

MINUTES

Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
Committee on Academic Staff Issues
Monday, May, 11 2015 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Bascom Hall Rm 334
Minutes: Moira Harrington

Convene - 1:30 p.m.

Present – Marsha Mailick, Judy Bauman, Alex Converse, Kristin Harmon, Moira Harrington, Julie Karpelenia, Julie Schears, Nicci Schmidt, Tom Zinnen

Absent – Wayne Feltz, Jenny Hackel, Kristin Crosno

Welcome and Chair Comments

Mailick provided an update on Office of the VCRGE activities:

Online comments about the dean of the Graduate School candidates has closed but she still welcomed feedback via personal written communication to be submitted via Peggy Ziebarth. All communication is assured anonymity. A decision will be made later in the week of May 11 or early in the week of May 18. This timeline marks nearly exactly one year since the date the Faculty Senate voted to create the Graduate School as a distinct entity.

Associate Dean of the Graduate School Dan Kleinman chaired a committee on the restructuring of the former Dean of the Graduate School office. The work was completed in December. Mailick views it as a useful document and one that will be informative for the incoming dean of the Graduate School. It reflects 22 meetings with various stakeholders and captures many perspectives. Some topics were things that didn't have to wait for this arrival of new leadership, for example, professional development.

Rick Moss with the School of Medicine and Public Health chaired a group looking at scientific core resources. Academic staff were represented on this large committee, which included subcommittees. A draft report has been submitted with preliminary findings. The report proposes clusters of scanners—to broaden use of resources. Control of the resources is recommended to stay as is and then devise a means to share resources. The committee did not look at individual equipment but rather at cluster committees that would lead in those shared resource-clusters. This would create a new position—reporting to Mailick as the director of core resources. Again, to reiterate, none of the control would change but this new system would offer more transparency. The new hire would provide information on access, pricing and services. This approach will also identify gaps on campus and how to fill those gaps for the benefit of the research enterprise. Mailick briefed the WARF board on this approach and it was favorably received. The view is that this is changing information about resources but not their operations. In fact, it could also stimulate increased utilization and potentially revenue. Mailick noted that the vice chancellor for finance and administration will also vet the report in terms of pricing

structure recommendations.

Norm Drinkwater, interim associate vice chancellor for biological sciences, and Jan Greenberg, interim associate vice chancellor for social studies, led a committee to establish protocols for a five-year review cycle for the Office of the VCRGE centers. The goal is not to close down the centers but rather identify where the centers may need resources, where they can grow and whether their mission is consistent with the UW-Madison mission. Self-study will be a part of the review. Also, the Campus Review Committee would be involved. It would include a visit for a day or two, a written report and a chance for the center to respond. The University Research Council will receive the reports. This process had been in place under the previous structure of the Graduate School was not entirely implemented. The goal would be to conduct this VCRGE review six months before or six months after a center's core grant review. However, the Biotechnology Center doesn't have a core grant so it would just have to get into some sort of a cycle for review. Academic staff make up the majority of staffing in centers so their input on this process will be valuable.

Brian Fox, interim associate vice chancellor for research policy, is leading a group on entrepreneurship. Much of it has been done in consultation with the Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs Ray Taffora, who provided the statutory framework on intellectual property. UW-Madison has some different nuances on who owns intellectual property and technology transfer as compared to other institutions. Fox is also leading a roundtable discussion on this topic. Academic staff members participate in this roundtable. Resolving questions surrounding who owns intellectual property on this campus and any distinctions among faculty, students and academic staff members may be a topic of a future CASI meeting.

The University Research Council is focused on strategic planning and communications. Mailick wants this council to reach out and pull in input. It will provide high-level advice. It has held three meetings so far. It needs membership and mission tweaking. By this time next year, it will have a clearer path but Mailick doesn't want to rush.

Mailick has been visiting all the centers. Also, the directors are holding regular meetings—taking it in turn to host.

Dan Ulrich will remain in charge of compliance under the Office of VCRGE. There has been a lot of discussion about the burden of compliance and inconsistencies. U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson is interested in working to reduce some of the compliance burdens.

Zinnen suggests a friendlier name for Office of the VCRGE be implemented, much like the Nelson Institute or the La Follette Institute. Mailick agrees it could be a much more user-friendly name Zinnen suggests incorporating the name Van Hise as a way to commemorate Charles Van Hise and the Wisconsin Idea, and as one of two individuals to have received the first research degrees awarded by the university.

Schmidt observes that with all the activities and committees Mallick has outlined, there is a lot of governance opportunity.

General Reports

ASA/ASEC report (Schmidt, Shapiro and Zinnen)

It was noted that the last ASEC assembly meeting was occurring on May 11. Also, there had been an ASEC and a CASI lunch. Schmidt had attended. There has been interest in formulating a Graduate School CASI. Shapiro noted library consolidation will be on the meeting agenda.

Committee Reports

Personnel Policies and Procedures/HR Design (Karpelenia)

Hackel returns from leave next week. There has been a lot of activity related to HR redesign as it relates to university staff—how hires will be made, how that group is compensated, evaluation components since the category of classified staff goes away on July 1. She keeps all VCRGE staff well-informed on these topics as appropriate.

Communications (Zinnen)

Zinnen has been working with former CASI member John Richards on transition related to the website responsibilities.

Nominating and Districting (Schmidt)

Julie Schears, Wayne Feltz, Kristin Crosno and Judy Bauman have all been reelected to their CASI seats.

Professional Development (Schmidt)

Soon, we'll hear about whether any VCRGE staff received PD grants.

Other Business

Updates from previous action items:

Schmidt reported she has reached out to the ASPO lobbyist for any possible updates on the state budget and whether the lobbyist and CASI could formulate some system for more timely updates. At the time of the May 11 meeting, Schmidt had not gotten a response.

Karpelenia raised the point that the committee had been looking at recruiting some potential university staff to the slots that are currently vacant. However, individuals in this category don't really have to determine their status until July 1, 2016 so the committee may not want to wait that long to look at recruiting for the vacant positions. She said she has some thoughts on current academic staff members as potential CASI members.

Review future topics and speakers:

Discussed Harry Webne-Behrman (HR Design) for June or August

- Research training & marketplace
- PI Portal initiative/project management for research
- Classified Research Bill
- UW budget modeling
- Administrative Excellence

• Open Book person

• Human Resources, climate

Site Visits:

• Biotron

• Arboretum possibly for September, which the retreat meeting.

• SSEC

Action Items

Karpelenia will work on appointed positions.

Zinnen will advise on applicability of intellectual property as a topic for a future meeting.

Adjourn – 3 p.m.

Next Meeting:

June 8, 2015; 1:30-3 p.m.

Bascom Rm 334 (location for remaining meetings of FY15)

Future Minutes: