

BUILDING AND FUNDING YOUR RESEARCH PROGRAM

**Presented to the
Faculty of Graduate Studies
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Discussion topics

Building your research program

Leveraging to make it grow

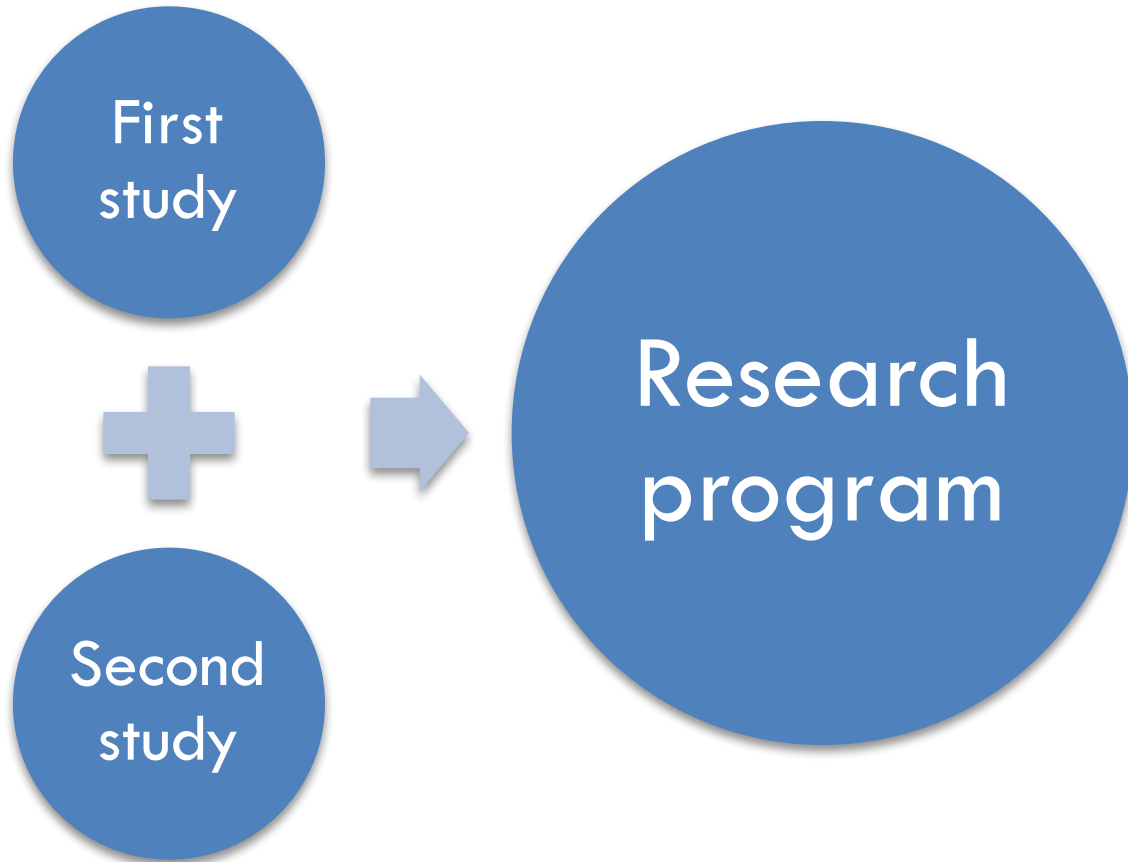
Finding help to do so

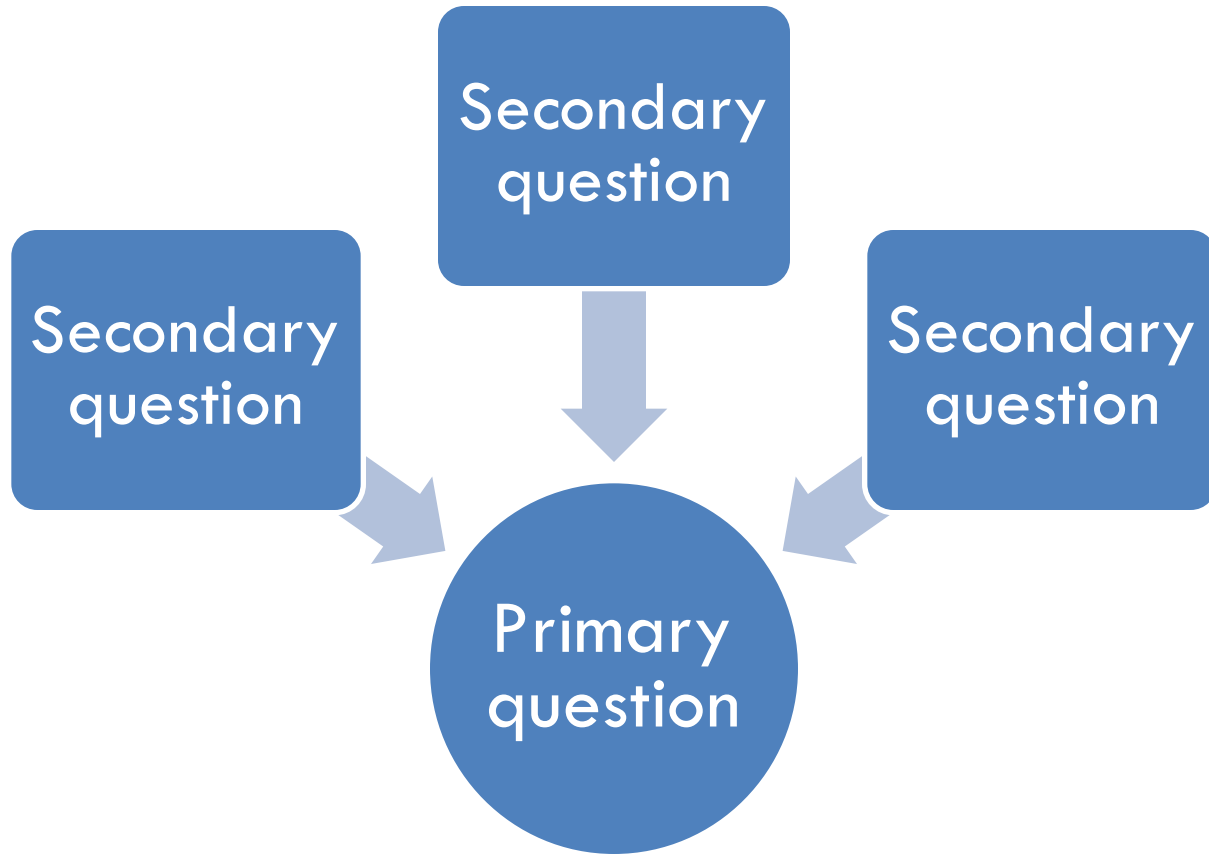
So, how to begin?

- **Think about the questions that intrigue you**
- **Identify your umbrella concept, then your spokes**
- **Develop a long-term timeline**
- **Explore potential funding sources**
- **Plan to leverage funding**

A research program ...

- ... can take many forms;**
- ... can be comprised of multiple projects of various sizes;**
- ... so, be creative in constructing yours.**





