

**WMU Faculty Senate
Research and Creative Scholarship Council (RCSC)
Charges for 2025-26**

Anthony DeFulio will serve as the Faculty Senate Executive Board representative on RCSC

In addition to its specific responsibilities listed in the Research and Creative Scholarship Council's role statement and the work of its standing committees including but not limited to the Research Screening Committee, the Faculty Senate Executive Board charges the RCSC to consider, as a committee of the whole or through the appropriate committee or task force, the following:

1. Explore opportunities, threats, and challenges with respect to Artificial Intelligence as it relates to the RCSC and communicate findings to the Academic and Information Technology Council and the Executive Board.
2. Review the guidelines, policies, and eligibility of the Research Innovation and Scholarly Expenditures (RISE) Fund and the comprised programs with the goal of increasing their utilization by faculty, including investigating strategies to increase the number of quality proposals submitted across all disciplines.
3. Review [MOA-19/08](#): Creation of the Eligibility to Serve as WMU Principal Investigators on Sponsored Projects Policy in order to ensure consistency with regards to emeriti. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
4. Review procedures related to all aspects of Award for Scholarship Performance Innovation and Research (ASPIRE) and Creative Activities and Research Expenses Support (CARES) and recommend changes to the Office of Research and Innovation. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
5. Consider which of the MOA's previously deemed to be under the purview of the RCSC that should be included in the review cycles. Rather than MOA's RCSC should evaluate policies that were adopted by WMU and evaluate how these facilitate or hamper research and scholarship. Some policies are mandated by the federal government, or administered by other councils, or by the Office of Research and Innovation. Determine which policies belong to RCSC.
6. Continue to collaborate with the Office of Research and Innovation in developing strategies to support faculty to advance research and creative scholarship. Provide recommendations to strengthen interdisciplinary collaboration to build compelling research proposals. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
7. Conduct an annual review of the state of research ethics policies and procedures in collaboration with the Office of Research and Innovation. Initiate changes or additions where appropriate. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
8. Investigate ways by which faculty who are currently in administrative roles, but still research active, can be supported either by allowing them to compete in the RISE programs, or through a separate mechanism. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
9. Review the scope and description of the council's role and assess the effectiveness of the council's practices.
10. At the annual April RCSC meeting, the council members must review the draft year-end report, to be submitted to the Faculty Senate office, by the council chair no later than May 30.
11. Address any continuing or outstanding issues or initiatives as directed by the Faculty Senate Executive Board, members of the council, faculty, and/or academic administrators. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.

NOTE: The RCSC will seek information from the Office of Research and Innovation and the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board (HSIRB) to maintain communications with those offices on issues directly related to them. Council recommendations are to be submitted to the Executive Board in the form of a memorandum of action (MOA) on which the recommendation(s) is/are stated. Any draft MOAs requested by the Executive Board should be submitted using the MOA template.

The RCSC chairperson shall provide a written report of the council's accomplishments and progress for the year; list the above charges noting each item's progress and current status; any other activities undertaken; and draft charges for the 2026-27 academic year, no later than May 30, 2026.