

**WMU Faculty Senate
Research Policies Council (RPC)
Charges for 2017-18**

Osama Abudayyeh will serve as the Faculty Senate Executive Board representative on RPC

In addition to its specific responsibilities listed in the Research Policies Council's role statement and the work of subcommittees if such exist, the Faculty Senate Executive Board charges the RPC to consider, as a committee of the whole or through the appropriate subcommittee or task force, the following issues:

1. Review the scope and description of the council's role and assess the effectiveness of the council's practices. Address any continuing or outstanding issues or initiatives as directed by the Faculty Senate Executive Board.
2. Continue the review and promotion of the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACAA) program with the goal of increasing its utilization by faculty, including investigating strategies to increase the number of quality proposals submitted across all disciplines.
3. Review Support for Faculty Scholar Award (SFSA) proposals and promote the program to encourage faculty from all disciplines to submit quality proposals.
4. Develop a procedure for the regular review of university policies related to research by the RPC and a schedule for conducting these regular reviews on a five-year rotating basis. Begin policy reviews in 2017-18.
5. Address funding obstacles to research and creative activities from the perspective of the faculty, consider diversity and inclusion issues as they relate to the role of RPC, and examine ways to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration to build compelling research proposals.
6. Finalize and recommend a mechanism for faculty to bring issues to RPC's attention for further investigation.
7. In conjunction with OVPR, conduct an inventory of major research and creative activities infrastructure on campus, including major scientific instrumentation, space and facilities for research and creative activities, library resources, and other necessary research tools. The goals are to identify and evaluate the adequacy and state of repair of this infrastructure as the first step to developing a plan for maintenance, replacement, and upgrading of these research and creative activities tools.

NOTE: The RPC will seek information from the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) 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 report (see the template for preparing reports included in the Faculty Senate Council/Committee Chair Handbook). After review, the Executive Board may invite the council to initiate 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 DRAFT MOA template included in the Faculty Senate Council/Committee Chair Handbook.

The RPC chairperson shall provide a written summary of the council's 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 2018-19 academic year, no later than June 30, 2018.