Primary Question

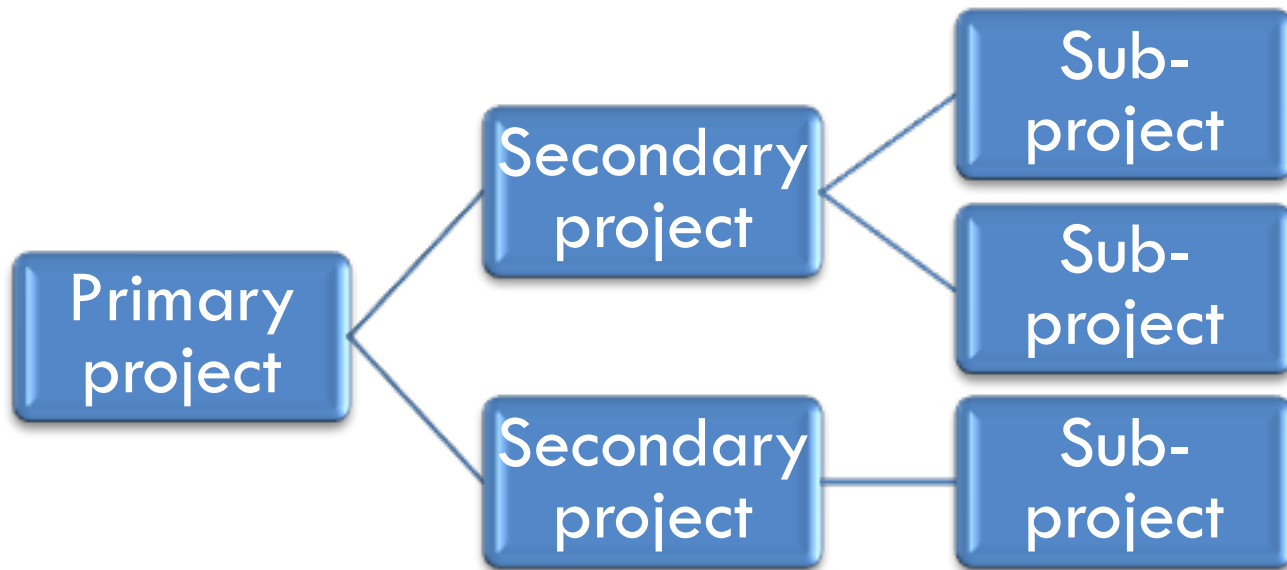
Secondary
question

