

**University Research Council**

**January 18, 2022**

**4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**Approved**

**Present:** Becki Battista, Elaine Berry, Megen Culpepper, Karen Fletcher, Soo Goh, Adam Hege, Christine Hendren, Marie Hoepfl, Christopher Holden, Charna Howson, Ann Kaplan, Ece Karatan, Gary McCullough, Deb Paxton, Abhi Ramalingam, Jenny Tonsing, Heather Waldroup, Twila Wingrove, John Wiswell, Rebecca Witter

**Excused:** Alecia Jackson

**Staff:** Kate Hoffman

**Absent:** Andrew Caldwell, Mina Min

- Ece Karatan calls the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Motion (Ramalingam, Culpepper) to approve the minutes from the [November 16, 2021 meeting](#). VOTE: 16 – Approved, 0 Opposed, 3 – Abstained. Motion passes.

Ece welcomes everyone to the new semester. Ann Kaplan has joined the URC as a new member for this semester. Ann introduces herself as faculty from Interdisciplinary Studies who has returned from an OCSA last semester.

**Introductions**

- Faculty Members
  - Megen Culpepper, Chemistry and Fermentation Sciences
  - Soo Goh, School of Music (clarinet)
  - Adam Hege, Public Health, Health and Exercise Science
  - Christopher Holden, Psychology
  - Ann Kaplan, Interdisciplinary Studies
  - Abi Ramalingam, Economics
  - Jenny Tonsing, Social Work
  - John Wiswell, Library, Health Sciences Collections

➤ Administrative Members

- Becki Battista, Director, Office of Student Research and faculty in Health and Exercise Science
- Elaine Berry, Director, Special Funds Accounting
- Karen Fletcher, Director, Grants Resources and Services
- Christine Hendren Director, Research Institute for Environment, Energy, and Economics, non-teaching appointment in Geological and Environmental Sciences
- Marie Hoepfl, Associate Dean, Interim Dean, Graduate School
- Charna Howson, Director, Sponsored Programs
- Ece Karatan, Vice Provost for Research, Office of Research: URC chair
- Gary McCullough, Associate Dean, Health Sciences and Executive Director of IHHS
- Deb Paxton, Director, Research Protections
- Heather Waldroup, Associate Dean, Honors College
- Rebecca Witter, Sustainable Development

[Working Groups](#)

URC members will be split into three self selected working groups. Each group will be in a breakout room with a facilitator.

[Group I: Grant Management Support](#) attendees: Becki Battista, Elaine Berry, Megen Culpepper, Karen Fletcher (facilitator), Soo Goh, Christine Hendren, Charna Howson, Deb Paxton, Abhi Ramalingam

This working group's focus is to identify what kind(s) of support faculty have, need, and/or is missing as they manage a grant at Appalachian. Some topics may include but are not limited to: student payments, compliance, purchasing, travel, etc. How should support be offered? Workshops, webinars, recordings, forms, trainings, etc.

[Group II: URC Grant](#) attendees: Adam Hege, Christopher Holden, Gary McCullough (facilitator), Jenny Tonsing, Heather Waldroup, John Wiswell

This working group's focus is on the URC grant and should address if the \$100,000 per year - broken down into \$50,000 per semester - is the right grant mechanism to offer (\*Please note the \$100,000 is not something that can be increased at this time). Questions to consider may include

but are not limited to: Is the \$5000 maximum the right maximum? Should all grants be individual grants? Should there be separate categories for early career/mid career faculty?

[Group III: URC Daylighting](#) attendees: Marie Hoepfl, Ann Kaplan, Ece Karatan (facilitator), Twila Wingrove, Rebecca Witter

The working group's focus is on the URC as a council and should address the URC function as an advisory group to university administration. Areas to address may include but are not limited to: the engagement of URC membership, the flow of information about research through the council, Etc. This group will look at the URC's entry in the Faculty Handbook and recommend concrete revisions.

This working group discussion is a good start. More time is needed to continue brainstorming. These conversations will continue. PCR review and research on campus. One of the two external reviewers from the Office of Research's Periodic Comprehensive Review suggests that the University provide money for internal grant competitions.

#### Announcements

Karen Fletcher notifies the membership that there is a Research Forum with the topic of artificial intelligence on February 2 ([registration link](#)).

John Wiswell - Wiley has a no fee on open access for AppState authors. There is no fee with Cambridge as well. Ece asks John to create and share an information sheet with the additional details of utilizing these publishers.

Christine Hendren - RIEEE webinar series information has been submitted via RIEEE's Google Group and can be found on [RIEEE's website](#) where the Google Calendar is.

Ece Karatan - [Cayuse](#) is the new electronic research administration system for campus. COI has been rolled out. Human Subjects (replaces IRBIS) and Sponsored Projects (replaces AGrants) will be implemented in the next upcoming months. Cayuse will be system to system for federal sponsors. It will talk to InfoReady for external grants. Internal grants will only be on InfoReady. Please feel free to reach out to me with any concerns.

Adjournment (McCullough, Hendren) at 5:29 pm.