The Narrative CV What It Is and How to Craft It

- Canada-wide: Tri-agency CV (TCV)
- Québec: Fonds de recherche du Québec CV (CV-FRQ)

Spring 2025

A *Pathways to Impact* workshop presented by: Eli Friedland, Senior Advisor, Institutional Equity and Recognition Initiatives, Concordia University Contact: <u>impact@concordia.ca</u>

1

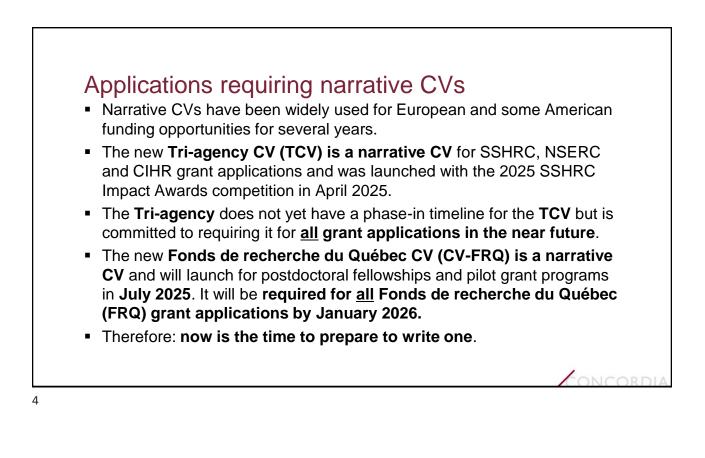
Pathways to Impact Concordia University

To support our community in maximizing their contributions to science and society, Concordia University is developing <u>Pathways to Impact</u>, an initiative that leverages both existing and enhanced resources, tools and expertise to provide researchers and research institutes/teams with an integrated support service, centered around established impact pathways.

Pathways to Impact helps researchers and research institutes/teams navigate through a fragmented landscape of resources and support by offering a seamless **integrated support system** through a carefully curated web-based platform, launching soon at: https://www.concordia.ca/research/for-researchers/pathways-to-impact.html

This workshop on the new narrative Tri-agency CV (TCV) and Fonds de recherche du Québec CV (CV-FRQ) has been developed as part of the Pathways to Impact support system for researchers.

