

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE

RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL  
Minutes of 8 December 2011

**Members present:** Brooks Applegate, Osama Abudayyeh, Steve Bertman, Martha Councell-Vargas, Muralidhar Ghantasala, Monica Lininger, James Kiddle, Carrie Leatherman, Daniel Litynski, Betty McKain (for Sandy Steinbach), Vladimir Risukhin, Mary Ann Stark, Stephen Tasko.

**Absent without substitution:** Alhassan Abdul-Muhmin, Manuel Bautista, Lisa Minnick

Council Chair Brooks Applegate called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes of 11 November 2011**

A motion was made by Tasko and seconded by Applegate to approve the minutes of 11 November 2011. Motion passed.

**Approval of Agenda for 8 December 2011**

A motion was made by Tasko and seconded by Applegate to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

**Reports**

*Council Chair – Brooks Applegate*

No report.

*Interim Dean of the Graduate College – Brooks Applegate for Gene Freudenburg*

The Graduate College is holding a couple of workshops for graduate student Research and Travel Grant applications. A listing of students awarded these grants this last period was distributed. Vice President for Research Dan Litynski reported that he is chairing the search committee for dean of the Graduate College.

*Vice President for Research – Dan Litynski*

Research and Dessert was very successful. The number of those who signed in for the event was 131. Three prizes were awarded to participants.

Copies of the WMU research magazine were mailed to 60,000 internal and external constituencies. The annual report is being prepared for distribution internally. The goal is that these two reports will be prepared annually. There were 28 undergraduate research awards awarded this year. Report of submissions, awards and expenditures was distributed. There was an increase in submissions but a decrease in awards when compared to previous years. A draft of the strategic plan for scholarship and research was distributed. Four domains for accomplishing

increased research and scholarship were determined to be leadership, scholarship, collaboration, and resources. Actions were proposed. RPC was asked to review these and give feedback on the priority each item should have. Litynski will email the document to RPC members and ask for comments by 15 December.

Litynski went to Washington with a group of officials from Kalamazoo City and County to meet with some elected officials and governmental agencies and inform them of some initiatives in progress at WMU.

**Continued Business**

*Council Charges – B. Applegate*

- a. Charge #1– no report. Executive committee will meet to look at this.
- b. Charge #2 – no report.
- c. Charge #3 – no report.
- d. Charge #4 – volunteers were solicited from RPC. Mike Sharer, director, Technology Transfer and License/Commercialization, Risukhin (to chair) and Kiddle will serve on the subcommittee to review conflict of interest policy.
- e. Charge #5 – Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACAA) workshops were held and were well attended.
- f. Charge #6 – Research and Creative Activities Day Subcommittee reported: Friday, 20 April, is the date. Solicitation of student posters and judges will be publicized after the first of the year.
- g. Charge #7 – FRACAA deadline is 13 January 2012. Support for Faculty Scholar Award (SFSA) deadline is 31 January 2012. Both will be publicized soon.
- h. Charge #8 – no report
- i. Charge #9 – no update

**New Business**

Litynski reported that the new medical school will be located at the former downtown MPI building. He stated that medical school research will largely be translational research. Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies (KCMS) faculty will transition to WMU medical school faculty.

The next RPC meeting is Thursday, 12 January 2012, at 2:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Tasko made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Abudayyeh seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Stark