

METHODOLOGY



Inventory of Community-Focused Knowledge
Mobilisation Practices in Social Sciences,
Humanities and Arts. **Step 1: Survey/Scan of
University Websites**

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Step 1: Survey/Scan of University Websites

This methodological appendix was produced by:

Dr Sandra Lapointe & Dr Shannon Boss

With the contributions of (alphabetically):

Sezen Bektas
Roula Haddad
Catherine Klausen
Stephen Ross

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METHODOLOGY

Context

SSHA's failure to enhance pathways to community-engaged knowledge mobilisation (Kmb) projects feeds into the prejudice that SSHA is irrelevant and deprives stakeholders of the knowledge and expertise they need. To address this problem in the long-term, we must have a better sense of the current environment within Canadian universities. Our project seeks to produce an initial inventory of approaches to community-engaged Kmb research in SSH faculties across universities in Canada.



Our aim was to develop a transparent methodology that could be iterative and repeatable. This initial inventory, which will be augmented by a survey and interviews in the next phase of the research, was produced through a digital humanities methodology that draws on the approach to systematic literature reviews.

Scan

We first constructed a Boolean search string in English and French based on the literature reviewed and our research questions. The search strings were reviewed, and the French translation verified, by two Kmb specialists (Christian Dagenais and Aurélie Hot). The strings are as follows:

English:

"Knowledge mobilization" OR "Knowledge mobilisation" OR "Knowledge translation" OR "Knowledge synthesis" OR "Knowledge dissemination" OR "Knowledge transfer" OR "knowledge exchange" OR "Community engagement" OR "community engaged" OR "community partner" OR "applied research" OR "Experiential knowledge" OR "Experiential Learning"

French:

"de connaissance" "des connaissances" "engagement communautaire" "partenaire communautaire" "recherche en partenariat" "recherche partenariale" "connaissances expérientielles" "apprentissage expérientiel" "communauté engagée"

In French, it was simpler to search for genitive syntactic constructions including 'de.s connaissance.s' and weed out those that were irrelevant than to create a search string with all cognates of 'mobilisation des connaissances', but we were specifically looking for relevant use of:

- mobilisation des connaissances
- traduction des connaissances
- synthèse des connaissances
- diffusion des connaissances
- transfert des connaissances
- échange de connaissances
- partage de connaissances

With the search strings defined in both languages, we worked with McMaster's Sherman Centre for Digital Scholarship's specialists to determine the appropriate search method. We tried two different approaches: 1) acquiring ("dumping") the complete set of Html files for each target website and using offline search engines to gather data; or 2) using the Google Advanced Search functionalities to search the URLs online. We compared the search results of both approaches and, in consultation with digital scholarship specialists, concluded that the second method was more precise, more efficient, and that different researchers consistently obtained the same results.



Specifically, the method consists of using a disjunctive list of key terms (string) to search each specific department's website (institutional URL) through Google Advanced Search. The English search string was used for English websites and the French search string for French websites. All departments of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts faculties in all public (as opposed to private) French and English universities across all the provinces and territories in Canada (there are none in Nunavut and NWT) were scanned. To ensure that we could make claims about search results by discipline, we developed a glossary that tracks the classification of each department by discipline (Annexe 1).

Classification

Individual search results were recorded by discipline in an Excel sheet. They were then classified by "type of projects" initially using the following taxonomy:

- Community-engaged experiential education programs
- Community-engaged research centers, programs or initiatives
- Policy-focused cross-sectorial collaborations
- Community engaged events
- Experiential courses including micro-credentials
- Publication or featured Initiatives
- Community-Engaged Researchers Profiles
- Support for instructors
- Job postings
- False Positives

Because we wanted to understand specifically practices that receive institutional support, as opposed to individual initiatives and one-off events, we further sought information on individual search results that fell under community-engaged experiential education program, community-engaged research centers, programs or initiatives and policy-focused cross-sectorial collaborations. Specifically, for each such project:

- We provided a description; we copied and pasted the description found on the URL's page.
- We determined what kinds of community partners were involved. In an effort to present large amounts of data in a user-friendly way, we created drop-down menus with the following options: NFP/Charity, health, business, government, K-12 Schools, or Indigenous Community
- We determined at what level the initiative is managed, using the following drop-down menu options: university wide, faculty wide, department specific, or program specific
- We determined the estimated duration of the project, using the following drop-down menu options: Short term (1-2 years), medium term (3-5 years), or no time limit
- We identified the community partner.
- We identified the lead/researcher.