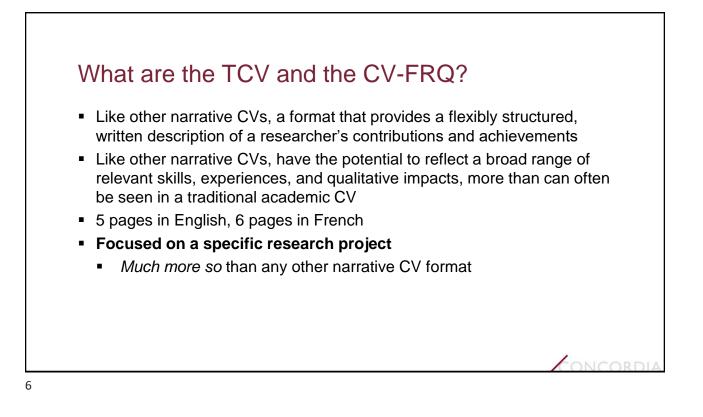


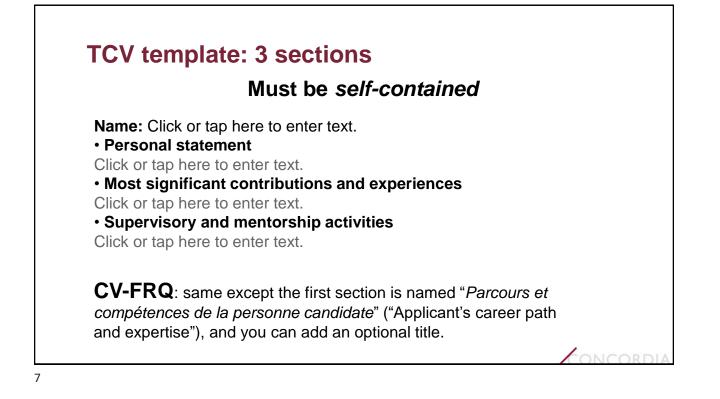


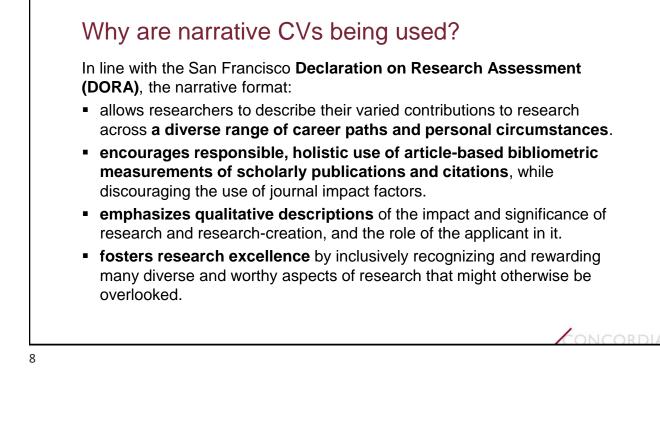
Are the Tri-agency CV (TCV) and Fonds de recherche du Québec CV (CV-FRQ) identical?

- Almost!
- But, for the "most significant contributions and experiences" section, the CV-FRQ adds, as a <u>requirement</u>, what <u>you should do</u> for the TCV anyway: "Specify the date or period corresponding to each contribution, as well as the target audience (A. academia, B. practice environment, C. general public)." (Translated from the French <u>CV-FRQ instructions</u>.)
- Citation requirements for publications, performances, etc., are not the same.
- Some formatting and font requirements differ check every time.
- Note that certain grant programs may have additional requirements for your narrative CV beyond the general instructions.
- It is absolutely necessary to read <u>all</u> the instructions for the narrative CV <u>and</u> the particular grant you are applying for <u>each time</u>.





