

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE

RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL  
Minutes of 5 December 2013 Meeting

**Members present:** Osama Abudayyeh, Brooks Applegate, Steve Bertman, Lori Brown, Paul Ciccantell, Martha Councell-Vargas, Muralidhar Ghantasala, Michael Kiella, Dan Litynski, Muhammad Razi, Matt Reid, David Rudge, Susan Stapleton, Mary Ann Stark, Susan Steuer, Patti Van Walbeck, Alan Wuosmaa

**Absent without substitution:** None

**Also present:** Jody Brylinsky, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness; Jay Hoinville, Office of the Vice President for Research; Norman Azoulay and Karen Wheeler, Elsevier.

Council Chair Brooks Applegate called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

**Procedural Items**

*Approval of Agenda for 5 December 2013*

A motion was made by Mary Ann Stark, supported by Patti Van Walbeck, to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

*Approval of Minutes of 14 November 2013*

A motion was made by Mary Ann Stark, with support from Susan Steuer, to approve the 14 November minutes. Motion passed.

**Discussion Items**

Dr. Jody Brylinsky, associate provost for institutional effectiveness, and representing the Data Governance Tactical Action Community (TAC) was welcomed as a guest where she highlighted the recent work of the TAC.

She asked the RPC to consider participating with the next steps (to be determined) of the data governance project with a request to respond to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness by 31 January 2014.

- Documents received from Dr. Brylinsky:
  - WMU Institutional Research Data Collection Request Form
  - WMU Policy for Conducting Data Collection Projects: Draft for Discussion (24 October 2013 version)
  - Data Collection Policy Statement and Procedures
    - Purpose
    - Procedures
  - Issues for Consideration and Further Discussion

- General questions were asked.
- Dr. Applegate agreed on behalf of the RPC to add the request to the January RPC agenda, and to provide a response to Dr. Brylinsky by the requested date: 31 January 2014.
- Dr. Brylinsky excused herself from the meeting.

**Reports**

*Council Chair – Brooks Applegate*

Council Chair Applegate reported on the following:

- Reminded members of the Faculty Senate meeting, this date.
  - Following the business meeting, the Senate Committee on Extended University Programs will present a forum on Access, Outreach and Innovation in Education.
- Asked the secretary to resolve any issues which are preventing the RPC minutes from being posted on the Faculty Senate website.
- Accepted the resignation of Alan Wuosmaa from the RPC with gratitude for his long service, his institutional knowledge, and many contributions.
  - The RPC members present acknowledged Dr. Wuosmaa's long service with words of appreciation and gratitude; and extended a warm ovation.

*Vice President for Research – Dan Litynski*

Vice President Litynski provided the following:

- Provided a formal informational presentation on the progress of the Elsevier project:
  - Dr. Litynski was assisted in the presentation by Drs. Jay Hoinville, Norman Azoulay, and Karen Wheeler from Elsevier.
    - Same presentation that was made to the Provost Council, and the upcoming Faculty Senate meetings
      - Phase I: complete with a SCOPUS download of 52 million records, including disambiguation of authors
      - Phase II: Download of Grants and Patents
      - Phase III: Download of Individual Content

- Search capabilities were demonstrated for various query types
- Elsevier guests answered many RPC member questions

*Dean of the Graduate College – Susan Stapleton*

Dean Sue Stapleton provided the following:

- Reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Graduate Research and Travel Grants were awarded to eleven individuals for \$10,700.
- Reported two Frostic Awards for \$7,500.
- Reported on the Recruitment of information for graduates students on a single page format, including the linking of QR codes to the Graduate College website
- Reported on the ongoing training efforts for Graduate College Admissions Counselors
  - Emphasis on accelerated programs and the creation of a notebook on all programs
- Reported that 14 grant funded prospective graduate students were arriving for the traditional Historically Black Colleges and Universities visitation.
- Reported on the details of the award of 56 doctoral degrees earned during Summer II and Fall 2013, at the December 2013 commencement exercises.
  - 43 will participate in the exercises
- Acknowledged a cohort of five students from Iraq receiving graduate degrees in Computer Science

#### **Continued/Old Business**

A question has arisen regarding Principal Investigator eligibility when a Support for Faculty Scholars Award is completed.

- Eligibility regarding the overlap of grants: SFSA and Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award, and when a SFSA is successfully closed out.

- No controversy on what the requirements are, but question about the relevant Memorandum of Action, and what program documents say/require.
  - Document harmonization is at issue
- Dr. Applegate will research the relevant MOAs and records in hand. If the harmonization remains at issue after review, an RPC committee will be appointed to clarify and harmonize the policy documents.

#### *2013-14 Council Charges*

1. No progress
2. Jody Brylinsky's proposal would be charged here
3. Report from Paula Kohler is scheduled for January 2014
4. Paula Kohler and Sue Stapleton report work in progress
5. FRACAA proposals due in January
6. Will be held at the Bernhard Center on 11 April 2014. Current year fact sheet handed out. Faculty to solicit judges. Scoring Criteria document handed out. Lengthy discussion regarding whether undergraduate research and creative activities will be invited to the current competition. Undergraduate Research Award recipients strongly considered for inclusion in the program.
7. No report
8. No report
9. No report

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Adjournment**

Alan Wuosmaa made the motion to adjourn, with support by Muralidhar Ghantasala. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

The next meeting is Thursday, 9 January 2014, at 2:30 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the Bernhard Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael L. Kiella