

# Governance in Action.....

IMPACT OF THE OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR  
FOR RESEARCH AND GRADUATE EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC STAFF ISSUES



The University of Wisconsin-Madison Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education Committee on Academic Staff Issues (OVCERGE-CASI) has been in existence for 16 years. The committee represents more than 900 academic staff members, advises the vice chancellor regarding academic staff issues and reviews academic staff policies and procedures.

Academic staff are the largest employee group on campus and are integral to the university's three institutional missions: teaching, research and outreach. Academic staff are annually responsible for securing millions in research dollars, and then managing the explorations of groundbreaking findings with those dollars. Academic staff work directly with students through mentoring programs and classroom instruction. In a demonstration of commitment to the Wisconsin Idea,

academic staff conduct outreach programming and events, such as Science Expeditions that has its roots in the Biotechnology Center. The center is one of 21 OVCERGE entities and organizes Science Expeditions each spring, inviting the public to experience UW-Madison's science, engineering and technology research through tours, talks and hands-on activities. It is a popular three-day event and in 2018 attracted 4,000 people.



**Committee on  
Academic Staff Issues**  
Office of the Vice Chancellor for  
Research and Graduate Education  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

AUGUST 2019

## 2018-19 OVCRGE-CASI members

NAGESH ALDURU, associate scientist, Waisman Center

TIM BENDELT, systems programmer, Wisconsin IceCube Particle Astrophysics Center

KATIE BLOCK, student services coordinator, OVCRGE

REBECCA CHAPMAN, associate student services coordinator, OVCRGE

NORMAN DRINKWATER, interim vice chancellor for research and graduate education, non-voting

KATIE FRISCH, administrative program specialist, Primate Center

NICHOLAS GRIFFITHS, senior administrative program specialist, Waisman Center

DENNY HACKEL, instrumentation technician, Space Science and Engineering Center

JENNIFER HEINRITZ, senior research specialist, Wisconsin Institute for Discovery

SHANE HUBBARD, research scientist, Space Science and Engineering Center

PETER JOHNSON, administrative program specialist, Office of Research Compliance

JULIE KARPELENIA, assistant vice chancellor, human resources, OVCRGE, non-voting

TERRI LIEBMANN, assistant director, Aquatic Sciences Center

KURT McMILLEN, assistant director, Research and Sponsored Programs

JASON PINNOW, research program manager animal care facility operations, Waisman Center

## OVCRGE-CASI impacts and activities

1. Serve on committees of campus-wide importance. In 2018-19, this included one member who was co-chair for the Ad Hoc Committee on Research Scientist Titles and an ex officio member who is on the Titling and Total Compensation Committee.
2. Review applications and recommend OVCRGE staff for professional development grants. A large number of OVCRGE academic staff participate in this opportunity. Since 2010, more than 50 OVCRGE academic staff members have been successful in securing a grant.
3. In the past, the CASI created an academic staff [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document. The UW-Madison Compensation and Economic Benefits Committee assumed responsibility for the maintenance of the useful document that serves academic staff across the campus.
4. Integral in the adoption of a new research professor title for the entire campus. The change, it is thought, will strengthen the university's ability to attract federal grant funding, and prove useful in hiring recruitment and researcher retention.
5. Maintain a [web-based vehicle](#) to post committee business, reports and presentations as a direct portal for academic staff constituents and as a resource for others in the OVCRGE and campus-wide structure.
6. Provided academic staff perspective as part of the screening process for a new vice chancellor of research and graduate education through participation in meet and greets with the three candidates.
7. Deepened relationships with a network of colleagues in other centers and administration outside of the OVCRGE. There is value in these relationships and interaction when governance issues arise and decision-making would benefit from the insights of colleagues in varied settings.

[go.wisc.edu/x79z7t](http://go.wisc.edu/x79z7t)



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