

University Research Council

October 24, 2023

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Approved Meeting Minutes

Meeting convened by Christine Hendren at 4:00 pm

Present: Christine Hendren, Jenn McGee, Twila Wingrove, Billy Armstrong, Adam Hege, Karen Fletcher, Dennis Guignet, Andrés Téllez, John Wiswell, Ellen Lamont, Reza Foroughi, Becki Battista, Shante' Mathes, Gabriele Casale, Gary McCullough, Elaine Berry

Excused: Nick Cline

Approval of Minutes

Will review and approve September minutes at next meeting

New Business

- NC Innovation Visit - Christine Hendren
 - NC State Budget passed with \$500M to contract with NC Innovation in a public/private partnership
 - This is an endowment so it can regenerate for continuous investment across the state
 - NC ranks around 20th in innovation in US
 - However, NC is 38% above average the amount of dollars we draw down from the state
 - NC Innovation visited App State campus 10/24
 - There is a need to translate research into economic development
 - Use-inspired research, translational research (focused on direct line to impact) - learning how to message that way for all research
 - Impact in workforce development, employability, translating the value of research into society (not just creating something you can sell)
 - NC Innovation will be doing an asset mapping with RTI (so they can decide where to invest their money). There will be opportunities for interaction between App State and NC Innovation
 - There is a regional representative for the Western side of the state, Megan W (?)

- The Office of Research has been renamed the Office of Research and Innovation (ORI) and you will start seeing the name changes on the website and communication

- Policy Interactions with URC and ORI - Christine Hendren and Karen Fletcher
 - There is an opportunity for creating a shared governance process as the ORI updates their policies. Proposed process: ORI identifies a priority policy/guidance

for URC input > ORI and Office of General Counsel (OGC) work together to form an early draft (OGC may gather example policies/guidance) > Drafted policy/guidance goes to URC for discussion (up to two meetings) > Draft policy/guidance with comments/thoughts from URC goes back to OGC for approval > ORI and OGC work to incorporate input from all parties into a finalized version of the policy/guidance

- The policies that the Office of Research and Innovation have ownership of are:
 - Buyout Policy for Externally Sponsored Projects
 - Care and Use of Animals for Research Teaching or Demonstration
 - Export Controls Compliance
 - Facilities and Administrative Cost Policy
 - Human Subject Research Recruitment
 - Intellectual Property Transfer
 - Payments to Human Subjects
 - Research Misconduct
 - Review of Research Involving Human Subjects
 - Use of Recombinant DNA in Research and Teaching Laboratories
- URC members identified the policies they were most interested in or felt they had the most experience in as: Buyout Policy for Externally Sponsored Projects; Facilities and Administrative Cost Policy; Human Subject Research Recruitment; Payments to Human Subjects; Research Misconduct; Review of Research Involving Human Subjects. There was also one person interested in the Intellectual Property Transfer policy.
- Policies that App State doesn't currently have that are recommended are:
 - Artificial Intelligence. Example:
<https://researchintegrity.asu.edu/export-controls-and-security/artificial-intelligence>

Old Business

- Update: Strategic Plan for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities - Christine Hendren and Gabe Casale
 - Implementation Committee designated (Christine Hendren, Grace Plummer, Gabe Casale, Karen Fletcher)
 - Christine is working with UComm on messaging so more information about how the plan will be implemented will go out soon
 - Communication will go out that states faculty will have the option to talk to URC reps - help Implementation Committee collect information/their feedback. You don't have to be an expert on the plan. Help direct them (to the plan or feedback meetings, etc)
 - Christine will host office hours periodically for people to talk to her about the plans being implemented
 - Department meetings will be offered to go over the implementation plan and how to be engaged
 - What kinds of things would you want to know about in a department meeting? Discussion followed and the following questions were posed:
 - Who is the intended audience?
 - What are the main points of the plan?

- URC Grant Review Touchpoint - Karen Fletcher
 - Individual preliminary reviews due Wednesday, November 1
 - Review assistance: Refer to the email sent to URC reviewers noting 5 short video recordings ranging from 6:22 to 11:45 in length on the Office of Research YouTube channel; slides have several live links which are important for the neutral reviews and mitigating bias portion of the training; and the detailed reviewer instructions document

- Liaison Letters - Adam Hege
 - Will send a letter template for October
 - Feedback on letters:
 - Could update and shorten introduction paragraph since the letters were introduced over a year ago
 - Some URC members send this letter out to a list they created on their own by finding all the emails of their colleagues
 - Some Colleges have communication personnel who distribute the letter if you send it to them

Announcements

- Be on the lookout for multiple opportunities to collectively define and describe our campus research identity through the Strategic Plan for RSCA Implementation process. Next year's faculty lead will be Adam Hege.

Adjournment at 4:53 pm.