

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE

RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL  
Minutes of 12 January 2012

**Members present:** Alhassan Abdul-Muhmin, Brooks Applegate, Osama Abudayyeh, Steve Bertman, Martha Councell-Vargas, Gene Freudenburg, Muralidhar Ghantasala, Monica Lininger, Carrie Leatherman, Daniel Litynski, Sandy Steinbach, Vladimir Risukhin, Mary Ann Stark, Stephen Tasko. **Absent without substitution:** Manuel Bautista, James Kiddle, and Lisa Minnick (sabbatical). **Also present:** Paula Kohler, associate vice president for research; Betty McKain, director, Grants and Contracts; Allison (Green) Weiner, Research and Sponsored Programs.

Council Chair Brooks Applegate called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes of 8 December 2011**

A motion was made by Bertman and seconded by Risukhin to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed.

**Approval of Agenda for 12 January 2012**

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

**Reports**

*Council Chair – Brooks Applegate*

At the chair's invitation, Dr. Hal Jenson, dean of the WMU Medical School, and Dr. Jack Luderer, vice president for research of the WMU Medical School, have agreed to attend the 15 March 2012 RPC meeting. They will provide an informal update on the medical school and answer questions. If there are specific questions, submit them to the chair in advance.

*Vice President for Research – Dan Litynski*

The annual research report was printed (4500 copies) and distributed internally. This covers accomplishments between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2011. The external report will be published again in the spring.

There is work in progress to develop a database of experts through Elsevier SciVal. Dr. Kay Palan, dean of the Haworth College of Business, is the lead at WMU on this project, which is a collaborative effort of research universities in Michigan. This database should be useful for collaboration and funding. It should take about 60 days to get it up and running after the contract is signed.

The OVPR action plan is a work in progress. A copy of the working document was distributed to the council.

*Interim Dean of the Graduate College – Gene Freudenburg*

Research and Travel Grant and dissertation award application deadlines were announced. Several graduate workshops were held last fall and in January. A list of workshops sponsored by the Graduate College was distributed to the council. There were 840 appointments made for teaching assistants. Applications for fall 2012 are up when compared to the same time last year (up 20% for masters students and up 27% for doctoral students).

**Continued Business**

*Council Charges – Brooks Applegate*

- a. Charge #1 - no report. Executive committee will meet to look at this.
- b. Charge #2 - no report. Awaiting report from OVPR.
- c. Charge #3 - no report. Awaiting report from OVPR.
- d. Charge #4 - committee established and initial work has begun.
- e. Charge #5 - Bertman reported that there were 3 Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACAA) workshops and walk-in hours held (26 faculty came during walk-in hours). FRACAA are due 13 January 2012. So far, nine have been submitted.
- f. Charge #6 - Research and Creative Activities Day Subcommittee reported: Kohler announced that funding for the event is coming in. RPC members were asked to solicit graduate posters from graduate faculty in their colleges. At this time, there is no limit to the number of posters from each faculty. RPC members also asked to recruit judges (5-6 from each college) and bring names to the next meeting. A sheet of information for graduate posters and one for judges was distributed. Electronic copies will be sent to RPC members to help with recruitment.
- g. Charge #7 - Support for Faculty Scholar Award (SFSA) deadline is 31 January 2012. Faculty on RPC will review the applications prior to the next meeting (at noon on 9 February 2012). OVPR will provide lunch.
- h. Charge #8 - The chair met with Abudayyeh, Kohler and Litynski to discuss development of a data management plan that is least disruptive to researchers. Currently the requirement for a data management plan affects only a few researchers. The OVPR is gathering NSF guidelines for a data repository and policies for data retention from various agencies.
- i. Charge #9 - See Chair's report.

**New Business**

No new business.

The next meeting is Thursday, 9 February at 2:30 p.m. Faculty members will meet at noon to review SFSA applications.

### **Adjournment**

Tasko made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Steinbach seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Stark