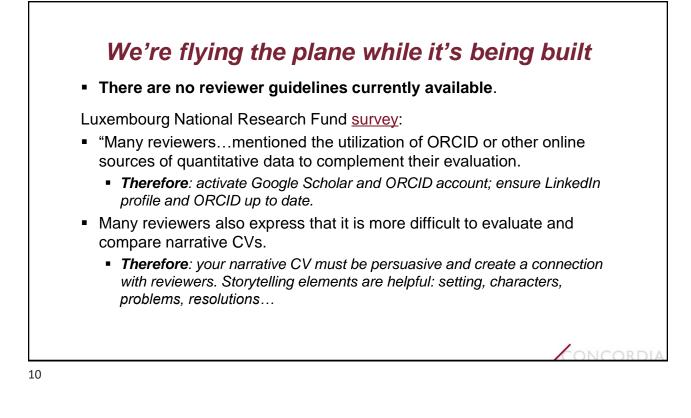


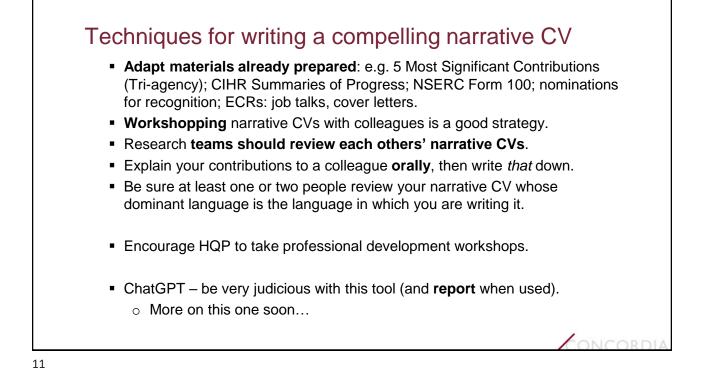


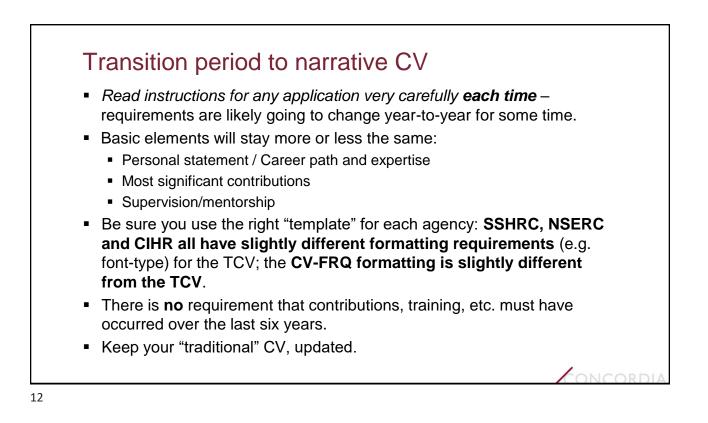
Why are the narrative TCV and CV-FRQ being used?

 Drawing all of the above together, the narrative TCV and CV-FRQ are being used to evaluate *project-specific* experience, capacity, and promise.

9

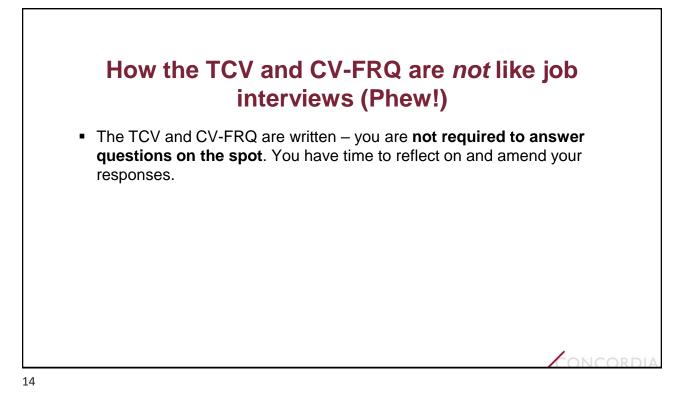






The narrative TCV and CV-FRQ are just written job interviews

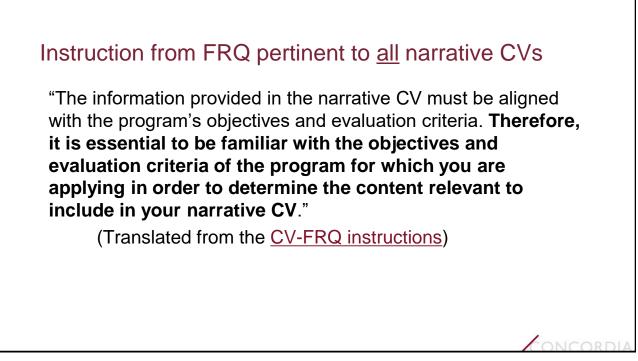
- The reviewers already have core components of your "traditional" CV if they want it – ORCID, Google Scholar, LinkedIn, etc.
- Personal information = "Tell us a bit about yourself."
- Significant pertinent contributions = "What experiences to do you have that make you right for *this* task?"
- Supervision/mentorship = "What are the core pillars of your approach to graduate supervision?"



Getting started

- Allow time: it can take a day or more to get a first draft ready.
- Know your audience. Is it a multidisciplinary committee in addition to peer reviewers?
- Once they are released, read the evaluation guidelines that reviewers will read to know their criteria. Don't *only* read the instructions for applicants (though do read those too!).
- Think carefully: which of the research activities you have undertaken are most pertinent to the present grant opportunity?
 - A very strong contribution may not be relevant for the application.
- Collect evidence of impacts of these activities: every statement you will make in your narrative CV about the impacts and significance of your contributions should be **backed up by evidence**.

15



A little modesty goes a long way

- Narrative CVs are written in the first person.
- You want a balance between emphasizing your accomplishments and competence, on one hand, and not appearing *too* immodest, on the other.
- Definitely err on the side of emphasizing your accomplishments and competence.
- How to be modest while not underselling yourself: mention contributions of collaborators and your team, especially your HQP; put emphasis on those who benefited from your research; highlight intellectual growth you experienced during the process.