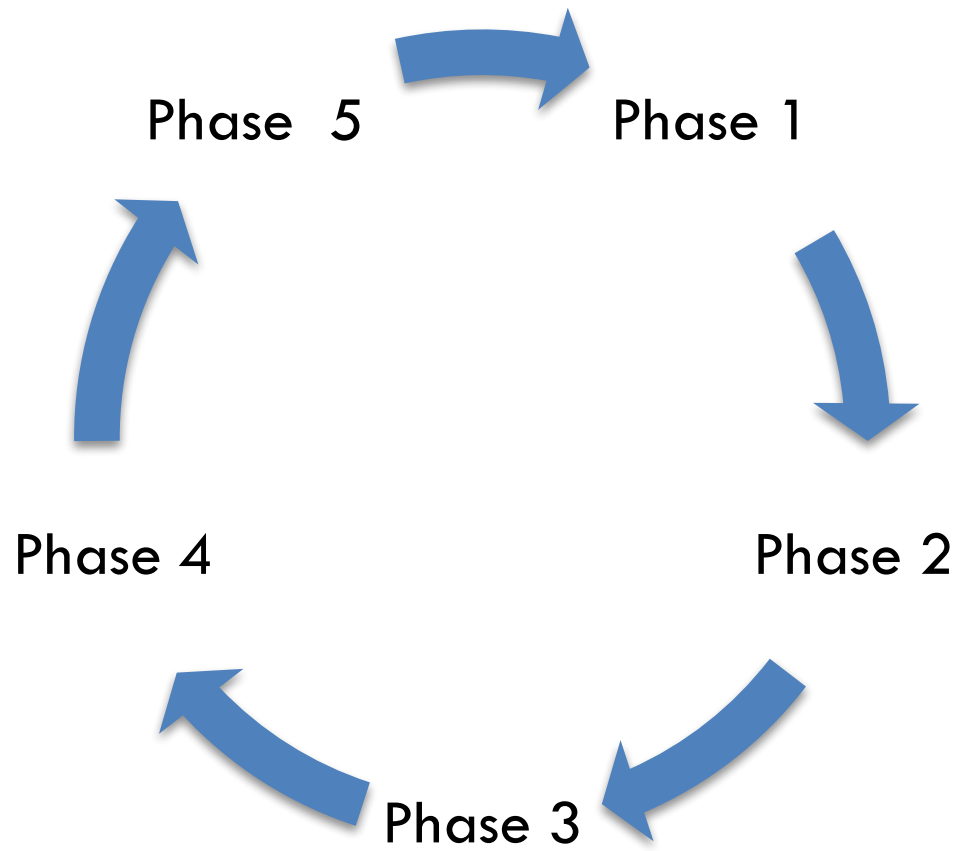
Sub-
question

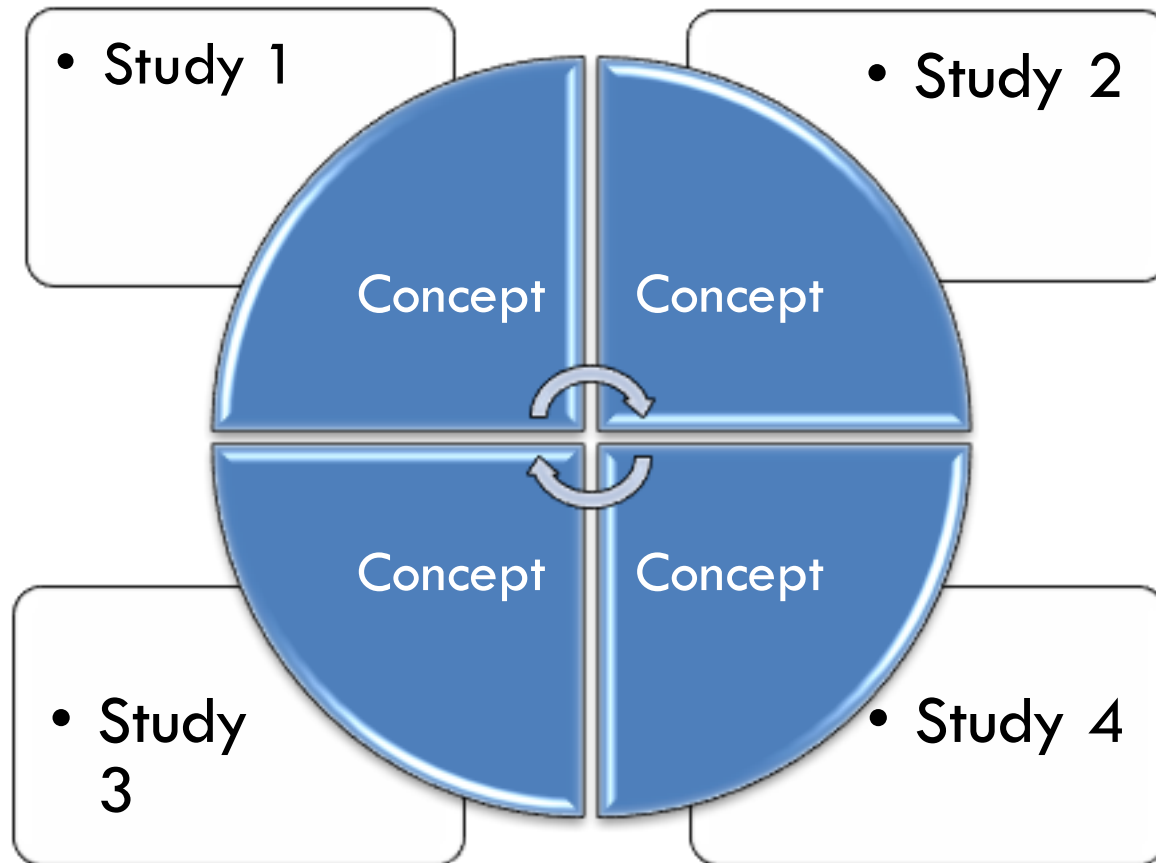
