

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

RESEARCH POLICIES COUNCIL
Minutes of 5 December 2019

Members Present: Osama Abudayyeh, Onur Arugaslan, Zari Carpenter (Graduate Student Association), Steven Carr, Chris Coryn, Martha Councell-Vargas, Anthony DeFulio, Wanda Hadley, Terri Kinzy, Heather Petcovic (designee for Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jennifer Bott), Jill Rowe, Paul Solomon, Susan Steuer, Andre Venter.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Onur Arugaslan at 2:34 p.m.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Venter to accept the agenda; seconded by DeFulio. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion was made by Abudayyeh to approve the minutes of 14 November 2019 as distributed; seconded by Councell-Vargas. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

MOA-19/09 Revision of the Research Misconduct Policy.

Abudayyeh noted that the Faculty Senate Executive Board sent this and other policies to the WMU-AAUP who has asked its lawyers to review the policies, so he moved that this be postponed. Solomon seconded. Motion carried.

*Revised Procedures for Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award –
Bautista*

Arugaslan described the changes in Bautista's absence. The only revision is on page 4 and concerns making sure that the funds provided by FRACAA are spent following budgetary guidelines at WMU. Funds were used to pay summer salary for someone at another institution. Kinzy noted that WMed is an exception for funds being used by other institutions, since it works with WMU and provides funds through its grants for services provided by WMU. Arugaslan noted that this is clearly spelled out later in the document. The language to be changed is:

B.6. "FRACAA funds are meant to be used for research and creative activities done by WMU faculty primarily at WMU. While FRACAA funds may be used to contract services from external companies or institutions, such contracts are subjected to the Budget Requirements specified in points 1 through 5."

A motion to approve the language was made by DeFulio and seconded by Coryn. Discussion ensued regarding WMed as an exception as WMed currently allows its internal grant programs to subaward funds to WMU. Abudayyeh suggested that WMed simply be considered a service provider and not include additional language. This would not allow WMed faculty to apply. Kinzy noted that the current language is grey about collaboration with WMed and advocated for additional language.

Motion carried.

DeFulio moved that in addition, B.5.e. be added; seconded by Venter.

"Subawards to other institutions are not permitted, with the exception of WMed." Motion carried.

Discussion ensued about how these projects are disseminated through poster requirements. Councell-Vargas noted that the event for dissemination has been changed and moved that B.3.b. should be changed to include "or Spring Convocation;" and also at C.7. Coryn seconded. The motion carried.

UPDATES AND REPORTS

Council Chair and Vice Chair

DeFulio is still working on MOA-19/08: Creation of Eligibility to Serve as WMU Principal Investigators on Sponsored Projects Policy.

Vice President for Research and Innovation

Kinzy noted that the FRACAA workshop is going on in Sangren Hall. Two faculty fellows have been selected for next year – one in the area of compliance, Amy Naugle, Psychology and chair of the Human Subjects Institutional Review Board; and one in research advancement, Lofty Durham, Theatre. A report analysis is being completed with Institutional Research on the National Science Foundation's Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) survey. Work is continuing on better reporting of WMU Research Acceleration Program (WRAP) and Indirect Cost (IDC) allocation accounts. Research is a key part of the enrollment challenges WMU faces. The Office of Research and Innovation will be represented at the Medallion Scholarship competition. NSF Idea machine update – WMU had two of twelve semifinalists, Drs. Todd Ellis and Bilinda Straight; and reached the final 2-4.

Graduate College – Zari Carpenter

At the last Graduate Student Association meeting, discussion was held with some officials from Business and Finance and Interim Dean Christine Byrd-Jacobs regarding the change in policy which no longer allows students to become in-state students after enrollment. While the percentage of additional tuition for out-of-state students was lowered, the GSA was quite disappointed and will pursue this more formally. Another meeting will be held on 6 December. DeFulio noted that this is a concern for recruitment.

OTHER BUSINESS

Arugaslan discussed the meeting with Vice President for Marketing and Strategic Communication Tony Proudfoot. Solomon will provide a report in January. Kinzy discussed new ways in which scholarly and creative activity will be captured and promoted. This will be advertised in the Office of Research and Innovation newsletters and deans will be asked to help get the word out through that office and Marketing and Strategic Communications. Kinzy will try and provide information to Solomon about individual marketing in the colleges.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Solomon to adjourn, and seconded by Venter. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by Susan Steuer, RPC secretary