17

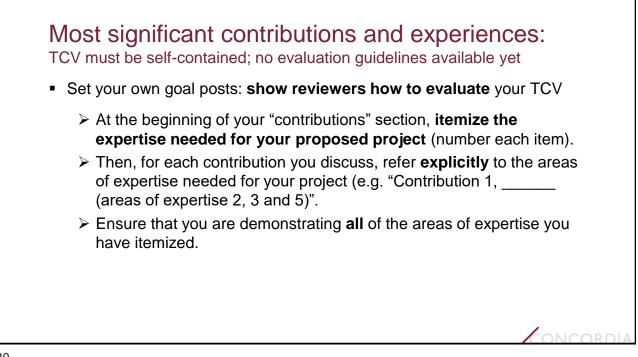
Basics:

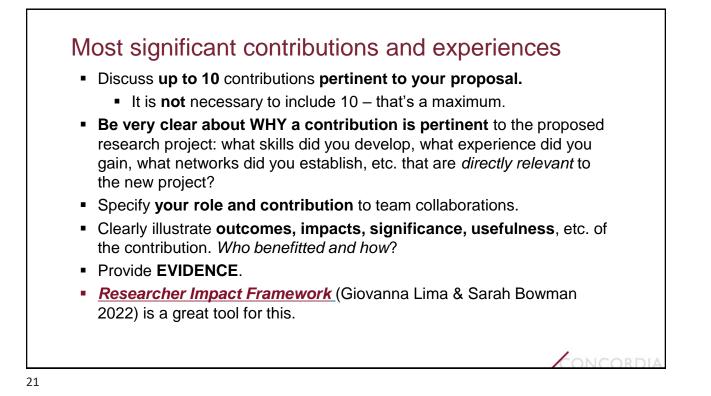
- Be selective. Rather than long lists of publications, narrative CVs are geared towards qualitative descriptions of expertise acquired, and the impact and significance of contributions.
- Think in terms of <u>DORA's two dimensions</u> to illustrate the impact of a contribution: **scale of influence** and **new audiences**.
- **Use evidence**. You're telling a story *your* story but it's a non-fiction story that needs to be substantiated every step of the way.
- Address academic and non-academic outreach and impact.
- Describe your career path and its context whether "traditional" or "non-traditional."

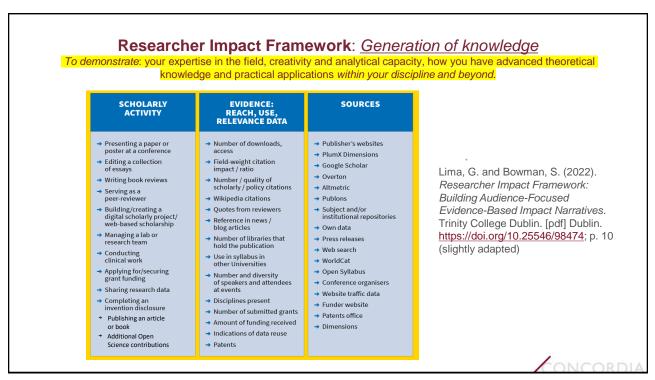
Personal statement / career path and expertise extract, example

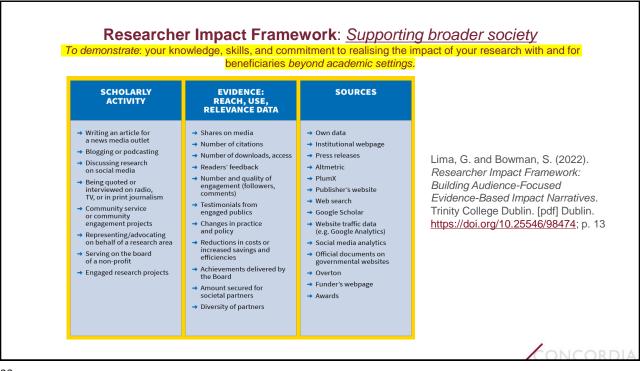
"I am an associate professor of anthropology at the University of [____]. My project will provide granular ethnographic narrative data that public and private health insurance decision-makers can use to assess the impact of [____] on remote communities in [____]. In my work as an ethnographer, I am interested in, and have researched, the far-sighted design of future artefacts, tools or infrastructures. I work in a cross-disciplinary and imaginative way to synthesize new perspectives and consequently produce novel research. For example..."