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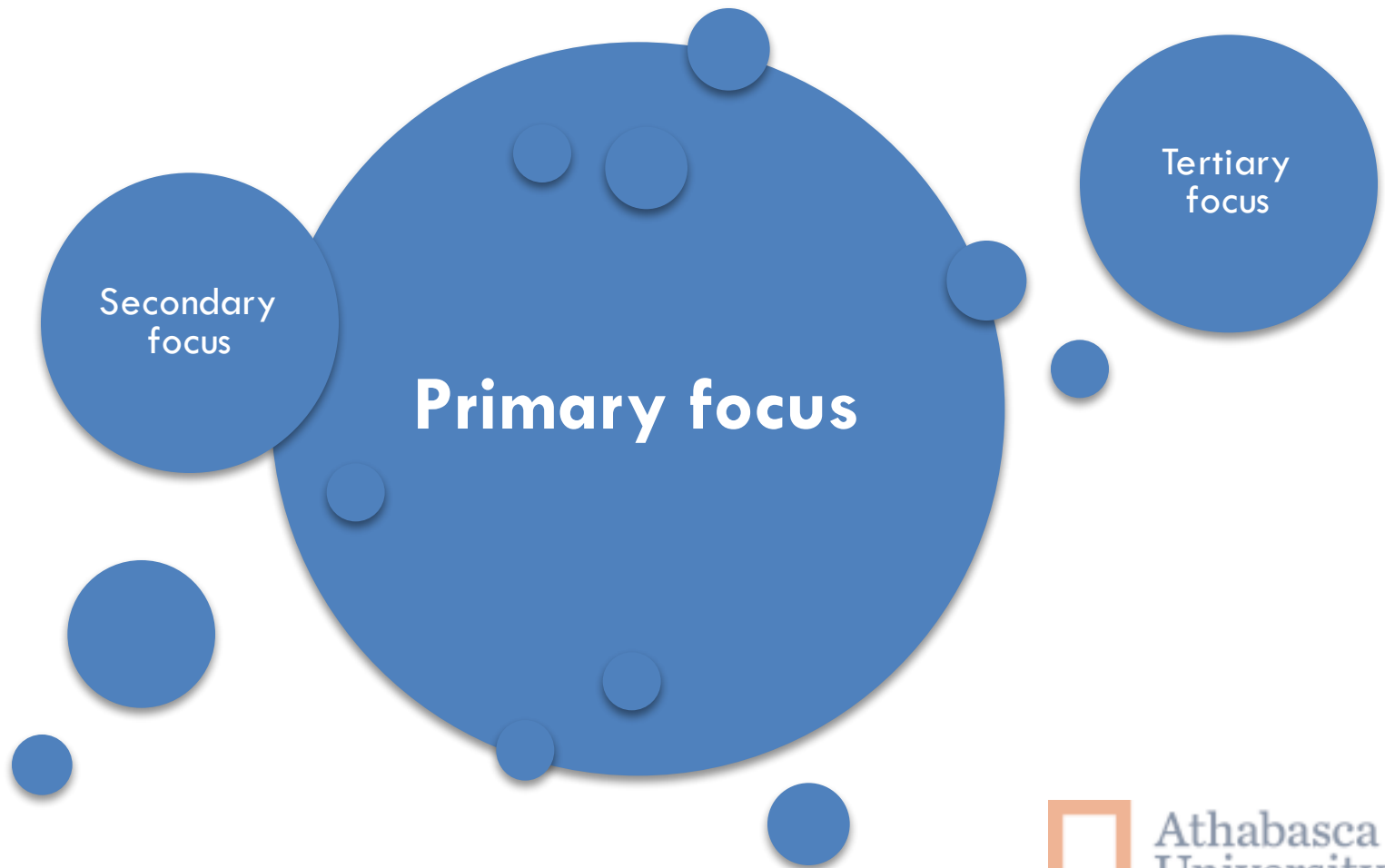
Sub-
question

