

Agenda
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH

17 September 2020

Virtual

3:30pm-5:00pm

CoR Documents available to CoR members in Team Drive: [CoR FY20](#)

Attendance (quorum met): Hypatia Alexandria, Jeff Alwang, Raj Bhagavathula, Harry Dorn, Elizabeth Grant, Jeff Hickman, Matt Holt, Ran Jin, Leslie LaConte, Kevin McGuire, Cristina Miliano, Lydia Patton, Tassia Persson, Jonathan Petters, John Phillips, Robin Queen, Karen Roberto, Don Taylor, Pam Vandevord (for Julie Ross), Lijuan Yuan

OVPRI: Laurel Miner, Kim Borkowski

Members absent: Don Hempson, Stephanie Trout

Guests: Jack Finney, Melinda West, Wayne Scales; Open Access Working Group: Ginny Pannabecker, Tom Sanchez, Philip Young

- I. [3:30] Introductions
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Approval of May 2020 Minutes
 - A. Approved electronically
- IV. [3:45] Announcements
 - A. Discussion of FY21 CoR priorities and call for additional topics – R. Bhagavathula
 1. Policy 13000: Intellectual Property and open access of published research
 2. Policy 13015: Public Access to Research Data
 3. Changes to membership: Adding permanent seats for University Institutes. Currently, the only way that institutes can be represented is if they have co-appointments with one of the colleges or if they are elected as a research faculty representative. That means that institutes are not

being fully represented and we should care about what is happening in research institutes.

4. Review of University Institutes: Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTT) & Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS)
5. Intellectual Property (IP) Committee Reformed
6. New National Security Institute

B. Commission Chairs meeting: 17 Sept 2020 – R. Bhagavathula

1. President Sands introduced several topics of discussion for the University Council this year; with the main focus on response to COVID-19.
2. Shared Governance training – R. Bhagavathula.
 - a) Training links were provided to the CoR. April Myers will attend the October meeting to give a further overview of governance at VT.

C. Calls for guest speaker topics – R. Bhagavathula

1. If members have any ideas for speakers or topics, please email Raj.

V. [4:00] Unfinished Business

A. Report of Ongoing Activities

1. University Library Committee – J. Petters
 - a) No update.
2. Faculty Senate – H. Dorn / R. Queen
 - a) No update. Next meeting is scheduled for September 18 and President Sands will join to answer questions related to COVID-19 and the rising numbers on campus.
3. Update to Policy 13000 – P. Young
 - a) A first reading and overview of the Open Access Policy website was provided; including information on group members, outreach efforts, frequently asked questions and a summary of the proposed Open Access Policy and Resolution. The second reading is planned for the November CoR Meeting. The following links were provided by the OA working group for further information and to share with constituent groups.
 - OA Google Site: the home page includes the full Proposed Resolution and Policy 13000 Revision: <https://sites.google.com/a/vt.edu/cor-oa-policy-working-group/>
 - Draft policy language specific to Open Access: <https://sites.google.com/a/vt.edu/cor-oa-policy-working-group/policy-draft>
 - FAQ page: <https://sites.google.com/a/vt.edu/cor-oa-policy-working-group/frequently-asked-questions>
 - Contact email address for questions or feedback is: openaccess@vt.edu

