

**Official Memorandum of Action – MOA-16/02  
Revised Faculty Research and  
Creative Activities Awards Guideline C6**

**Name of Council/Committee**  
Research Policies Council

**Date of Meeting**  
10 December 2015

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Implementation Date**  
**Upon Administrative Approval**

The Research Policies Council, with the assistance of the Office of the Vice President for Research, in an effort to expand the types of proposals that will satisfy the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Awards (FRACAA) funding proposal requirement, recommends the following changes to the FRACAA Guideline 6.

**CURRENT POLICY WITH REVISIONS IN BOLD AND DELETIONS WITH STRIKETHROUGH**

C. Award Conditions:

6. Awardees are required to submit an **proposal(s) to a funding source(s)** external funding proposal ~~proposal to the University to support their scholarly activity, processed through the University's proposal approval (i.e. Proposal Approval Form) and award management systems,~~ for an amount at least equal to their FRACAA grant within 18 months of the end of their award period. ~~An external funding proposal is defined as one submitted via the OVPR proposal management center with an approved Proposal Approval Form.~~

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*Paul Ciccantell, Chair, Research Policies Council*

*Date 10 December 2015*

Approve  
**Comments:**

Disapprove

Return to council/committee

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*C. Dennis Simpson, Faculty Senate President*

*Date*

Approve  
**Comments:**

Disapprove

Other action

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*Timothy J. Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs*

*Date*

Approve  
**Comments:**

Disapprove

Other action

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*John M. Dunn, WMU President*

*Date*

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**Background**

Established via MOA-08/03, the purpose of the FRACAA program is “to increase external funding at WMU.” The program guidelines require recipients to submit an external funding proposal for an amount at least equal to their award within 18 months of the end of their project period.

This requirement is documented by records kept of external funding proposals approved through WMU’s Proposal Management Center via a Proposal Approval Form. All grant and contract proposals submitted by WMU faculty and staff on behalf of and approved by WMU are processed through this system. Proposals submitted by faculty and staff that will flow directly to the individual, not through nor managed by WMU, are not processed through this system, are not considered external funding, are not reported to WMU’s Board of Trustees or external agencies as external funding, and are not accepted to satisfy the FRACAA requirement for submission of an external funding proposal.

Some faculty and staff at WMU believe that the external funding proposal requirement as it exists currently limits their access to FRACAA funding because of perceived limitations of external funding opportunities associated with various disciplines. They assert that in some fields, prestigious awards are made directly to the individual as fellowships and stipends – funding mechanisms where awards do not flow through the university’s pre-and post-award systems.

The Research Policies Council, in an effort to expand the types of proposals that will satisfy FRACAA’s funding proposal requirement, recommends changes to the FRACAA Guidelines 6.