

Alberta Universities Surpass National Trend in University Research Income Growth

Alberta Universities post 4.1% gain in research income compared with 2.2% National Average
University of Lethbridge Named Research University of the Year

Toronto, ON (October 17, 2012). According to *Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List 2012*, released today, total research income for Alberta's 3 universities expanded by 4.1% in Fiscal 2011, compared with the 2.2% average national gain. Income increases were strongest at University of Lethbridge (38.7%) and University of Alberta (4.4%), while income expanded more slowly at University of Calgary (1.3%). Research income includes income from all internal and external government and non-government sources. Nationally, 34 universities posted gains in research income compared with 16 where income declined. The complete list is available on the Research Infosource site at www.researchinfosource.com.

"Fiscal 2011 was a tough year overall for Canadian universities, which managed only a 2.2% total increase in research income, so posting a 4.1% gain really separates Alberta universities from the pack", said Ron Freedman, CEO Research Infosource Inc. "In addition, research income expanded at all Alberta institutions, with University of Lethbridge showing dramatic improvement."

Alberta's universities captured 13% of all Top 50 research funding in Fiscal 2011, the same portion as last year. In addition, University of Alberta (\$536.1 million) and University of Calgary (\$286.4 million) each cracked Research Infosource's prestigious \$100 Million Club, composed of institutions with \$100 million or more of research funding. University of Alberta moved up one position to 3rd place nationally in the research income rankings. University of Calgary held on to its 8th place overall ranking and University of Lethbridge moved up 3 positions to 32nd.

Research University of the Year

Research Infosource, Canada's Source of Research and Development Intelligence, is proud to name University of Lethbridge as the top-ranked Research University of the Year in the Undergraduate category based on its performance on a balanced scorecard of research inputs and outputs and impacts. RESEARCH Infosource highlights the achievements of 3 *Research Universities of the Year* – the leading institutions that excel on a balanced scorecard of research input and output/impact indicators. This year's winners are: University of Toronto in the Medical/Doctoral category. McGill University and the University of British Columbia came second and third respectively. University of Waterloo won in the Comprehensive category with the University of Guelph and the University of Victoria taking seconding and third positions. The University of Lethbridge is the winner in the Undergraduate category with Ryerson University and the Université du Québec à Rimouski coming second and third.

Regional Picture

Examining provincial performance, university research income rose in 7 provinces and declined in 3. Gains were strongest in Saskatchewan where 2 universities posted a total increase of 8.0% in research income. UPEI boosted Prince Edward Island's total by 7.0%, while 13 Quebec institutions posted a combined gain of 6.1% and 4 British Columbia universities upped provincial research income by 5.8%. Provincial research income totals fell over the period in New Brunswick (-10.4%), Newfoundland (-5.8%) and Ontario (-2.0%). Research income growth in Manitoba (1.8%) also lagged the national increase of 2.2%. Ontario universities' 18 institutions captured 38% of the national total, down from 39% in Fiscal 2010. Quebec's 13 institutions increased their share to 27% of the total from 26% in Fiscal 2010. Over the period share was steady in Alberta (13% of the total) and increased 1% in British Columbia (12% of the total).

“The Fiscal 2011 result signals retrenchment of research funding at our top universities. Gone are the heady days of double-digit increases in funding”, said Mr. Freedman. “By way of comparison, from Fiscal 2000-2010 annual increases were running from 3.0% to 23.9%. This year’s growth is the poorest since Research Infosource began tracking in 2001. With most research income coming from government sources – typically two-thirds or more - and with governments at all levels cutting back, it is not surprising to see total research support slipping” added Mr. Freedman. "It's not yet time to ring the alarm bells, because strong investments over the past decade have produced a robust research system. And, because other jurisdictions are experiencing the same pain, our competitive position will remain static".

About Research Infosource Inc.

Research Infosource Inc., a division of The Impact Group, is Canada's source of R&D intelligence. Drawing from proprietary databases, Research Infosource Inc. publishes **Canada’s Innovation Leaders**, which includes *Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List*, *Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List* and *Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals List*. As well, Research Infosource publishes specialized reports and is the producer of *The Innovation Atlas of Canada*™ – a web-based research and innovation mapping and data information product. Data were obtained through Statistics Canada and the Research Infosource Canadian University R&D database. For the complete list visit www.researchinfosource.com

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