

Research Policies Council (RPC) Charges for 2006-07

Osama Abudayyeh is the Faculty Senate Executive Board's liaison on the Research Policies Council this year. The Executive Board charges the RPC to consider, as a committee of the whole or through the appropriate sub-committee or task force, the following issues:

1. Work with the Graduate Student Advisory Committee (GSAC) to sponsor a Research Day (on an annual basis) in collaboration with the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) and the College of Graduate Studies. Also consider collaborative involvement of the Lee Honors College.
2. Reexamine the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund (FRACASF) policy and the current awarding structure. Additionally review mechanisms to utilize this fund to stimulate interdisciplinary research.
3. Regarding human resources supporting research at Western Michigan University: Continue to investigate the current use of staff positions in the "Q" positions (not Board appointed), faculty appointments funded by grants/contracts, and so-called "research faculty" to determine their relationships to the research enterprise.
4. Develop strategies for increasing the amount of funding available for research. Continue to explore and evaluate new strategies for increasing research productivity performed at WMU through external funding, consistent with the stated mission and goals of the University. Stimulate advanced research through OVPR development awards.
5. Assess the policy for Facilities and Administrative (F&A) costs and develop ways to educate faculty on the role of indirect costs.
6. Review policies to facilitate the export of technology relating to research.

NOTE:

- It is understood the Research Policies Council will continue to work closely with the vice president for research and with the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board (HSIRB).
- The RPC is free to determine the specifics of how to address these charges and other tasks it wishes to engage in during 2006-07. All Senate councils are asked to develop recommendations or memoranda of action (MOAs) as necessary. The RPC is requested to keep the Executive Board apprised of progress, especially in connection with any MOA which it may develop, and to give ample notice of intent to bring action or reports to the full Faculty Senate.
- At the end of 2006-07, the RPC is asked to provide a summary of its progress on the above charges to the Executive Board and suggest charges for the following year.