
RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL

Minutes of 13 April 2023

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Research Policies Council was called to order at 2:31 p.m. on 13 April 2023, via Webex video conferencing by Andre Venter, chair.

Members in Attendance: Onur Arugaslan, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Christopher Cheatham (designee for Provost Julian Vasquez Heilig), Martha Councell-Vargas, Whitney DeCamp, Wanda Hadley, Dae Shik Kim (substitute for Robert Wall Emerson), Selim Ozyurek (substitute for Lori Brown), Remzi Seker, Daria Orlowska, Andre Venter, Kevin Wanner, Qingliu Wu (substitute for Kristina Lemmer)

Members Absent: Paul Solomon

Ex Officio in Attendance: Anthony DeFulio, Mark Hurwitz

Guest: Bonnie Gabriel, Business Manager Associate, Research and Innovation; Julia Mays, Associate Director, Research Compliance, Research and Innovation; Christine Stamper, Research Program Officer, Research and Innovation

Quorum

A quorum was present.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Arugaslan, seconded by Hadley, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

An amendment was made.

[MOTION] It was moved by DeCamp, seconded by Councell-Vargas, to approve the minutes of 2 March 2023 as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Venter did not provide a report.

Ex Officio DeFulio did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representative

Gabriel provided financial information on Support for Faculty Scholars Award (SFSA), Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACAA), Preparation and Publication of Papers and Exhibition (PPP&E).

Seker informed RPC on the hiring of an in-house patent attorney.

Byrd-Jacobs announced the Graduate Student Association (GSA) is pausing activities for the remainder of the 2022-23 academic year. The goal is to hold an election in Spring 2024 to install a new executive board that will begin working in Summer 2024.

Byrd-Jacobs reported that a total of \$86K+ was awarded this academic year to Spring Research and Travel Grants. Forty-two students participated in the Research and Creative Activities Day. All University Research and Teaching Effectiveness Winners will be recognized on 17 April 2023.

Reports of Council/Committee Standing Committees

Ex Officio Hurwitz acknowledged Stamper for her work in coordinating FRACAA even after moving to a new position. Thirty-three proposals were submitted. Fourteen were recommended for funding without

reservations by the panels. Four of six creative arts, one of seven qualitative scholarly, and eight of 20 quantitative sciences were funded.

Unfinished Business

Chair Venter shared the library research resources and responses by Gerry Rinna, Library Collections Manager.

New Business

Ex Officio DeFulio facilitated the elections of officers for the 2023-24 academic year:

1. Seker nominated Venter as chair.
2. **[MOTION]** It was moved by Seker, seconded by Hurwitz, to elect Venter as chair. The motion carried.
3. DeCamp nominated Arugaslan as vice chair.
4. **[MOTION]** It was moved by DeCamp, seconded Venter, to elect Arugaslan as vice chair. The motion carried.
5. There were no nominations for the position of secretary.

RPC members decided on the meeting modality for 2023-24 to alternate.

[MOTION] It was moved by Arugaslan, seconded by Venter, to approve alternating 2023-24 meeting format. The motion carried.

Mays discussed the National Science Foundation (NSF) Requirement for a safe and inclusive working environment. Animal welfare insurance has been approved.

Seker introduced the Research Development Plan, which is pending funding. Seker presented the WMU Career Bow. There are plans to find external mentors for pre-tenure faculty, especially in their first two years at WMU. Mentees will travel to campus and present at seminars for a modest stipend. Nominations will open soon.

Venter requested feedback on the RPC 2022-23 Annual Report.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by Seker, seconded by Hadley, to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Research Policies Council will meet next on 11 May 2023, at 2:30 p.m. virtually via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Onur Arugaslan, vice chair.

Minutes approved on 11 May 2023.