Because two researchers were involved in gathering the data, we decided mid-way to repeat the Google Advanced Search for the University of British Columbia (UBC) to verify that our results were reproducible, valid, reliable and that our methodology was rigorous. We chose UBC because it was one of the universities for which we obtained a higher number of results (2000+), among which were many false positive results. We wanted to double-check whether we missed any important findings and whether both researchers had classified the results under the same "type of project", as this was likely to be most informative for analytic purposes. We scanned all

SSHA departments at UBC except the Psychology and Public Policy departments for time constraints.

Reproducibility

The second set of results yielded 13 more hits than the first, which could be attributed to the fact that the second search was done almost two months after the first one and universities update their websites very frequently. Charts were created to compare the results of the two reviewers. Both reviewers got similar results. Importantly, there were no differences in classification among the critical type of projects: community-engaged experiential education programs, community-engaged research centers, programs or initiatives and policy-focused cross-sectorial collaborations. This shows that our methodology is rigorous and can be reproducible.

While we found that both researchers were applying the same rules to classification, we also found that “Policy-focused cross-sectorial collaborations” and “Support for instructors” yielded too few results to be of importance, with a total of 8 and 9 results for each, respectively for all universities scanned. We surmised that our search string was not designed for this specific type of project and decided that we would pursue an analysis of this kind of project specifically in another search. Hence, while our



classification does include initiatives that revolve around policy-focused cross-sectorial collaborations and support for instructors, these have been reclassified within one of the other categories. Most results for “Policy-focused cross-sectorial collaborations” were reclassified as “Community-engaged research centres, programs or initiatives” and most results for “Support for instructors” were reclassified as “Publications or featured initiatives” or “False positives.”

Websites evolve rapidly and exact replication of the results across time is not possible for this reason. It is however not necessary to update the results to proceed to the next step of the research. The scan offers a recent and relevant picture of practices around community-focused knowledge mobilisation in SSHA on which we can build.

ANNEXE 1

One obstacle that presented itself when collecting and organizing the search results was that disciplinary nomenclatures vary from one university to another. We classified all departments into the following categories:

- Anthropology
- Arts
- Business/Economics
- Classics
- Communications and Media Studies
- Cultures, Languages and Linguistics
- École de technologie supérieure
- École Polytechnique de Montréal
- Gender Studies
- Geography and Environment
- HEC Montreal
- History
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Philosophy
- Political Sciences / International Studies
- Psychology
- Religion
- Sociology, Criminology and Law

Below is the full glossary.

When universities did not have departments or programs, we used the full university + faculty's name.

- Lakehead University (Social Sciences and Humanities)
- NSCAD University
- Ryerson University (The Creative School)
- Toronto Metropolitan Uni/ Ryerson Uni (The Creative Sch.)
- U. Laval (Fac. de musique)
- U. Laval (Fac. de philo)
- U. Laval (Fac. de théologie)
- Uni. of Toronto (Factor-Inwentash Fac. of Social Work)
- Uni. of Toronto (Fac. of Music)
- Université de Saint-Boniface (Arts)

- University College of Cape Breton (Arts and Social Sciences)
- University of Sudbury
- Wilfred Laurier Uni. (Fac. of Arts)
- Wilfred Laurier Uni. (Fac. of Music)
- Wilfred Laurier Uni. (Fac. of Social Work)
- Wilfred Laurier Uni. (Sch. of International Policy and Governance)
- York University (School of Arts, Media, Performance & Design)
- Yukon University

Glossary of disciplinary/administrative nomenclatures:

Anthropology	Anthropology	Danse
	Anthropologie	Design
	Archeology	Drama
	Anthropology and Archaeology	Drama Studies
	Department of Anthropology, Economics and Political Science	Dramatic Art
	Folklore and Ethnology	Dramatic Arts
Arts	Art	English, Drama & Creative Writing
	Art & Art History	Film
	Art and Design	Film Studies
	Art dramatique	Fine Arts
	Art History	Fountain School of Performing Arts
	Art History & Visual Culture	Game Development
	Art History & Visual Studies	Graphic + Digital Design
	Art History and Art Conservation	Graphic Design
	Art History and Communication Studies	Histoire de l'art
	Art History, Visual Art and Theory (AHVA)	Integrated Studies
	Arts Administration	Integrative Arts
	Arts and Cultural Management	Interior Design
	Arts visuels	Music
	Arts visuels et médiatiques	Music Education
	Arts, Media + Culture	Musique
	Bachelor of Arts Integrated Studies	Production (Film)
	Costume Studies	School for Advanced Studies in the Arts & Humanities
	Creative and Performing Arts (School of)	School for Studies in Art and Culture (SSAC)
	Creative Arts	School for the Contemporary Arts
	Creative Arts and Production	School of Creative Arts
	Dance	School of Fine Art and Music

