

MINUTES

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education
Committee on Academic Staff Issues
Monday, June 12th 2017 from 1:30 – 3:00 pm
Bascom Hall Rm 334

Convened at 1:34pm

Present: Moira Harrington, Julie Karpelenia, Jason Pinnow, Shane Hubbard, Denny Hackel, Jay Krafft, Tim Bendfelt, Peter Johnson, Katie Olsen, Julie Shears

Absent: Nagesh Adluru, Judy Bauman

Welcome

Introduction of new CASI members; Jason Pinnow, Shane Hubbard, Denny Hackel, Jay Krafft.

(New CASI members with terms starting July 2017 were counted in the quorum determination)

General Reports

ASA report: Denny Hackel's term starts July 2017. Briefly reported from meeting minutes.

Office of Industrial Processes (OIP) is moving to RSP effective July 1, 2017. Discussion of which group will manage contracts with Julie K. indicating that there should eventually be a single team managing contracts.

Committee Reports

Personnel Policies and Procedures/HR Design (Shears)

Review of the Honorific Research Professorial working titles still in progress.

OVCGRE performance management tool is being ported to a different system for wider rollout. This entails a code and system migration. Forecast for rollout is August 2017. Julie K. indicates that tool is simple enough that training should be minimal. Additional soft skill training will be available. Centers are asked to review the "Criteria for Success" page and tailor it to their specific needs.

Julie K. recapitulated how the OVCGRE tool came to be selected over PageUp. The performance management policy was adopted absent any tooling. Initially (Aug 2015) OVCGRE began developing the tool, but with an awareness that PageUp might be mandated campus-wide. After 2 years without a PageUp solution, mandate or timeline for adoption, OVCGRE moved forward to implement the tool.

Communications (Bendfelt)

Action Item: New members to be added to web site.

Nominating and Districting (Hubbard).

Welcome: Jason Pinnow, Shane Hubbard, Denny Hackel, Jay Krafft.

Updates to districting information are underway. Waiting for additional information from Tom Zinnen's district.

Action Item: Identify a new subcommittee chair to replace Wayne Feltz.

Professional Development (Schears)

Professional Development Grants have been sent out. 6 of 12 applications were granted. Julie S. and Julie K. indicated that the process has been simplified compared to previous cycles. Applications for the next round of professional development grants will go out in September and are due in October.

Other Business

Summer Break

The group opted to cancel the August CASI meeting as the traditional summer break.

CASI Retreat

Request for volunteers to staff a retreat planning committee. Jason Pinnow and Julie Shears stepped forward.

Updates from VCGRE Marsha Mailick

Several initiatives in works for next year to address the recent slip of UW research (from 5 to 6) in the HERD survey. UW had been ranked 5 since 1979. Although the slip in position is recent, UW has been falling behind relative to the top 4 institutions for the past 10 years.

One reason for the slip is the flat level of faculty and staff (which generate grant activity). As an example, Ohio State monetized parking to fund an increase in faculty.

Exploring a change to change the Research Professor title from just a working title typically applicable to senior staff to a bona fide career track accessible at the point of hire.

New funding programs. UW2020 has been successful on a smaller scale, but would like to develop support for securing large multi-discipline grants.

Microbiome initiative generated 8 new research grants.

Initiative for Data Science research component with scope beyond Computer Sciences (E.g. Business School, Social Sciences). Support new methods for big data analysis.

Create capacity for supporting large grants. Centers are positioned to support large grants but this does not extend to all departments. Other universities have "large grant" offices that support the initiation of large grants. This will support initiation only. The new office will not subsume grant management.

Established the Director of Research Cores position to compile information of campus research resources. Web site to go live this month that catalogs shared research resources. The next stage will continue to populate resource list. Control and pricing are controlled locally, but the web site will create a market for sharing

and efficiency. Full population of the site will take another semester or two. So far four grant applicants have leveraged a resource from the site in their applications.

Reorganization activity: RSP has moved back into OVCGRE (~80 staff, ~100 students). OIP moved into RSP which should enhance capacity of contracting experts.

Looking for feedback and comments on VCRGE blog. Goal is to bring forth a discussion of current research challenges. CASI is invite to submit web content (i.e. success stories. We should be unifying around ideas to combat myths of a “doomsday” research environment.

Potential for staff raises. Staff salaries are counted as research expenditures. Flat salaries have contributed to flat expenditures. The current outlook is for 2% increase next year followed by another 2% the following year.

There are still concerns regarding the state government and its effect on research funding. Not too long ago the university was viewed as a resource for solving problems. This is not the current environment. In addition there is the chilling of climate research and the politicization of research in general.

Center Reviews: Next year Biotech and Primate Research centers will undergo review. Waisman review is nearly complete. WID review is complete. Volunteers for the review committee are being solicited. This is a good opportunity for a center member to become familiar with the review process prior to their center’s review.

Action Items

Identify a new subcommittee chair to replace Wayne Feltz.

Update Web site with new member information.

Adjourned at 3:02pm

Next Meeting:

July 10, 2017 Bascom Rm 334

Topics:

Genrate future topics.

Additional discussion of the Research Professor title.

Future Minutes:

Judy Bauman

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Bendfelt