Sub-
question









How you organize your thoughts ...

... is up to you,

... but how you do so should direct your work, as well as that of your team members.

Your conceptual map is in place ...

... so, now how do you fund it?

Why seek research funding?

- **Conduct research**
- **Provide research training to trainees such as students, postdoctoral fellows and others**
- **Facilitate collaboration with other researchers and/or with industry**
- **Disseminate the results of your research**
- **Build your curriculum vitae**
- **Enhance reputation of your faculty and AU**

External funding sources

Federal granting councils

- **Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)**
- **Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)**
- **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)**
- **Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI)**

Other external funding sources

Provincial grants

- **Advanced Education**
- **Alberta Innovates**
- **Others, such as MITACS**

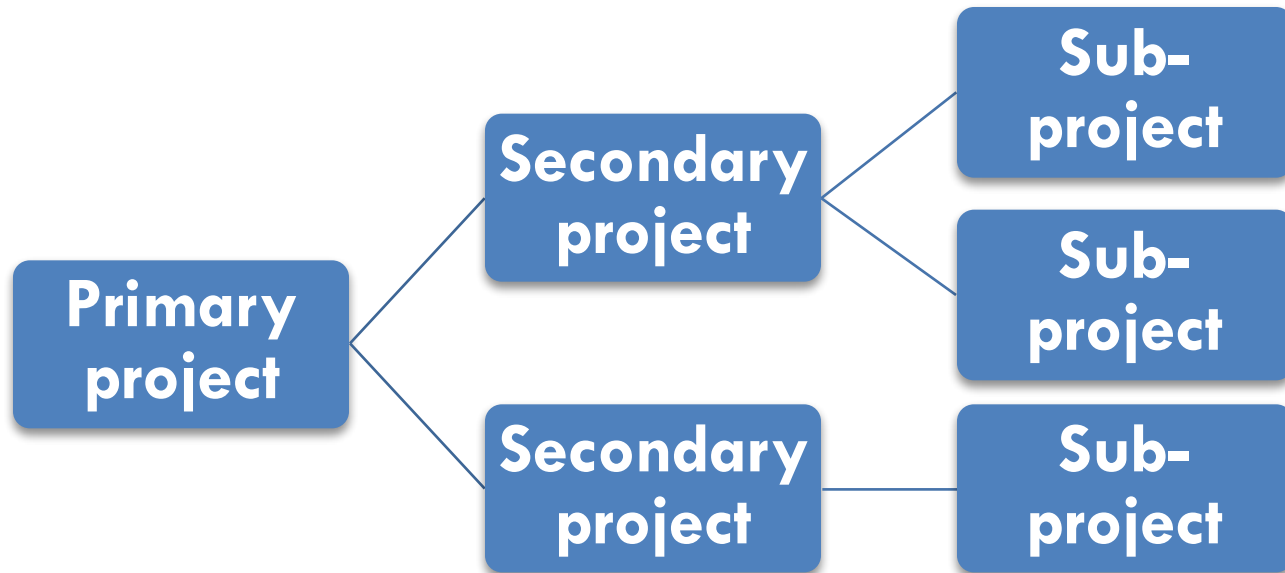
Industry and community partners, including special interest groups

