

# University of Windsor

Funding is Front and  
Center with a More  
Dynamic Website



University  
of Windsor

The university relieved administrative burdens and made it easier for researchers to find valuable funding opportunities with embedded Pivot-RP curated lists and searches.

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Pivot-RP

*“It was very, very easy to create a dynamic funding website, which is automatically updated by Pivot-RP every time a user visits.”* Nicole Noël, Research Coordinator



## About the University of Windsor

The University of Windsor is a comprehensive, student-focused university, with more than 16,000 students enrolled in a broad range of undergraduate and graduate programs and a faculty of 524. The university is located on a safe, urban campus covering 51 hectares (125 acres) in Windsor, Ontario. Leddy Library, the University of Windsor's central library, holds over three million items, including more than one million electronic titles and data sets.

## Keeping Researchers Informed, On Time

When researchers are looking for funding, they need to know about the most current available opportunities. But delivering that information in a timely manner can be challenging for a busy Research Office.

At the University of Windsor, the Office of Research and Innovation performs many functions in support of the institution's academic researchers. According to Nicole A. Noël, Research Coordinator - Institutional Projects & Communications, Office of Research & Innovation Services, this includes help with grant applications, reviewing and negotiating contracts, liaison with certification offices, and researching finance offices, industry partners and academic collaborators.

“Overall, our highest priority is to get strong applications out the door,” Noël said.

An extremely important step in reaching that goal is communicating the available opportunities to researchers. It can be a very time-consuming, challenging process of finding the right mixture of tools to keep faculty informed and meeting application deadlines and requirements. The University of Windsor's Office of Research and Innovation leveraged several channels to communicate with researchers, including direct email, social media, an informational website, and a monthly newsletter.



The website, like that of most academic research offices, is visited by researchers for information on funding opportunities and grants, internal deadlines, services offered by the university, potential collaborations, and more. Some of the website's pages are static and others are more dynamic, needing to be updated with time-sensitive collated information. The challenge the Office of Research and Innovation faced was reaching the maximum number of researchers with the most up-to-date information, in the fastest possible time.

***“With the Pivot-RP embedded search feature, the research department no longer has to manually collect and maintain ever-changing lists.”*** Nicole Noël, Research Coordinator

## Bringing Funding Opportunities to the Researcher

The University of Windsor found a simple solution that saves time, increases efficiency, reduces the load on the Research Office and provides reliable, always-current information to researchers.

The easy-to-use embedding feature in Pivot-RP makes it possible to automatically and directly update the list of available funding opportunities presented on the research office's website. It brings the power of the comprehensive, global and curated Pivot-RP database right to the researcher, with no need to log onto a separate site or application.

The website administrator can easily embed specific Pivot-RP search results, such as only those grants available to Canadian researchers, on the research office web pages. The dynamic list is imported and displayed directly from Pivot-RP, eliminating the need for the research office to manually maintain the ever-changing list on its own website. Whenever a funding opportunity is updated by Pivot-RP, it is automatically updated on the Office of Research and Innovation's Funding Opportunities webpage as well.

***“We have created a dynamic funding website and we couldn't be happier with the results.”***

## Putting It into Practice

In addition to creating a more dynamic Funding Opportunities webpage, the embedded Pivot-RP search feature has been utilized in several other ways as well. When Covid-19 hit in early 2020, the Vice President of Research and Innovation quickly turned the university's attention toward policies, measures and funding related to the pandemic. A dedicated webpage was created for gathering and communicating relevant information, including available research funds and grants. With Pivot-RP, the university was able to present a real-time embedded list curated specifically to support the growing interest in research on the novel coronavirus.

