

Research Council Minutes
December 3rd, 2020
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm WebEx

VOTING:

Jason Carter

Mary Miles

Mary Cloninger

Ron June

Brent Peyton/Robin Gerlach

Michael Brody

Sarah Shannon

Colin Shaw

Nicole Tuss

Blake Wiedenheft

Carl Yeoman

Nicholas Childs

NON-VOTING:

Craig Ogilvie

Chris Kearns/ Jim Mitchell

Terry Leist

Robert Mokwa/ David Singel

Leslie Schmidt

Jonathan Hilmer

Jayne Morrow

Motion made to approve minutes; approved as submitted.

1. Announcements

a. AVPRD search

- VP Carter gave an update on the search for the Associate Vice President for Research Development. This will be an important leadership position to help think strategically and work with the team to continue to grow our research enterprise.

b. IoE Director search

- VP Carter posted the search for an interim Director of the Institute on Ecosystem for 12-18 months, as more indepth conversation is needed after COVID.

➤ Leslie Schmidt shared three announcements:

- a. The RFP for the Service Centers/Core Facilities review has posted and will be closed at the end of December. We are waiting to hear the responses from the vendors.
- b. We are on track on starting the establishment of the fringe benefit pool for vacation and sick leave for OSP funding in January and February
- c. The research tab is added to the ePCF page which allows PIs to identify their work projects aligns with the Grand Challenges. These features will help us keep track better.

➤ VP Carter notified the group that Alexandra Adams and her team received an \$1.8 million NIH award for the work related to COVID that collaborated with the University of Washington, ITHS program.

2. PTIE presentation – L. Schmidt, D. Juliano, J. Heys

- MSU was invited to join the PTIE workshop that was initiated by Oregon State University and funded by the NSF Grant. (P.T.I.E stands for Promotion, Tenure, Innovation and

Entrepreneurship Coalition) Leslie Schmidt, Daniel Juliano and Jeff Heys presented PTIE presentation to the Research Council.

- Leslie Schmidt gave an introduction of the PTIE goal: it is to study the idea of incorporating innovation and entrepreneurship into the promotion and tenure process. This is to be viewed as a toolkit to start the conversation, not a requirement. There are 67 universities and 13 national organizations involved. The conversations were around 5 topical areas -- successes, challenges, diversity across all spectrums, metrics and language & process changes
- Daniel Juliano shared context for PTIE Metrics: These metrics are not required or meant to supplant existing metrics. They are suggestive. PTIE metrics can be fit in these categories:
 - Research (Scholarship and creative activity)
 - Teaching and Advising
 - Service
- The focus of the PTIE coalition is to broaden the definition of impact. If these metrics are not relevant with some departments, it can be other metrics that are valuable to demonstrate impact.
- Jeff Heys shared sample text for Promotion & Tenure Policy Documents: Some Institutions counted societal impact, economic impact of faculty work into the P&T Process. Some Institutions only counted publications and grant dollars. One of the conversations on how we can broaden the bar beyond counting publications and grant funded is sample text.
 - Scholarship -- Sample text can be added to the scholarship section of the standard and criteria for P&T which will allow the faculty to present why their work has a societal impact or economic impact that goes beyond grant dollars and publications.
 - Teaching -- if the department wanted to broaden the bar, they can add sample text on the teaching section-- exp. Faculty member teaches students about career resiliency, that should count toward potentially P&T. If the faculty member works with students on internships, that's teaching and mentoring should be counted towards P&T.
 - Service -- suggested text: allowing the faculty member to talk about their service work that might have impacted a local community/small businesses.
- Jeff added that the review process is another thing to help broaden the bar. Also, we might also have to make sure that you broaden the bar on faculty annual reviews.
- The universities have found that counting societal impact and economic impact will help the department to become more diverse and more inclusive.
- VP Carter added that there is an increase of female entrepreneurship. The universities that have implemented this process have showed the increasing of diversity and inclusion and equity opportunities.

3. Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) update – J. Carter

- VP Carter shared that we have been accepted into the membership of the Federal Demonstration Partnership which includes major Federal Organizations, VP for Research from different institutes, faculty representatives and research compliance representatives.
4. FY21 Budget Overview – J. Carter
- VP Carter shared FY21 budget overview to inform the RC on how we are allocating and spending F&A budget. With our growing research, VP Carter will be working with the Foundation to find donors to support the Research Buildings. A strategy moving forward is to attempt to reallocate some fixed costs into the faculty and further research growth.
 - VP Carter asked what are we missing as an institution that we need to be thinking more about in terms of balancing budgets or investing in a variety of projects?
 - Dean Shannon shared that it's important to be able to give faculty a decent start-up package; having seed grant money and bridge funding are important. Also the grant funding to help the doctoral students complete their degree.
 - Mary Miles shared that it's good to have a person help faculty in developing scholarship or manage budgets or point in the right direction if rejected proposals. It will be helpful and have impact to have that person to support and mentor; not just pre-award services but grant management.
 - Mary Cloniger supported VP Carter that we have been moving in the right direction. But the barrier is the fluidity of money. We never figured out how to tap into more industrial donors and private donors in the same way that top schools are able to do. And part of that might be our location.
5. Other/Future Items?
- Robin Gerlach brought up items that he would like to be discussed; the concern that relates to graduate student benefits and support due to COVID. Additional question is on the possibility of surveillance testing on campus.
 - VP Carter shared that there is an ongoing conversation with the University System. The capacity is being built and the faculty are continuing the conversation, but the decision will be at the system level.
 - VP Carter would like to have a conversation on limited submission, grad students benefit and complexity for the next meeting of the Research Council in January.

Next Research Council Meeting: January 20th, 2021 3:30 pm