,502 |
| Amount of smallest budget cut | \$2,500 (or 2.69% of proposed budget) | \$3,250 (or 1.9% of proposed budget) |
| Amount of largest budget cut | \$33,500 (or 39.13% of proposed budget) | \$100,000 (or 25% of proposed budget) |

Budget cont'd

3 questions that should be answered for each item in one's budget:

How much? **How did you calculate this cost?** **Why is this expense essential?**

The budget is split into two sections*:

1. Funds requested from SSHRC (i.e., the budget table)

- This section is just for the numbers (i.e., **How much?**)
- The budget for any one year cannot exceed \$100,000

2. Budget Justification document (max 2 pages)

- Should be organized by budget category (i.e., categories listed in the “Funds requested from SSHRC” budget table)
- Show **HOW** an expense was calculated and **WHY** it's necessary for the project
 - **HOW**: Don't make the reviewers do math, indicate how the # was calculated
 - **WHY**: link justification to your methodology – account for every dollar, justifications should align with the project description and other parts of application

*There is also a third budget-related section called “Funds from other sources”. For the IG, applicants are not obliged to include contributions (ie, cash or in-kind contributions) from other sources, but if you do have these, then they can be included in this table, and you should account for them in some way in your “Budget justification” document (ie, how are these funds from other sources going to be used in relation (or in contrast) to the funds from SSHRC)

Budget cont'd

Applicants should consult the [Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration](#) (Part 2: Use of Grant Funds), particularly the [4 basic principles](#) that govern the appropriate use of grant funds, as grant expenditures must:

- contribute to the [direct costs](#) of the research/activities for which the funds will be awarded, with benefits directly attributable to the grant [so the grant-related purpose for an expense must be clear, and it should be essential to the project]
- not be provided by the administering institution to their [research personnel](#)
- be [effective and economical](#)
- not result in [personal gain](#) for members of the research team

Additionally, any institutional policies would apply (like those detailed in the [UofT Guide to Financial Management](#) (e.g., [per diem rates](#))).

Budget cont'd

(straight from the [IG guidelines](#))

Specific rules for the use of grant funds

- Insight Grant funds **cannot be used** for remuneration, and/or the travel and subsistence costs of presenters or guest speakers.
- Insight Grant funds **cannot be used** to remunerate team members (applicant, co-applicant or collaborator). This includes postdoctoral fellows serving in any of these capacities.
- Insight Grant funds **cannot be used** for collaborators' research costs. However, their travel and subsistence expenses related to research planning, the exchange of information with the grantee, and for the dissemination of research results are considered eligible.
- Consultation fees are eligible for expert and/or professional and technical services that contribute directly to the proposed research **as long as** the service is not being provided by a team member or other persons whose status would make them eligible to apply for a SSHRC grant.

Budget Tips

Budget *Do's*

- Budget should strongly relate to methodology in proposal
- Explain HOW amounts are calculated and WHY they are necessary
 - Follow institutional guidelines for student compensation (BO) and [per diems](#) (\$80 domestic, \$100 international)
 - Indicate hourly compensation (includes benefits and vacation pay)
 - Explain tasks students will do and why that level (undergraduate, Masters, PhD or postdoc) is appropriate
 - Justify use of stipends
- **Budget justification should mesh with other application sections (Detailed Description, Student Training & KM plan)**

Budget Tips

Budget *Don'ts*

- Don't include ineligible items – see the updated Tri-Agency guide: https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp
 - Only direct costs for the research being proposed - No overhead or general administrative costs
 - No compensation-based costs for Research Team members (Applicant, Co-Applicants, Collaborators)
 - No costs for conference organization or travel/remuneration for presenters or guest speakers (but workshops are eligible if related to project objectives)
 - **Primary project objective cannot be curriculum development, program evaluation, preparation of teaching materials, organization of a conference or workshop, digitization of a collection, or creation of a database**
 - No research expenses for Collaborators (but travel and subsistence related expenses for KM events or research team meetings with PI are fine)
- Don't pad or inflate costs
- Avoid:
 - Math errors
 - Multiple trips to one destination without justification
 - Hiring non-students without a clear justification
 - “Premature” expenses that could be a red flag (e.g., dissemination costs in Year 1 without proper justification)

