Research Advisory Council Member – Academic (University affiliation)
Role Description

The **Academic (university affiliation) member** is a key voting position on WeRPN's 12-member Research Advisory Council (RAC) which oversees WeRPN's research program and provides guidance to achieve the WeRPN research mandate. Specifically, the role of the Research Advisory Council member – Academic (University affiliation) is to provide advice on WeRPN's strategic research direction, research priorities, annual work plan, processes, and policies, based on university research experience and collaborative network connections.

The **WeRPN research mandate** is to equip the association with jurisdictional and category specific RPN-focused evidence that will guide health system decisions, nursing research excellence, and knowledge mobilization to be used to:

o   build upon and expand the current RPN research evidence,
o   initiate and pursue meaningful health system and workforce policy changes, and
o   implement novel and innovative nursing practice/intervention protocols, and collaborative interprofessional models of care.

Terms of Commitment

The voluntary 2-year term voting position is commensurate with July 1 of the fiscal year. Attendance is required at quarterly meetings. Some exceptions apply.

Time Requirements (estimated)

- Virtual Meetings: 1 hour, 4 times per year
- Annual General Meeting: 2 hours, once per year
- Participation in RAC activities: 1-research day, 7 hours, once per year plus travel (if applicable)

Duties of Research Advisory Council members include:

o   Establishing relevant research topic areas/ideas,
o   Advising on how to capture WeRPN members' opinions, e.g., focus groups, survey, about essential research topics,
o   Ensuring research priorities are aligned with the strategic plan drivers of impact,
o   Prioritizing, recommending, and promoting RPN research priorities,
o   Approving priority areas and project description included in annual Call for proposals (academic research and fellowships grants)

o   Establishing a researcher network to support the identification of collaborative opportunities (e.g., Supporting Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) – Ontario SPOR Support unit (OSSU) and access to specific areas of expertise (e.g., research methods, data analysis),

o   Reviewing WeRPN Calls for Academic Research Proposals, fellowship applications, external participant recruitment requests, and research partnership requests,

o   Evaluating and recommending research and fellowship grant applications for funding,

o   Providing recommendations to the WeRPN Executive leadership regarding research initiatives,

o   Evaluating the nominations for the Awards of Excellence in research,

o   Establish and maintain a RPN literature database including a review, summary, and ranking of RPN-specific research publications,

o   Monitoring research expenditures and investments,

o   Evaluating the research strategy outcomes, and

o   Identifying and recommending new Research Advisory Council members, as necessary.

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January 24, 2024   2