Private donors

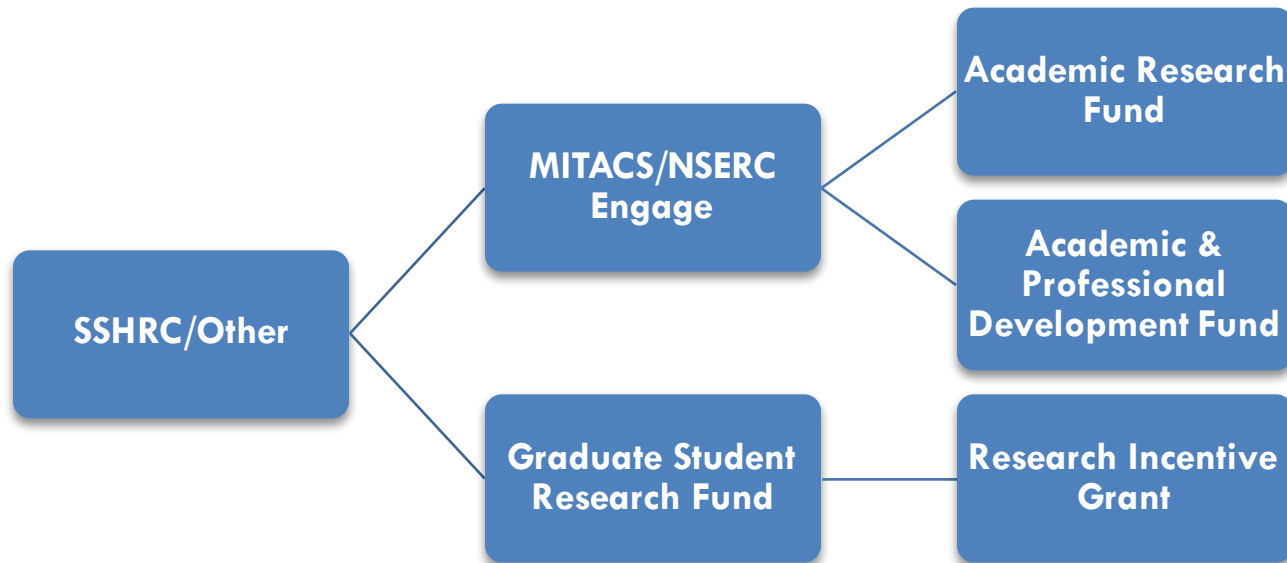
Internal funding sources

- **Academic Research Fund**
- **Academic & Professional Development Fund**
- **Research Incentive Grants/Research Grants**
- **Matching funds (cash and in kind)**
- **AVPR Special Opportunities Fund**
- **Discretionary funding**

Leveraging funding



Leveraging funding



Student research

Mentoring research trainees is an important element of successful grant applications.

Research funding for students

- **Graduate Student Research Fund**
- **Data analysis/data management tools (e.g., SPSS; NVIVO; other)**
- **3 Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition Awards**
- **Case competition funding**
- **Graduate Student Conference**
- **Visa costs for foreign students seeking to work with an AU researcher**

Funding your research program

... is not without challenges.

So, what are some of the challenges?

- **Being forward thinking**
- **Being nimble in responding to opportunities**
- **Capitalizing on leveraging opportunities (e.g., MITACS; NSERC Engage; SSHRC Connection)**
- **Securing matching funds to meet grant requirements**
- **Developing a grantsmanship mindset**

Things to consider

- **Engage in the grants mentorship program to foster skill development and increase success rates**
- **Explore *Research Professional* to help identify potential sources of funding**
- **Seek the help of our Industry Liaison Officer**
- **Seek assistance from the Research Centre staff**

Roles of Research Centre Staff



Best wishes for success ...

... as you grow your research program!



Questions/comments?