



**To:** Faculty Deans

**Cc:** Vivek Goel, President and Vice-Chancellor

Charmaine Dean, Vice-President, Research and International

**From:** James W.E. Rush, Vice-President, Academic and Provost

**Date:** January 30, 2025

**Re: Pause on new intakes into the University Research Chairs Program**

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Further to our discussion and decision on the University Research Chairs (URCs) program, I am directing that new intakes into the URCs programs be paused effective immediately, in light of the fact that the terms of the URCs program have not been reviewed in some time, as to whether they are an appropriate mechanism in the current environment and resource availability.

The pause will mean that the University will not designate any new URCs of any type until further notice. However, the commitments made towards current URC holders will continue through to the end of their terms.

Please share this decision with relevant stakeholders.