- b) First Reading was held last Fall, so this is not a new proposal, just a revision due to feedback from University Legal Council, the Provost's office, and others. This is the second first reading.
- c) Resolution. There are two main changes that came out of the discussions and feedback after the first reading. 1. University Legal Council and others recommended that the policy be added as proposed language to 13000 rather than a free-standing policy. From this, the language was compressed and more concise to fit into policy 13000 better. 2. As a result of the meeting with the Commission on Graduate Policies, it was recommended that the policy be extended to all Virginia Tech authors. [Resolution to Establish An Open Access Policy - Clean](#).
- d) Policy 13000. Most language is on page 7 (8.) and there are some inserts in the policy that include reciprocal language with Policy 13015 so that policies refer to each other. [Policy Draft](#)
- e) To note: 1. "Published" was removed due to the recommendation of the Harvard model policy, since published is past tense and the non-exclusive license is granted prior to publication. 2. "for a profit", this means that cost-recovery methods are okay, but could not be sold for a profit. 3. Last sentence "Authors may also share accepted manuscripts elsewhere"; we would like to go back to University Legal Council about this. The non-exclusive license in the Harvard Model and other universities that have adopted this type of policy is returned from the university back to the author so that they can share this article on their personal webpage, etc. The question to University Legal Council is if this should be spelled out, so that VT authors know that the non-exclusive license is returned to enable them to share the manuscripts elsewhere. [Resolution to Establish an Open Access Policy - Comments and Mark-Up](#).
- f) The Open Access Policy Working Group requested a 2nd reading at the November CoR Meeting due to: 1) scope of policy has been expanded to all VT authors and most outreach has only been to faculty. They would like to share and receive feedback from staff, graduate students and undergraduate students as well. 2) They would like to check with University Legal Council one more time to review language and elaborate on the last sentence
- g) Questions & Answers:
 - o R. Bhagavathula inquired about uploading a manuscript from the past. P. Young responded that you can publish to VTWorks or Elements. One of the purposes of this policy is to allow sharing manuscripts and it gives VT authors the confidence that this is legal and follows copyright law.

- R. Queen asked if the policy gets approved, will this be a requirement for faculty? Also mentioned that from a faculty perspective, it is important to have the conversation across authorship. P. Young replied that it is not a required policy. It opens the door by granting the non-exclusive license and gives faculty confidence that they can post and reap the benefits of having an open version of their research available. It is also important to have conversations with all authors, so that everyone is aware and there are no objections, or duplications.
 - Implementation rate across universities is at Harvard (2008) and MIT (2009) and they recently passed 50% of eligible articles.
- 4. Overview of Institute Reviews - L. Miner
 - a) According to Policy 13005, Establishment and Oversight of Institutes and Centers, the institutes and institute directors are reviewed every five years. Currently, there are two institute reviews: Virginia Tech Transportation Institute (VTTI) and Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS); as well as an institute director review of Karen Roberto. The CoR will receive the institute review report with recommendations for voting; and the report of the institute director review will be provided to the commission for information only.
- 5. Review of VTTI – R. Jin
 - a) Progress Report for VTTI 5-Year Review, included objectives of the review, composition of committee, process and timeline, data collection via survey and interviews, and report. [VTTI presentation](#).
- 6. Review of ICTAS – R. Queen
 - a) Progress Report for ICTAS 5-Year Review; included objectives of the review, composition of committee, process and timeline, data collection via surveys and interviews, and report. [ICTAS presentation](#).
- 7. Update to Policy 13015 – M. Potter
 - a) Topic is tabled for October meeting
- B. OVPRI Update –L. Miner
 1. New Vice President for Research and Innovation (VPRI), Daniel Sui, from the University of Arkansas, will begin on November 1.
 2. New National Security Institute. Over the past several months, there have been discussions about establishing a national security institute at VT, most like a thematic institute (VTTI or FBRI), that would encompass national security defined broadly. Right now we have a university-level center that has a national security focus, the Hume Center. We have engaged people across campus to see what it might look like to expand

our footprint in national security within the research enterprise. We are currently in the process of writing a charter which is due to Provost and VPRI on October 1. Next step is to review the charter by a review team, led by the Provost, to provide feedback and recommendations.

Afterwards, it will come to the CoR for review and approval, then to Provost for final approval. This may come to the CoR in November or December timeframe.

3. The IP Committee has been reformed and falls under the CoR to cover all things IP, such as disputes and provides advice on policy. The first meeting is scheduled for next week.

VI. [4:45] Old Business
A. None

VII. [4:45] New Business
A. None

VIII. [4:45] Adjournment

***Please take note of the 2020-2021 meetings listed below** which will all take place virtually, from 3:30-5:00 pm, on the **2nd Thursday of each month** (with a few exceptions to accommodate academic year events or breaks)

2020

- September 17
- October 8
- November 12
- December 10

2021

- No January Meeting
- February 11
- March 11
- April 8
- May 6