

University Research Council
October 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes
224 IG Greer Hall
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Approved

Present: Maryam Ahmed, Becki Battista, Elaine Berry, Erin Bouldin, Andrew Caldwell, Gabriele Casale, Beth Fiske, Karen Fletcher, Charna Howson, Ece Karatan, Gary McCullough, Pam Mitchem, Andrew Monroe, Julia Pedigo, , Robin Tyndall, Twila Wingrove, Rebecca Witter

Excused: Marie Hoepfl, Alicia Jackson, Tammy Kowalczyk, Abhi Ramalingam

Absent:

Staff: Kate Hoffman,

- Ece Kartan called the meeting to order by welcoming everyone and introductions were made.
- Motion (Pedigo, Fletcher) to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2019 meeting.
VOTE: 14 – Approved, 0 Opposed, 3 – Abstained. Motion passes.

New Business

Welcome and the University Research Council overview - Ece Karatan

The University Research Council is tasked to stimulate the research and creative endeavors of all types of scholarship. This body supports research in its broadest sense. There are elected and appointed people. I am the chair and appoint the administrative members. Faculty Senate elects members for 3 year terms.

Elections were delayed last year for this year's members. Karatan displayed a powerpoint outlining with all Office of Research units and partners listed (GRS, RDA, RP, SP, SFA, OSR, IHHS, COB, RIEEE). IHHS & RIEEE are institutes. Marie Hoepfl was invited this year and represents the Graduate School. Elizabeth Cavallero who represented student services asked to step down.

There are six meetings for this year with two of them reserved for reviewing and awarding grants. Karen will share more about the review process.

Historically there has been a constant change of leadership. I am the third VPR in 3 years. The position is not interim any longer. Let's look into the future in 3-5 years. Hopefully we will do a lot more.

Group Conversations - Ece Karatan

Please find the other members with the same color of the sheet of paper that has been placed in front of you and make a group. Get to know each other. What would everyone like to see this group accomplish? Let's use this to help guide future agendas and scholarly interests. Share one or two things that you'd like to see addressed in the URC meetings.

Karatan and Fletcher receive feedback from the groups 1 or 2 people report to see if any patterns arise:

Ahmed's group: more support in terms of time to write or to do research, money for competitive grants, graduate student support for recruiting quality students in tuition support, and a living wage, a way to find people who have similar expertise and interests on campus, messaging beyond undergraduate research, policy reviews by the URC.

Wingrove's group: more support for travel and publication costs, research recognition and messaging, promote research culture on campus, increase money for URC awards, copyright and international property rules clearly identified in URC awards, how to navigate the process, guidance for understanding the external grant process, success rates for URC, identify if gaps exist in reaching external funding goals, ensure equal opportunities for creative endeavor proposals.

Casale's group: Communicate with individual departments to get the message out, how URC elections are structured, ask for direct reps from the Deans of Colleges, assessment of URC grant outcomes to gauge process to external funding or recognition.

Howson's group: create one council for scholarly enhancement and one for professional enhancement, navigating processes, promotion and distribution of work, assessment for unique needs of colleges, broader college representation focus group or research development officers within colleges around 8 people met once a month with the directors (RDOs no longer exist).

This information will be compiled to see how to incorporate it into agenda and meetings. Some other items are for discussions (how to increase funding, communication). A couple of these will be picked as "threads" throughout the rest of the year.

Discussion of new process of reporting on university-wide research/scholarship/creative activity-related announcements - Ece Karatan and Karen Fletcher

During brief updates, units and affiliates would provide verbal updates. As there are 10 units and affiliates, half of the meeting is gone at 3 minutes a piece.

The handout will be distributed prior to the meeting next time. Hopefully the communication piece to departments will start happening.

Karen Fletcher will state how the award process works. Panel instructions, review and scores will be generated and collected. Katie Howard will send them to the panel chair. The chair will have a meeting and discuss the scores and determine a collective score. The scores will be put on a spreadsheet. A cutoff will be created from the score sheet. Discussions will commence during the award meeting on the ones above the cutoff score. Advocate the ones you want to fund. The URC will make a funding recommendation for Karatan's approval as URC Chair. This mirrors a typical review panel.

Adjournment (Pedigo, Fletcher) at 5:02 pm