	School of Interactive Art and Technology	<u>Classics</u>	Ancient Greek and Roman Studies
	School of Music		Ancient Studies
	School of Motion Picture Arts		Classical Studies
	School of Performing Arts		Classics
	School of the Arts		Classics and Ancient History
	IDEA School of Design		Classics and Archaeology
	Screenwriting		Classics and Religion
	Sport Studies		Classics and Religious Studies
	Studio (Visual) Art		Medieval & Early Modern Studies
	Theatre		Medieval and Renaissance Studies
	Théâtre		Applied Arts in Journalism
	Theatre - Acting	<u>Communications and Media Studies</u>	Applied Communication, Leadership, and Culture
	Theatre - Costume Studies		Cinema & Media Studies
	Theatre – Stage Design & Technical Theatre		Cinema and Media Studies
	Theatre – Theatre Studies		Communication
	Theatre & Film		Communication (Fr)
	Theatre & Performance Studies		Communication Arts
	Theatre Arts		Communication Studies
	Theatre Studies		Communication Studies & Media Arts
	User Experience Design		Communication, Popular Culture and Film
	Visual and Material Culture Studies		Communications
	Visual Arts		Corporate Communication
<u>Business/Economics</u>	Bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information		Creative Writing
	Business Administration		Creative Writing and Journalism
	Department of Business & Social Sciences		Culture and Media Studies
	Department of Management		Digital Media
	Economics		Digital Media and Journalism
	Economics, Justice, and Policy Studies		Digital Media and Production
	Economie		English, Theatre, Film & Media
	Gestion		Histoire de l'art et études cinématographiques
	Gestion de la santé et des services sociaux		Information et communication
	Management and Organizational Studies		Information-Communication
	Ron Joyce Centre for Business Studies		Journalism
	School of Business		Journalism, Communication, and New Media
	School of Administrative Studies		Media + Communication
	School of Economics		Media and Technology Studies
	School of Human Resources Management		Media Arts
			New Media

**Cultures,
Languages and
Linguistics**

Rhetoric, Writing, and
Communications
School of Communication
School of Communication and
Culture
School of Creative Writing
School of Information
School of Information
Technology
School of Journalism, Writing,
and Media
Social Communication
Acadian Studies
Anglais
Anglais, culture et
communication
Anishinaabe Studies
Anishinaabemowin
Arts, langues et littérature
Arts, lettres et langage
Asian Studies
Canadian Studies
Canadian Studies Program
Central and East European
Studies
Central, Eastern, and Northern
European Studies
Centre des langues
Chinese Japanese and East Asia
Studies
Comparative Studies in
Literature, Art and Culture
Cultural Studies
Department of English, Culture,
and Communication
Department of French,
Literature, and Culture
Department of Literature and
Language
Department of Spanish & Latin
American Studies
Department of Writing
East Asian Studies
École de langues
École internationale de français
English
English and Creative Writing
English and Film Studies
English Language & Literature

English Language and
Literatures
English, Languages, and Cultures
Etudes anglaises
Etudes françaises
Études françaises et
québécoises
Études langagières
Études littéraires
European Studies
First Nation Studies
First Nations and Endangered
Languages Program
First Nations and Indigenous
Studies
Francophone Studies (EFR)
Francophone Studies &
Languages
French
French Language Centre
French, Hispanic and Italian
Studies
French, Spanish and Italian
German
German and Slavic Studies
Germanic and Slavic Studies
Germanic Languages &
Literatures
Global Great Books
Humanities & Languages
Icelandic Language and
Literature
Indigenous / Xwulmuxw Studies
Indigenous Communication &
Fine Arts
Indigenous Literatures in English
Indigenous Social Work
Indigenous Studies
Institute for Critical Indigenous
Studies
Institute of African Studies
Institute of Indigenous Research
and Studies
International Languages
Island Studies
Italian and French Studies
Italian Studies
Jewish Studies

Judaic Studies
 Korean Studies
 Language Centre
 Language, Literature & Cultural Studies
 Languages and Cultures
 Languages and Literatures
 Languages, Literatures and Cultures
 Langue française, littérature et culture
 Langues
 Langues modernes et traduction
 Langues, linguistique et traduction
 Latin American Studies
 Lettres et communication sociale
 Lettres et humanité
 Lettres et sciences humaines
 Linguistics
 Linguistics & Languages
 Linguistique
 Linguistique et traduction
 Literature and Language
 Littérature, théâtre et cinéma
 Littératures de langue française
 Littératures de langue française, de traduction et de création
 Littératures et langues du monde
 Modern Languages Institute
 Modern & Classical Languages
 Modern Languages
 Modern Languages : Chinese - French - Spanish
 Modern Languages and Cultural Studies
 Modern Languages and Literatures
 Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures
 Native Studies
 Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations
 Northern Studies
 Northern and Community Studies
 Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute

