University of Alberta Trust Academic Staff Committee
Terms of Reference (TOR)

Mandate
The University of Alberta Trust Research Academic Staff Committee (“TRAS Committee”) is a Constituency Committee of the AASUA. The TRAS Committee represents the interests of the Trust Research Academic Staff (TRAS) of the University of Alberta. The goals of the TRAS Committee are to:

1. Advance and protect the individual and collective interests of all TRAS.
2. Provide an effective means of communication for matters of interest and concern to TRAS.
3. Build a collegial community that promotes information exchange and networking among TRAS.
4. Provide a forum for discussion regarding issues that directly or indirectly affect the TRAS and to bring forward any concerns to AASUA.
5. Promote a fully effective role for TRAS in contributing to the University’s success, and where appropriate, seek to identify and remove impediments to such a role.
6. Work with other members of the Association of Academic Staff to protect independence of thought and freedom of teaching and research.

Membership
All Trust Research Academic Staff are voting members of the TRAS Committee. At least two (2) trust academic staff members will be elected from the membership at large to represent them on AASUA Council.

• The term of office for each AASUA Council member is three years, commencing July 1st.

One (1) trust academic staff member will be selected from the elected Council members to represent them on AASUA Executive. The name of this individual will be presented to the AASUA Nominating Committee for approval by Council as part of the AASUA elections process.

• The term of office for each Executive member is 3 years, commencing July 1st.

The TRAS Committee shall:

1. Represent and communicate TRAS concerns at meetings of the AASUA Executive and AASUA Council
2. Take overall responsibility for the effective operation of this Committee.

TRAS has representation on the following bodies:

• AASUA Council – Number determined by AASUA Policies and Procedures
• AASUA Executive – One representative elected from the Council members

Meetings
A minimum of 2 meetings of the TRAS Committee will be held during the September to April period.

Any additional meetings will be held at the call of any of the Committee Members.

Resolutions are adopted by a simple majority of members who attend and vote at a meeting.
**Attendance**
There shall be no alternates for any member at the TRAS Committee meetings. If an elected member is absent for three consecutive meetings or is frequently absent without a reason satisfactory to the remaining members of the Committee, the Committee shall declare the position vacant.

**Quorum**
The quorum for all TRAS Committee meetings shall be 3 VOTING members.

**Amendment of Terms of Reference**
Amendments to the Terms of Reference by the TRAS Committee must be approved by the quorum set for TRAS Committee members who vote.

To take effect, amendments must subsequently be approved by a majority at the AASUA Council.