

MINUTES

Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
Committee on Academic Staff Issues
Monday, Dec. 14, 2015 from 1:30 – 2:40 p.m. tour of Biotron
2:40 – 3:10 p.m. Business meeting
Minutes: Moira Harrington

Convene – 1:30 p.m.

Present – Katie Olson, Moira Harrington, Julie Karpelenia, Julie Schears, Nicci Schmidt and Tom Zinnen

Absent – Wayne Feltz, Jenny Hackel, Judy Bauman, Alex Converse, Kristin Harmon, Peter Johnson, Robert Newsom and Tim Bendfelt

Welcome and Chair Comments

Isabelle Girard welcomed the committee to Biotron, one of the VCRGE centers, for a tour arranged by Karpelenia. UW-Madison secured the federal contract to construct Biotron in 1966 and it fully came online in 1967. It provides controlled environments—sound, light, vibration, temperature—for animals, plants and materials. Girard likened it to a, “research hotel. You tell us when you want to book a room and what amenities you want in that room.” There are also some resident labs in the facility.

Review and Approve Minutes October, November

There was no quorum. This agenda item will carry over to the February 2016 meeting.

General Reports

ASA/ASEC report (Zinnen)

The chancellor is scheduled to address the assembly later in the day on Dec. 14.

Update on ASEC

Robert Newsom was absent so there was no report.

Committee Reports

Personnel Policies and Procedures/HR Design (Karpelenia)

Salary maximums have been increased by 10 percent.

Communications (Zinnen)

Zinnen has been working with a VCRGE Web person to post committee material and updates to KnowledgeBase. It is a difficult platform. Schmidt requests that

Zinnen work with the Communications Subcommittee to formulate a proposal on how to better approach and manage the need to post material.

Nominating and Districting (Feltz)

Feltz was absent so there was no report.

Professional Development (Schmidt)

Schmidt and Karpelenia updated the group on academic staff professional development grants. Soon, the committee will learn if any of the candidates for grants the subcommittee reviewed will receive an award. Also, in January, the spring grant period will begin.

Other Business

Assembly data (Schmidt): Data regarding university budget cut impacts on academic staff was distributed prior to the meeting. The discussion on this topic will be moved to the February 2016 agenda.

Performance management tool (Karpelenia): The OVCRGE Office of Human Resources is testing a performance management tool. Her office hopes to do “show and tell” with it, involving small and diverse groups, at the end of January in order to secure feedback.

VCRGE center reviews (Schmidt): People could self-select to volunteer service on the various center review committees. It will be a rolling process since there will be three reviews on a different roster of centers each year.

Updates from retreat (Schmidt): Further discussion on the February 2016 agenda.

Research cores position (Schmidt): The position vacancy listing has not been finalized, according to Karpelenia.

Children in the workplace policy (Karpelenia): VCRGE Mailick asked for committee input on a draft policy. The campus currently has no policy. It was Karpelenia’s understanding that the draft policy has not, at this point, been shared with any other governance bodies. In fact, her office had not seen the policy before Dec. 14. Schmidt felt this was a great opportunity for the committee to play a role in policy development. She will distribute the draft policy, solicit input and oversee the collating of committee comments to forward on to VCRGE Mailick. The timeframe will likely be February, this will also possibly be a February 2016 agenda item. As of now, the policy is projected to go into effect in March 2016.

Review future topics and speakers:

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

- Open Book person
- Human Resources, climate

- SSEC
- Primate Center

Action Items

The Communications Subcommittee will review the procedure on posting committee material to KnowledgeBase and make recommendations to streamline the process.

The full committee will review a proposed children in the workplace administrative policy.

Adjourn – 3:10 p.m.

Next Meeting:

February 8 2016; 1:30-3 p.m.

Future Minutes: Kristin Harmon