Gender Studies

Russian Studies
 School of Culture, Media, and Society
 School of English and Theatre Studies
 School of Indigenous and Canadian Studies
 School of Languages and Literatures
 School of Translation and Interpretation
 Sciences humaines, Lettres et Communication
 Slavic Languages & Literatures
 Spanish
 Spanish & Portuguese
 Spanish and Latin American Studies
 Theory and Criticism
 Traduction et langues
 Ukrainian Canadian Heritage Studies
 University Writing
 Vered Jewish Canadian Studies
 World Languages and Literature Writing
 Writing Department
 Writing Studies
 Feminist and Gender Studies
 Gender and Social Justice
 Gender and Women's Studies
 Gender and Women's Studies Program
 Gender Studies & Feminist Research
 Gender, Religion, and Critical Studies
 Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies
 Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice
 Recherches et études féministes
 School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies
 Studies in Women and Gender
 Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies
 Women's and Gender Studies
 Women's and Gender Studies, The Pauline Jewett Institute

Geography and Environment	Women's Studies	College of Interdisciplinary Studies	
	Earth, Environment, & Society	Community Engaged Learning	
	Environment and Geography	Community Health	
	Environment, Sustainability and Society	Comparative Religion	
	Environmental and Sustainability Studies	Conflict Studies	
	Environmental Studies	Contemporary Studies	
	Géographie	Creative Technologies	
	Geography	Department of Cognitive Science	
	Geography & Environmental Studies	Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition	
	Geography & Planning	Digital Humanities	
	Geography and Environment	Etudes de la défense	
	Geography and Planning	Études en loisir, culture et tourisme	
	Geography and Tourism Studies	Folklore	
	Geography, Environment and Geomatics	Governance, Leadership and Ethics	
	Geography, Geology and Land Stewardship	Graduate Studies	
	Géomatique appliquée	Health Administration	
	School of Earth, Environment & Society	Health, Aging & Society	
	School of Environment and Sustainability	Human Relations and Spirituality	
	Sciences de l'environnement	Human Sciences	
	Sustainability Studies	Humanities	
	History	Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies	Humanities with Leadership Foundations
		Early Modern Studies	Interdisciplinary Programs
		Histoire	Interdisciplinary Studies
Histoire et géographie		Liberal Arts	
History		Liberal Studies	
History & Politics		Liberal Studies	
History and Classical Studies		Peace and conflict	
History and Classics		Peace and Conflict Studies	
History and Global Studies		Peace Studies	
Patrimoine		Public Humanities	
Sciences historiques		Relations industrielles	
History, Classics, and Religion		Rural Development	
Interdisciplinary Studies		Applied Disability Studies	School of Education and Technology
		Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies	School of Humanitarian Studies
		Centre for Initiatives in Education	School of Labor Studies
		Child and Youth Studies	School of Labour Studies
			School of Leadership Studies
		Sexuality, Marriage, & Family Studies	
	Social Innovation		

**Sociology,
Criminology and
Law**

Sciences des religions
The Study of Religion
Theology
Applied Social Sciences
Criminal Justice
Criminologie
Criminology
Criminology & Criminal Justice
Criminology and Criminal Justice
Demographie
Department of Equity Studies
Department of Social Sciences
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology
Développement humain et social
Diversity and Social Justice Studies
Equity studies
Family Studies
Forensic Psychology & Criminal Justice
Gerontology
Global Crime and Justice
Human Rights and Human Diversity
Justice and Society Studies
Justice Studies
Labor Studies
Law & Justice
Law and Public Studies
Law, Justice and Society Program
Legal Studies
Legal Studies
Pre-Law Program
Santé et société
School of Legal Studies
School of Social Work
School of Sociological and Anthropological Studies
Sciences humaines
Sciences humaines et sociales
Sciences sociales
Social and Environmental Justice

Social Justice & Community Studies
Social Justice and Community Engagement
Social Justice and Equity Studies
Social Sciences
Social Welfare and Social Development
Social Work
Sociologie
Sociologie et criminologie
Sociology
Sociology & Legal Studies
Sociology and Anthropology
Sociology and Criminology
Sociology and Legal Studies
Sociology and Social Anthropology
Sociology and Social Studies
Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology
Sociology/Anthropology
Travail social
Travail social et criminologie