
RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL
REVISED Minutes of 9 November 2023**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Research Policies Council was called to order at 2:30 p.m. on 9 November 2023 in Walwood Hall Room 112W by Onur Arugaslan, vice chair.

Members in Attendance: Onur Arugaslan, Christine Byrd-Jacobs, Christopher Cheatham (substitute for Julian Vasquez Heilig), Lofton Durham, Wanda Hadley, Kristina Lemmer, Daria Orłowska, Selim Ozyurek, Alessander Santos, Remzi Seker, Leslie Solares, Bilinda Straight, Kevin Wanner

Members Absent: Angela Groves, Andre Venter

Ex Officio in Attendance: Anthony DeFulio, Mark Hurwitz

Guests: Christine Stamper, Research Program Officer; Office of Research and Innovation

Quorum

A quorum was present with 15 members in attendance, of the 10 needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

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

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Byrd-Jacobs, seconded by Hadley, to approve the minutes of 12 October 2023 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Vice chair Arugaslan did not provide a report.

Ex Officio DeFulio did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representative

Cheatham reported that the provost initiated a post-doctoral research program with two or three positions and invited departments to apply. Position description will be in place by spring 2024.

Byrd-Jacobs reported on the following:

1. Military-affiliated student breakfast at the student center
2. Research and travel grants for fall 2024 will be announced soon
3. Three-minute thesis competition will be held in spring 2024
4. Research Week, a week-long celebration of research and creative scholarship, is scheduled for 4-11 April 2024
5. Graduate College Research, Honors College thesis celebration, and Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACAA) posters will be on 4-11 April 2024.

Seker joined the meeting at 2:36 pm

Seker reported on the innovation challenge for undergraduate students, freshmen, and sophomore leaders. There was a discussion about a potential government shutdown. Seker discussed patents and student innovation.

Reports of Council/Committee Standing Committees

Ex Officio Hurwitz provided the report of the Research Screening Committee that FRACAA will begin soon. The dates are set and will be distributed the week of 13 November 2023. Competition will be launched on 30 November 2023. There will be a workshop on 1 December 2023. Applications are due **9** February 2024. Mentors and reviewers are needed. Those interested, contact Ex Officio Hurwitz.

Charge 1: policies related to four funding pots. Ex Officio DeFulio reported that the committee met and came up with some consensuses.

1. One Memorandum of Action (MOA) for all four pots
2. Nothing about eligibility in MOA since that is part of the union contract
3. MOA not to include specific dollars
4. MOA draft should be compared to the union contract before being brought to the larger RPC
5. Decisions about policies and procedures informed by relevant data, such as allocation and spending data over the last 10 years for all four funds, need an analysis of travel fund use. Data request is submitted to the Office of Research and Innovation (ORI)
6. Policy recommendations will not include sending a sum of money to colleges for distribution; engage in early discussions about potential policies and procedures.

Charge 2: Annual review of FRACAA applicants and use of funds. Selim reported awaiting data from ORI about FRACAA.

Charge 3: Working with ORI. Arugaslan reported that work was divided and at a data collection phase. Question was brought up should RPC be aspirational or realistic. Interdisciplinary collaboration was discussed and how to bring people together.

Charge 4: Microbio safety: Alessander did not provide a report.

Charge 5: Export Control: Lemmer reported that James Center was added to Teams. Center has been emailed the MOA for input.

Charge 6: Emeriti space use for professional activities: Wanner reported that the MOA is old but may not need much revision.

Unfinished Business

DeFulio reported that the charge completion is finished.

New Business

Seker reported Preparation and Publication of Papers and Exhibition (PPP&E) procedures will remain the same. The funding level was increased to \$50,249. The per unit amount is \$1000.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by DeFulio, seconded by Durham, to adjourn the meeting at 3:34 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Research Policies Council will meet next on 30 November 2023 at 2:30 p.m. via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Kristina Lemmer, Secretary

Minutes approved on 30 November 2023.