



# Faculty Senate OVCRGE Updates

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Produced by University Communications

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**WISCONSIN**  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# New Members of Leadership Team

- Associate Vice Chancellor for  
Research in the Arts and Humanities  
Florence Hsia, Ph.D.  
Professor of History of Science



- Associate Vice Chancellor for  
Research in the Biological Sciences  
Cynthia Czajkowski, Ph.D.  
Professor of Neuroscience



# Topics for Discussion

- Grant programs and new initiatives
- Reducing administrative burden

# OVCERGE Grant Programs

- Fall Research Competition
  - Last year funded 247/458 proposals across four divisions for a total of \$9.95M.
- UW2020-WARF Discovery Initiative
  - Foster collaborative research projects and create new research infrastructure.
  - Over four rounds, funded 66 projects involving 439 investigators for a total investment of \$25.2M.
  - For first two rounds, ~3-fold return on investment.

# Strategic Initiatives

- Microbiome (2017): Funded 13 (of 37) proposals involving 58 faculty from 6 schools or colleges.
- Data Science (2018): Funded 10 (of 54) proposals involving 32 faculty from 6 schools or colleges.
- Contemporary Social Problems (2019): Abstracts due 11/16, proposals due 1/18. Complements DreamUp Wisconsin, a collaboration between the Institute for Research on Poverty and Schmidt Futures Alliance for the American Dream.

# Contemporary Social Problems Initiative

- Promoting Economic Prosperity, Enhancing Social and Psychological Well-being and Improving Health Outcomes in the United States.
- Research Themes (Examples):
  - Income and wealth distribution: the causes, characteristics, and consequences of income inequality.
  - Policies and programs to promote economic prosperity, social and psychological well-being and health through education, training, and human capital development.
  - Technology innovation to promote economic security, social and psychological well-being and healthy lifestyles.
  - Private sector role, including entrepreneurship, in promoting shared economic prosperity.
  - Policies and programs to promote socially and economically stable families and child well-being.

# New Initiative: Artist-in-Residence Support

- Increased support for faculty receiving prestigious external fellowships (NEH, Fulbright, etc.) in the humanities. Training through faculty workshops and individual mentoring by former AVC Lea Jacobs led to increase in number of awards from 11 in FY16 to 25 in FY18.
- Developed parallel program for Artist-in-Residence support in collaboration with School of Education and College of Letters and Science. Will provide up to four opportunities per year.

# Reducing administrative burden

- New streamlined process for reporting outside activities.
- Effort to match negotiation and management of agreements to level of risk.
  - Material Transfer Agreements
- Industry-sponsored research policies better matched to faculty needs.
  - Three new master agreements in process.
- IRB user survey and campus-wide, faculty/staff IRB Working Group report drove changes to administrative structure and hundreds of enhancements to ARROW.



# IRB Survey Fall 2016

- Eligibility Criteria
  - PI and/or their designated staff
  - Had an active protocol in the past 2 years
- Sent to 1,157 PIs or their designated staff
- 590 completed the survey
- 18 of these had not completed a protocol in past 2 years
- 572 total respondents

# Several Action Steps Recommended in Survey Report

- Improve ARROW
- Develop a short IRB survey to receive ongoing feedback
- Align OVCRGE's responsibility for human subjects with administrative oversight of IRBs
- Appointment of an IRB Working Group to make recommendations to address problems identified in survey

# OVCERGE IRB Working Group

- Dorothy Farrar-Edwards, School of Education (Chair)
- David Beebe, Engineering
- Barbara Bowers, Nursing
- Mark Burkard, SMPH
- Eric Camburn, School of Education
- Betty Chewning, Pharmacy
- Jane Collins, CALS
- Maureen Durkin, SMPH
- Jon Matsumura, SMPH
- Ken Mayer, L&S
- Elizabeth Petty, SMPH
- Karl Rosengren, L&S
- Gretchen Schwarz, SMPH
- John Stevenson, L & S

# Actions in response to Working Group Report

1. Increased faculty engagement in policy review
  - Change to charge of the cross campus HRPP (Sept 2018)
2. Culture shift to improve communication/collaboration between OVCRGE, IRB staff, & investigators
  - Developing study navigation service & improved communication methods during pre-review
3. Eliminate IRB fees except for industry and non-UW sponsored studies
  - Will be implemented January 1, 2019
4. Improve ARROW to simplify application process
  - Templated/standardized language in ED/SBS ARROW (July 2018)
  - New IRB personnel grid eliminates individual entry for each protocol activity (Sept 2018)
  - Modifications to funding pages to eliminate unnecessary questions and streamline funding pick list to active funding (Nov 2018-Jan 2019).

# Transition of HS-IRBs into OVCRGE

- Rationale: Align responsibility and operations under Institutional Officer (IO)
  - IO responsible for human subjects research
  - Campus-wide service by including all IRBs in the same administrative structure
  - Integration promotes consistency across campus
  - Elimination of fees for UW investigator-initiated studies
- One team focused on reducing research burden, while upholding the protection of human subjects, research accountability, and compliance with federal regulations.
- Location and staff will remain the same



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# Questions?

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