

**WMU Faculty Senate
Research Policies Council (RPC)
Charges for 2020-21**

Anthony DeFulio 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 including but not limited to the Research Screening Subcommittee, 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:

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. To the extent possible, conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
2. Explore, discuss, and recommend updating the council name to reflect current and future work. Prepare recommendations for the Executive Board.
3. 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.
4. Review Support for Faculty Scholar Award (SFSA) proposals and promote the program to encourage faculty from all disciplines to submit quality proposals.
5. 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. To the extent possible, conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
 - Explore best practices for cluster hires and provide recommendations for enhancing interdisciplinary research and creative collaborations at the college and department levels.
6. Monitor the viability of the solution to issues related to the Conflict of Interest Policy and construct a formal written memo regarding a solution based on real case data. To the extent possible, conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
7. Identify and address policies, programs, and practices that will ensure considerations of diversity, equity, and inclusion within the Faculty Senate and the University. To the extent possible, conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
8. Identify approaches and methods used to increase civility and respect in order to create a safe environment both within the Faculty Senate and the University. To the extent possible, conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.

NOTE: The RPC 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 RPC 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 2021-22 academic year, no later than June 30, 2021.