University Senate Research Committee (USRC)

Meeting Minutes

Sep 8th, 2023

Meeting conducted by Zoom

Members in Attendance: Brittain Mahaffey (Psychiatry & Behavioral Health), Roger Sher (Neurobiology & Behavior), Mark Chambers (Africana Studies & History), Clara Tran (Libraries), Soosan Ghazizadeh (Oral Biology & Pathology), Qiaojie Xiong (Neurobiology & Behavior),, Jason Trelewicz (Material Science), Thomas Robertazzi (Elec. Eng), Shipra Agrawal (Medicine), Jeff B Edwards (Philosophy)

Also in Attendance: Jerome Liang (Medicine), Iris Fineberg (Nursing)

Minutes reviewed and approved from May 2023

Introduction of attendees

New Members: Roger Sher, Shipra Agarwal, Joseph Bisiani (Undergraduate rep, not in attendance)

Jeff Edwards notes that he will be retiring at end of the year. Committee appreciates his contributions.

Old Business

Graduate student access to summer healthcare resolved last year.

Support for conference organization resolved last year.

Faculty liability for students working in lab spaces—what is the nature of PI's liabilities for accidents and injuries. Does this differ between RF and state faculty. Committee suggest f/u with OVPR.

Elsevier access (Library)—ongoing, committee to invite Libraries for updates on pay for play pilot.

IDC distribution (OVPR, Provost office, President office)—ongoing, will follow up with Provost and OVPR regarding clarification of how IDC split is determined and ways to help researchers access IDC to support infrastructure and laboratory needs.

New Business

Identify potential guests to invite for the academic year-

- Dr. Miguel Garcia-Diaz (VP of Research) to attend in Nov.
- Libraries reps to be invited in October to discuss Elsevier and pay for play updates.

- Suggestion to invite Peter Donnelly (Asso. VP for Technology Partnerships) to discuss Research Park.
- Will extend invitation to Joseph Bisiani to discuss ongoing lab space audit findings in the spring when audit is complete.

Dr Liang raises question regarding Research Park funding mechanisms and profits vis a vis profit sharing with the university. Discussed inviting Economic Development office to discuss RP and ongoing joint private-public research ventures.

Dr Liang and other members raise issue of how we can improve junior and mid-level faculty retention. Suggestion that university may match research dollars brought in via foundation support. Suggest discussing with OVPR what steps (beyond seed grants) may be taken here.

2023-2024 Meeting Dates:

September 8th October 13th November 10th (Miguel Garcia-Diaz will be the guest speaker) December 8th February 9th March 8th April 12th May 10th