Additionally, the Office of Research and Innovation has created custom Pivot-RP searches for various Research Centers at the university. The subject-matter-specific results are embedded in each center's webpage and dynamically updated, as are all such Pivot-RP lists, for streamlined sharing among all team members



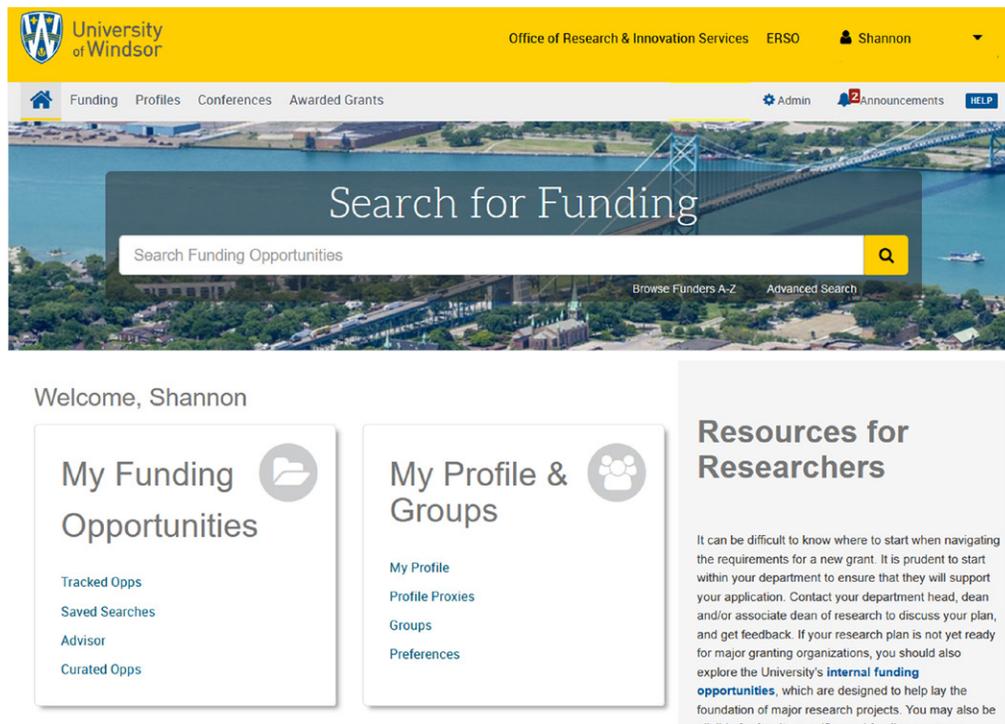
## Simple Steps to Success

The Pivot-RP database of funding opportunities can be sorted in a wide variety of ways, including by country of eligibility, funder, host institution, award amount, and more. The University of Windsor's Office of Research and Innovation begins its own sorting by consulting with colleagues to identify and review funding agencies and grants that are on the radar for Canadian eligibility. They then set the parameters of their Pivot-RP searches accordingly.

As Noël noted, "Those are the opportunities we know Canadians are eligible to apply for. They are also the ones for which we have created our own internal and faculty deadlines, to maximize the chance of success for our researchers."

No programming or IT skills are necessary to take advantage of the Pivot-RP embedding feature. Simple HTML code can be easily generated for any curated list through the Pivot Admin console. After pasting the code into the relevant webpage, the dynamic, embedded and curated list is live.

"With that, we created a dynamic funding website and we couldn't be happier with the results," Noël concluded.



The screenshot displays the Pivot-RP website for the University of Windsor. The header includes the university logo, the name "University of Windsor", and the "Office of Research & Innovation Services ERSO" with a user profile for "Shannon". A navigation bar contains links for "Funding", "Profiles", "Conferences", and "Awarded Grants", along with "Admin", "Announcements", and "HELP". The main content area features a large "Search for Funding" heading over a background image of a bridge and water. Below this is a search input field labeled "Search Funding Opportunities" and a search button. Links for "Browse Funders A-Z" and "Advanced Search" are also visible. The user is greeted with "Welcome, Shannon". Two main sections are highlighted: "My Funding Opportunities" with sub-links for "Tracked Opps", "Saved Searches", "Advisor", and "Curated Opps"; and "My Profile & Groups" with sub-links for "My Profile", "Profile Proxies", "Groups", and "Preferences". A "Resources for Researchers" section provides guidance on navigating grant requirements and mentions "internal funding opportunities".

### About Ex Libris

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