

Research Task Group Terms of Reference

Purpose

The overarching purpose of the Research Task Group is to help establish a vibrant research culture at BCIT. The group will draw on the existing work done by previous committees and workgroups, identify issues and propose solutions that will stimulate research which is aligned with the strategic plan, help advance the state of practice, and be supportive of our educational programs.

Background

BCIT has a long established history in carrying out research with industry at the Technology Centre and has earned a reputation for providing high quality solutions while working within industry timelines. The Technology Centre has worked relatively independently of BCIT's educational programs, however the type and scope of research conducted at BCIT has broadened over the past decade as the number of school-based research initiatives has grown. The new BCIT educational vision, developed in 2008 to guide BCIT's strategic directions and initiatives through to the year 2030, identified the need for an institute wide framework for research and established the goal of ensuring that our research is relevant to our educational programs.

The Terms of Reference for the BCIT Research Task Force are intended to guide this transformation.

Tasks

1. Develop policies, practices, and procedures to help increase research at BCIT.
2. Define "themes" in research that align with BCIT's Vision and Mandate statements.
3. Communicate effectively with BCIT constituents and with community and industry partners to reach and engage as many people as possible.
4. Encourage, facilitate, align and realign both present and future research activities with BCIT's Strategic Plan.

Outcomes

The work of the Research Task Group is intended to lead to:

1. Increased research activity, particularly in the schools.
2. A more focused, strategic approach to research.
3. Increased funding for research from granting agencies.
4. The securing of one or more funded research chairs.

Reporting

The Research Task Group is chaired by the Vice-President, Education, Research & International. Its recommendations will be made to the BCIT Leadership Team.