

**WMU Faculty Senate
Research Policies Council (RPC)
Charges for 2021-22**

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 its standing committees including but not limited to the Research Screening Committee, the Faculty Senate Executive Board charges the RPC to consider, as a committee of the whole or through the appropriate committees or task forces, the following:

1. 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.
2. Review Support for Faculty Scholar Award (SFSA) proposals and promote the program to encourage faculty from all disciplines to submit quality proposals.
3. Finalize and submit to the Executive Board a Memorandum of Action related to updates and changes of the Fixed Price Agreement policy proposed by the Office of Research and Innovation.
4. 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.
 - Explore best practices for cluster hires and provide recommendations for enhancing interdisciplinary research and creative collaborations at the college and department levels.
5. 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. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action.
6. Conduct annual review of the state of the 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.
7. Review the scope and description of the council's role and assess the effectiveness of the council's practices.
8. At the annual April RPC 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 June 30.
9. 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 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.