Budget cont'd

UofT SSHRC Insight Grant – Budget Information Session

Date: August 24th, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

[Session Details & Registration](#)

Writing your proposal

- Demonstrate how this new research builds upon past work
- Follow all instructions (e.g., headings for “Detailed Description” section)
- Attachments: comply with formatting specs and ensure correct version is attached (don’t be disqualified for omitting mandatory section)
- Read guidelines on [student training](#), [Knowledge Mobilization](#)
- Text boxes: use preview to ensure text is visible/legible
- Have proposal read by colleagues
- Avoid typos and math errors – proof and polish!
- **Have co-applicants complete CV and “Research Contributions” doc (and “Career Interruptions” doc, if applicable) as early as possible**
- Suggested Reviewers section: don’t drain the pool, offer direction
- Write with committee/assessors in mind: address evaluation criteria thoroughly
- **Write for a multi-disciplinary committee (i.e, Academic audience/peers, but not necessarily specialists in your field)**
 - **Define all terms, do not assume anything is obvious**

Tips from previous committee members:

- Provide sufficient detail to allow *informed* assessment by committee members
- Coherence: connect goals of new or continuing projects with past/ongoing research
- Be explicit as to whether or not the research is new, emerging, or a continuation
- Take time to address/define your outcomes (traditional/activities/community partnerships)
- ‘Educate’ the committee - persuasive in demonstrating a range of research goals and objectives
- Have your grant proposal read by colleagues who have had successful applications
- Present a challenging topic (originality)- but novelty alone not enough, why important?
- Convey and inspire confidence, and clearly establish the need for the research and funds
- Strike a balance between ambition and realism
- If you are an emerging scholar, discuss why you can do the proposed project
- Plan, organize and monitor your project well
- Methodology (specific in describing data, resources and procedures: who, what, where, how?)
- **Write the proposal for the project that you want to do, not for the kind of project that you think (or were told) has a better chance of being funded.**

UofT Resources

Department/Division

- Business officer (compensation, travel, supplies costs)
- Grant writing support (peer review, archived applications, internal deadlines)
- Dept/Divisional Research Facilitator (for proposal development/editorial services)

Guide to Financial Management: <http://www.finance.utoronto.ca/gtfm.htm>

- UofT travel policies and per diems

UofT Centre for Research & Innovation Support (CRIS) : <https://cris.utoronto.ca/>

- Central Research & Innovation hub (partnership between VPRI, UTL and ITS)

UofT Libraries

<http://onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/triagencyopenaccesspolicy>

- Advice on compliance with Open Access Policy, publication

<https://onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/researchdata>

- Advice on data management, DMPs

<https://utsc.library.utoronto.ca/librarians>

- List of UTSC Library Liaisons to assist with OA pubs and DMPs

<https://library.utm.utoronto.ca/scholarly-communications>

- UTM library info for help with OA pubs and DMPs

UofT Resources

Research supports/contacts at Divisional levels

CORE:
Community for Research
Excellence

FAS: Lee Slinger & Gabrielle
Sugar

FASE: Myriam Couturier

TFoM: Golnaz Farhat

UTM: Kate Steinmann

UTSC: Jovana Drinjakovic

Law: Kelly Nolan

Music: Ely Lyonblum

OISE: Madeleine Taylor

DLSPH: Caroline Godbout

iSchool: Emina Veletanlic

FIFSW: Vesna Bajic

LDFP: Lia Cardarelli

Nursing: Karin Trajcevski

KPE: Kay Li & Nina Hamou

Rotman: Joanne Pereira

FALD: Shirley Chan

UofT Resources

Research Services Office

- Website: <https://research.utoronto.ca/funding-opportunities/db/insight-grants>
- Tip-sheet at the above website
- Research Services SSHRC team
 - Wei Ye, Research Funding Officer (wei.ye@utoronto.ca)
– main RSO contact for IG