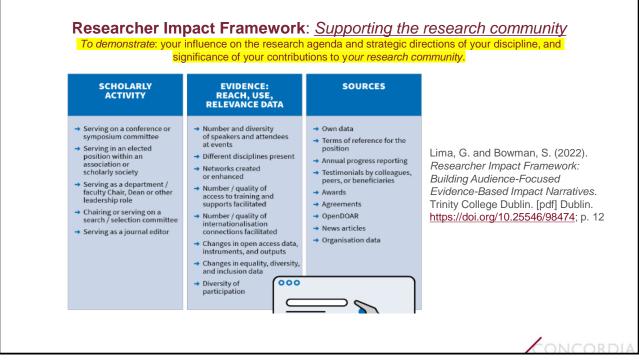
- Adapted from University of Glasgow's "Narrative CVs for funding and job applications" <u>https://rise.articulate.com/share/NyPk_PNIENdfRS5R5catqqiJzs3woS3Y#/lessons/a0G1S</u> <u>8sChDTr93JCgMIM5HguP42vRwqC</u>











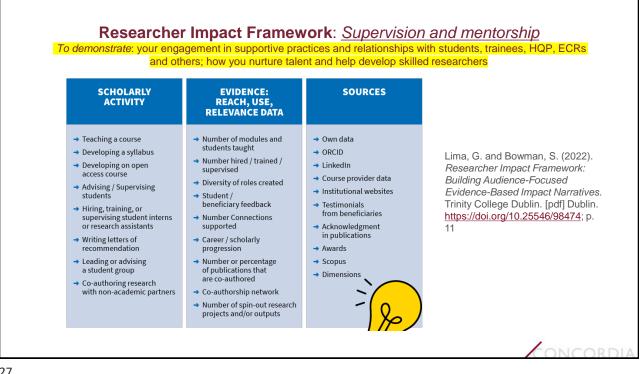
ECR "pertinent and significant contribution" extract, example

"In 2022 I presented a poster and a talk to a group of international colleagues at the Symposium on Precision Measurement Physics in China. I have expertise in both theoretical and experimental physics, which is rare, so I was able to explore the thermodynamic interactions in a more comprehensive manner. My poster and talk attracted the attention of physicists in France and Ireland, resulting in a keen exchange of knowledge and an invitation to sit on an international working group on thermodynamic measurements. This network will be a critical asset for my proposed research project."

- adapted from Narrative CV Example ECR: https://www.mbie.govt.nz/dmsdocument/25177-narrative-cv-example-early-careerresearcher

