2018 Research Infosource Canada’s Top 50 Research Universities Ranking

Summary

Research Infosource, a company that specializes in providing research and development intelligence, released their annual Canada’s Top 50 Research Universities on October 25, 2018. The University of Saskatchewan (U of S) ranked 14, dropping from 11 last year. University of Toronto continued to remain the top ranked university, followed by University of British Columbia, University of Montreal, McGill University, and University of Alberta. All top five universities had research incomes of $500M+, with the University of Toronto exceeding $1,100M.

What is the ranking based on?

The Canada’s Top 50 Research Universities ranking is based on total sponsored research income, that is, all funds to support research received in the form of a grant, contribution, or contract from all sources external to the institution. The 2018 ranking was based on financial data for the 2016-2017 fiscal year from Statistics Canada.

University of Saskatchewan Details

According to the Canada’s Top 50 Research Universities rankings, the U of S had a total sponsored research income of $186,261,000. The U of S has consistently ranked between 11 and 15, with 2007 being the only exception.

With a decrease of 13.7% in sponsored research income, the U of S experienced its largest drop from year to year since the ranking was created. It also happened to be the greatest drop that any university experienced within the top 50.

Although the U of S dropped three spots, it still ranked 5 in research intensity per graduate student with an average research income of $57,300. In addition, the U of S ranked 11 in research income per faculty, a slight drop of one position from 2017.

Research University of the Year Ranking

Research Infosource also continues to publish a Research University of the Year (RUU) ranking, which is based on the following indicator measures and weightings: total sponsored research income (20%), research intensity per faculty (20%, research income per faculty member), research intensity per graduate student (10%, research income per graduate student), total publications in leading journals (20%), publication intensity (20%, publications per faculty member), and publication impact (10%).

The U of S was again ranked 14 nationally with a total score of 36.6 out of 100. In terms of the individual indicators, the U of S performed the best in research intensity per graduate student (5), followed by research intensity per faculty (11),...
total sponsored research income (14), total number of publications (14), publication intensity (18), and publication impact (27).

University Corporate and Not-for-Profit Research Partnerships

In addition, Research Infosource publishes information on university performances with respect to two types of research partnerships: corporate and not-for-profit. They examine the level of partnership (sponsored income) over the most recent 5 years, evaluate the degree to which this contributed to total research income, and determine growth levels in these specific areas over the period.

Although the U of S ranked low (15) in these categories in relation to corporate funded research partnerships, they did rank higher as it relates to not-for-profit research partnerships. The U of S ranked 12 in total sponsored income over the past 5 years, ranked 7 in terms of percentage of total research income, and had a growth rate of 105% over the most recent 5 year period resulting in a ranking of 3 within the medical category of universities.