MRA

- Login: <https://easi.its.utoronto.ca/administrative-management-systems/my-research-mr/>
- Technical help and access: raise@utoronto.ca or 416-946-5000

SSHRC Resources

- SSHRC IG funding opportunity description, link to application and application instructions
http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/programmes-programmes/insight_grants-subventions_savoir-eng.aspx
- Tri-Agency Guide on Financial Administration (TAGFA)
https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/InterAgency-Interorganismes/TAFA-AFTO/guide-guide_eng.asp
- SSHRC program staff (funding opportunity questions)
insightgrants@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca or 1-855-275-2861
- Technical support for Application Form and CV
webgrant@sshrc-crsh.gc.ca or 613-995-4273

SSHRC Resources

SSHRC Insight Grants webinar

French language version: Thursday, Aug 17, 2023, 10 – 11:30 am ([Webex link](#))

English language version: Thursday, Aug 17, 2023, 1 – 2:30 pm ([Webex link](#))

For a list of upcoming SSHRC webinars, visit:

<https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/webinars-webinaires/index-eng.aspx>

Submitting your application/Deadlines

- Complete a My Research Applications (MRA) record
 - <https://easi.its.utoronto.ca/administrative-management-systems/my-research-mr/>
 - Upload draft proposal, firm budget amount
 - Due at Research Services by **noon on Thursday, September 21, 2023**
 - Check with your dept/faculty/divisional research office for their internal deadlines (ie, for MRA or editorial review options)
- Submit SSHRC application online
 - https://webapps.nserc.ca/SSHRC/faces/logon.jsp?lang=en_CA
 - Sponsor internal deadline for online submission through SSHRC website is **9 am, Wednesday, September 27, 2023**

Remember the Oct 2019 IG deadline?



- SSHRC's final deadline was Tuesday, Oct 15, but UofT internal deadline for applications to be submitted to SSHRC site was Thursday, Oct 10
- No issues if application was submitted by UofT internal deadline
- For those that tried to submit Oct 14 or 15: *days* of timeouts, delays, multiple extensions from SSHRC, anxiety, and wasted hours

**KEEP CALM
AND
JUSTIFY EVERYTHING**

***and follow the [IG application instructions](#)**

****and look at the appendix that follows**

Appendix

- **Adjudication committee information and examples**
 - **Impacts of Covid-19**

Adjudication Committee

- Applicants select their **preferred adjudication committee** (choose the committee that is most appropriate based on subject/discipline) – see [here](#) for past adjudication committees
- **Multi/interdisciplinary evaluation:** if you select this, you must complete a one-page justification (explaining how your research will integrate elements (eg, theories, methodologies) from two or more disciplines)
- [Tri-Agency Interdisciplinary Peer Review Committee](#): intended for applications proposing research across disciplines/subject areas related to two or more of (1) social sciences & humanities, (2) natural sciences and engineering, and (3) health and wellness (subject matter still needs to fall under [SSHRC's mandate](#)). Will be composed of peer reviewers active in interdisciplinary research who will be recruited in response to the applications that are submitted, using its own [Evaluation Criteria](#) (select “Committee 24” and complete one-page justification)
- [Indigenous Research](#): if your proposal falls under [SSHRC's definition](#) of Indigenous Research, then your proposal can be identified as such, and would be adjudicated under SSHRC's [Guidelines for the Merit Review of Indigenous Research](#)
- [Research-Creation](#): please see SSHRC's [definition](#) of Research Creation (an approach to research that combines creative and academic research practices, where “creation” is situated within research with a resultant creative/artistic work). If your proposal aligns with SSHRC's definition, then you can denote this (and, if appropriate, you could choose to have your proposal adjudicated by a Fine Arts-Research Creation committee).

