

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL
Minutes of 12 September 2013 Meeting

Members present: Osama Abudayyeh, Brooks Applegate, Steve Bertman, Martha Councill-Vargas, Muralidhar Ghantasala, Michael Kiella, Dan Litynski, Muhammad Razi, Vladimir Risukhin, David Rudge, Susan Stapleton, Mary Ann Stark, Susan Steuer, Lisa Whittaker (for Lori Brown), Alan Wuosmaa

Dennis McFall also for Lori Brown

Absent without substitution: Kristin Everett, James Kiddle

Also present: Paula Kohler, Associate Vice President for Research

Council Chair Brooks Applegate called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m., and welcomed Vice President Litynski, announced that Provost and Vice President Greene would arrive shortly to address the RPC.

Procedural Items

Approval of Agenda for 12 September 2013

A motion was made and supported to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes of 13 June 2013

A motion was made and supported to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

Election of Research Policies Council Secretary

Nomination of Officer (Secretary)

Michael L. Kiella was nominated by Brooks Applegate to serve as the RPC Secretary for the current year.

Action

A motion was made by Bertman, with support from Litynski, to accept the nomination. Motion passed.

Discussion Items: None

Reports

Council Chair – Brooks Applegate

Council Chair Applegate reported on the following:

- The Official Memorandum of Action (MOA-13/03) “Research Policies Council Revised Role Statement” was approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Board on 19 July 2013 for immediate implementation.
- RPC Charges from the Senate Executive Board will remain exactly the same as last year, and that he and Abudayyeh will develop an implementation strategy.
- The Annual Report was submitted to the Senate Executive Board. A copy was provided to the RPC.
- Licensing for the commercial package INVIVO (Mixed Method and Qualitative Research) was completed for the College of Education.
 - Discussion followed regarding the Charges of the Data Management Project Action Team (PAT) for creating policy and work process for purchase or licensing of technology programs.
 - Discussion regarding availability, implementation, and use of software packages across the diverse university environment.
- Packaged product from Elsevier that will become a central repository of faculty information regarding CVs, and research agendas.
 - Discussion regarding implementation, and the process for populating the database.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs – Timothy Greene

Provost Greene provided the following:

- Extended a thank-you to members of the RPC for service to the university.
- Solicited input going forward on topics for which he should be made aware.
- Reported on the Faculty Development initiative *Discover Discovery*.
 - Development process open to all faculty.
 - Program details were highlighted
 - Schedule of events, topics and presenters was provided
- Reported jointly with Litynski and Kohler on the implementation of the Graduate Student Grant Writing workshop.
- Reported on a pilot project regarding the current under-utilization of out-of-state graduate assistants in support of the Research pyramid.

- Reported on the opening of the Medical School, and the addition of supplemental programs that will be added to the curriculum of the medical school.
- Announced the formal affiliation agreement between WMU and the Thomas M. Cooley School of Law
 - WMU ranks 81st out of more than four-thousand schools that offer MD, JD, and PhD programs.
- WMU notified that the Alliance (University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University, Michigan Technological University, WMU) were funded for 1-1/2 to 2 years.
- Reported that Travel Grants will be next awarded in December.

Vice President for Research – Dan Litynski

Vice President Litynski provided the following:

- Provided discussion on OVPR agenda for support and increase research, and research focus.
- Requested that Kohler discuss the Research Ethics Committee meeting regarding Conflict of Interest Policy
 - Kohler reported on the acquisition of a new Research Ethics-Responsible Conduct Courses for WMU
 - Will replace the CITI courses except the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board module
 - New courses can be customized and repackaged as necessary to meet the needs of WMU
- Reported on the potential scope of involvement of the RPC in the Program Review process
 - Discussion suggesting that the RPC must be involved and provide input into the process
 - Informed that 20 senior faculty members are actively engaged in the Program Review process that contains micro, and macro criteria.

Dean of the Graduate College – Susan Stapleton

- Announced planned doctoral associate and graduate assistant training modules.
- Informed on the progress of interviews for Ambassadors.
 - Stated that the Graduate Student Advisory Committee is pleased with the program
- Reported on the Michigan Graduate Education in the Professorate granting process in STEM education
 - Program broadened to include the social sciences.

Continued/Old Business

2013-14 Council Charges

No report

New Business

A motion was made by Litynski, with support from Bertman, to move agenda new business item #2 (Internal Funding Opportunities) ahead of item #1 (RPC Charges). Motion passed.

- Extended discussion and review of proposed Internal Funding Opportunities for 2013-2014
 - Timing of allocations, then use of the funding during the year was the central discussion
 - The Projected Summary of Faculty Research and Creative Activities Support Fund Allocation and Expenditures spreadsheet was discussed and corrected

A motion was made by Mary Ann Stark with support by Osama Abudayyeh to accept the award maximum as proposed. The motion was modified by David Rudge with support from Muhammad Razi to also accept the revised allocation percentages. Both motions passed.

Adjournment

Alan Wuosmaa made the motion to adjourn, with support by Mary Ann Stark. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m.

The next meeting is Thursday, 10 October, at 2:30 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the Bernhard Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael L. Kiella