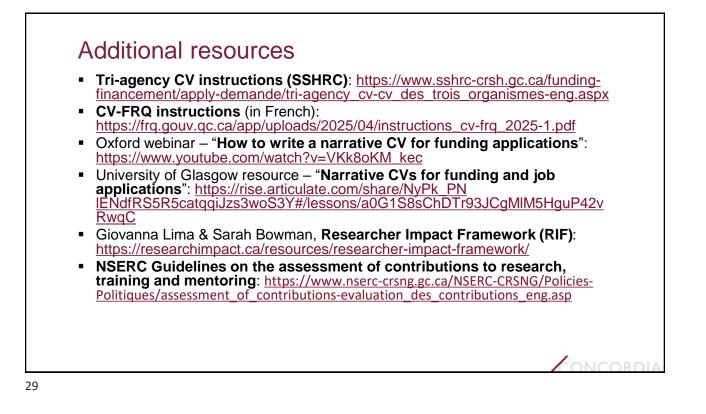
Supervision/mentorship

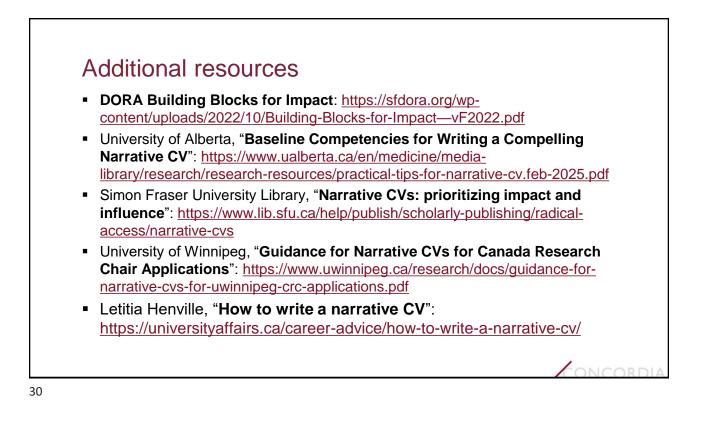
- How your supervision and mentorship of students and other HQP contributed to their development. What exactly did your supervision/mentoring role entail?
- Tell success stories of those you have supervised or mentored awards, academic or industry positions, etc. That's EVIDENCE!
- How your EDI strategies and involvement in research culture have created an inclusive environment for your students and mentees.
- **Outreach** activities also go in this section.

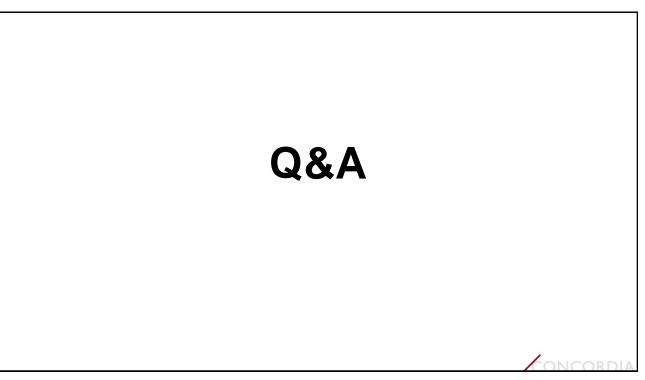


Supervision/mentorship extract, example

"Multi-layered mentorship starts on day one in my lab. I mentor and copublish with each of the HQP I supervise, grounded in initial one-on-one discussions about their career aspirations, work-life balance needs, and progress benchmarking. I ensure equitable and inclusive networking, conference, and internship opportunities, including guaranteed organization of local internships for students with parental or community responsibilities. I have supervised 1 Banting post-doc, and 5 PhD and 12 Master's students to completion. Two of these HQP won best conference paper awards (conference, 202_; ____ conference, 201_), and among my former PhD students three are now professors at Canadian and international universities, and two were recruited as researchers for major pharmaceutical companies in the US and Germany."







Appendix A: Pertinent contributions and experiences, examples

- Refereed publications (or clusters of publications)
- Non-refereed contributions, such as book reviews, published reviews of the applicant/co-applicant's work, community reports, research reports, policy papers, public lectures, etc.
- Forthcoming contributions (submitted, revised and submitted, accepted, or in-press) – if permitted by program requirements
- Creative outputs such as exhibitions, performances, publications, presentations, and film, video and audio recordings
- Contributions to research and advancing knowledge to non-academic audiences (e.g., general public, policy-makers, private sector, not-forprofit organizations, etc.)

Appendix A: Pertinent contributions and experiences, examples, continued

- Advances to equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility in the research ecosystem
- Co-creation or transfer of products, technology, processes, services or advice useful to specific organizations (in the private, public or non-profit sectors), communities or society
- · Creation, curation, sharing or reuse of datasets
- Partnerships or collaborations in the research community, or with other communities, including through research networks, large collaborative projects or community-engaged research



Appendix A: Pertinent contributions and experiences, examples, continued

- Support for traditional knowledge or Indigenous ways of knowing, including cultural practices
- Contributions to open science
- Intellectual property: including patents, copyrights, trademarks or trade secrets
- Creation of companies or organizations that promote research or the use of research results
- Development of tools, including software, for use by researchers or by others in the public or private domain