Adjudication Committee

Past IG Literature adjudication committee – example of diverse research interests

Chair: Literary and cultural history of the long 18th century in Britain, narrative studies, gender and sexuality theory

Member 1: Victorian literature and culture, the history of media and technology, sound studies, contemporary American poetry, and Canadian poetry

Member 2: 19th century literature, Literature and Anthropology, French literature

Member 3: Old English, Middle English, Renaissance Literature, History of the Book

Member 4: AI/Robotics and literature, Modern/Postmodern novel

Member 5: 19th and 20th century French literature, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Québec and francophone literatures

Member 6: Romanticism, 18th and 19th century literature and visual culture, history of museums and collections

Adjudication Committee

Past IG Multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary social sciences adjudication committee – example of diverse research interests

Chair: language variation and change, linguistic heterogeneity, varieties of English

Member 1: social and political implications of new media, global communications, media and crime, and Arab media and politics

Member 2: attention and memory, auditory and visual perception, psychology and sport

Member 3: intellectual property, health law, and bioethics

Member 4: surveillance studies, smart cities and ubiquitous computing, urban studies, literature and film

Member 5: resilience and psychosocial stressors, family caregiving for persons with Dementia or recovering from stroke, disaster response and high risk populations

Member 6: Canadian and American foreign policy, Latin American and Caribbean politics with an emphasis on Cuba, and international relations

Impacts of COVID-19

IG application instructions (<https://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/instructions/insight-savoir-eng.aspx>) describe where one may (if appropriate) speak to the possible impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the proposed research project, and also on how the pandemic has had an effect on the applicant's previous or current research activities.

SSHRC notes that this is not a mandatory part of the application.

Impacts of COVID-19

1. In the “Detailed Description” document

From the IG instructions: “Contingency plans related to the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on your research project may be described in this section, if appropriate. This is not mandatory, but it may assist the merit review committee in assessing the feasibility of your proposal if your research plans are significantly disrupted (e.g., if international travel is not possible).”

2. In the “Career Interruptions and Special Circumstances” section of the “Research Contributions” document

Again from the IG instructions: “**Career interruptions** occur when researchers are taken away from their research work for an extended period of time for health, administrative, family or other reasons, or reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

...

Special circumstances involve slowdowns in research productivity or any circumstances that impact the progression of academic careers in a distinctive way. Researchers can use this section to indicate that their research work was impacted by circumstances related to health (and/or disability), administrative, family, cultural or community responsibilities, socio-economic context, COVID-19, or other factors . . . Use this optional section to outline any career interruptions or special circumstances that have affected your research activities. Provide dates of interruptions and indicate the reason for the delay in general terms (e.g., illness, disability, family loss or illness, cultural or community responsibilities, socio-economic context, COVID-19).”

Impacts of COVID-19

So not a mandatory part of the 2023 IG application, but...

A message during the pandemic from a SSHRC Senior Program Officer:




“Given the current COVID-19 situation, I suspect a committee will likely be looking critically at whether what is being proposed is feasible within the current context and whether any ongoing research remains incomplete.”

...so referring to the pandemic within the context of either contingency plans for your proposed IG project or career interruptions or slowdowns in research should be considered if appropriate for your proposal.*

*But just to be the devil’s advocate, a former committee member suggested that if a proposal is excellent, then the potential (negative) impact of the pandemic on the proposed project would not have a great impact on its chances of being funded.

Q&A #2

Q & A #2 – How to ask questions

- Please use the chat
- Click on the  icon in the bottom menu to bring up the Meeting Chat pop-out window
- Type your question and hit Enter on your keyboard or click the  button to submit.
- We will **not** be using the “Raise your hand”  feature.

Please note: You may be asked to Unmute to clarify your question



Upcoming Event:

**Webinar and Discussion
– SSHRC Insight Grant –
Budget Information
Session - Aug. 24, 2023**

**Date: Aug. 24, 2023
10:00 - 11:00 am**

SSHRC Insight Grant: *Budget Information Session*

Thursday, August 24, 2023 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Register: cris.utoronto.ca/rdf/programs



Centre for Research
& Innovation Support

<https://cris.utoronto.ca/rdf/programs>

Thank you!

- A link to the recording, presenter slides, and feedback form will be sent out after the session
- Follow-up questions can be addressed to cris@utoronto.ca