

Minutes

COMMISSION ON RESEARCH

08 October 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, Don Hempson, Jeff Hickman, Matt Holt, Ran Jin, , Leslie LaConte, Kevin McGuire, Cristina Miliano, Lydia Patton, Tasia Persson, Jonathan Petters, John Phillips, Robin Queen, Karen Roberto, Stephanie Trout, Pam VandeVord (for Julie Ross), Lijuan Yuan

OVPRI: Laurel Miner, Kim Borkowski

Members Absent: Don Taylor

Guests: April Myers, Eric Paterson, Ellen Plummer, Mary Potter, Stoney Trent

- I. [3:30] Introductions
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Approval of September 2020 Minutes
 - A. Approved electronically
- IV. [3:40 pm] Announcements
 - A. Policy 13000 – K. McGuire
 1. We are planning to have a second reading at the next CoR meeting. In the meantime, the committee has been reaching out to the other four governance units - Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Government Association (SGA) and Graduate Student Association (GSA). April Myers sent the resolution, revised policy draft and FAQ links to these groups for review and comment. Some members of the committee went to the Faculty Senate meeting, gave a presentation and answered questions. We have not heard any comments from them yet. The Staff Senate approved the resolution with some comments to April Myers. Have not heard from GSA or SGA. We have contacted the Commission on Graduate Professional Studies and Policy and they were supposed to meet this week for feedback. Sent two questions to VT Legal Counsel and Jack Finney asking about language related to the posting of accepted manuscripts in other repositories in addition to VT or VTWorks. Since

there are faculty who post to other places, we want to make sure we get the language correct.

B. [University Institute Representation on CoR](#) – R.Bhagavathula

1. R. Bhagavathula, L. Miner met with A. Myers to discuss. The proposal is to have one member from each thematic institute, and one member from the investment institutes to have a seat on the CoR.
 - a) Difference between investment versus thematic. For Investment institutes, they do not have their own faculty to represent. Thematic institutes are a larger body of people who do not have representation. Rationale was the suggestion of the Institute Directors.
2. K. Roberto has accepted to lead the working group. Leanna Blevins from Fralin Biomedical Research Institute will also be part of the group. We are looking for two additional volunteers from the CoR to join the working group. Jeff Hickman and Lydia Patton volunteered.
3. R. Bhagavathula will schedule a meeting for the working group to begin drafting a resolution. The draft should be ready for the December meeting, so that we can have membership for 2021 CoR.

V. [3:50 pm] OVPRI Update – L. Miner

- A. Dr. Daniel Sui, incoming Vice President for Research and Innovation, will start at VT on November 1.

VI. [4:00 pm] Shared Governance 101 – A. Myers

A. Training Links:

Overview of Shared Governance:

<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/cd95e6b5-a186-4307-8283-e53dc1a7cd94/review>

Resolution Approval Process:

<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/81d64516-51ee-4776-8af2-c47124e99ed6/review>

Timing of Governance Process:

<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/89f9e559-37d3-4511-8cd3-3324d923adec/review>

History of Shared Governance:

<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/1205ebd9-8263-41f1-87a8-170f666d0fe8/review>

How to Write a Resolution Tutorial:

<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/b77928f3-c629-4ea5-bc5d-5d710c3fe8e8/review>

Responsibilities of Governance Roles:

<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/105ab6e1-c2b6-4b36-885a-9c3aaf65e515/review>

- B. A. Myers, Associate Director of Governance Administration, provided an overview of Shared Governance to CoR. [Governance Presentation](#)
 - 1. Q&A Discussion. Members of the CoR further inquired about the flow of a resolution through the governance process; including readings, consulting support from human resources, legal or budget office, what governing bodies are responsible for reviewing and the approval or non-approval of a resolution.
 - 2. Key points to note: Communication is essential in the governance process. In the Commonwealth of Virginia, each public institution articulates its own governance processes and is shaped by the AAUP and other professional associations associated with higher education

VII. [4:15 pm] Policy 13015 Discussion – M. Potter

- A. Mary Potter, Director Privacy and Research Data Protection Program in the Office of Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance (SIRC), provided an overview of Policy 13015: Ownership and Control of Research Data, Results, and Related Materials. Policy has been in place for some time, but needed some clarification and clear understanding in the areas of responsibility. We also wanted to make sure that questions brought to us in the office of SIRC had been addressed within the policy itself. Worked with legal counsel and Open Access group, as well as other faculty to get insight on the process. [Resolution on updates to Policy 13015](#) and [Policy 13015 marked up version](#).
- B. Summary of changes were reviewed, noting that the majority is clarification of existing language.
 - 1. In Section 2.2:
 - a) Established PI responsibilities and VT responsibility on stewardship and access. Updated additional information working with the library to address open access and share where possible and appropriate. Data use agreement / materials transfer agreement would need to be in place so that VT can officially adjust or transfer stewardship to new locations. Added information on collaboration considerations, as it is important for VT and Principal Investigator to have responsibility and understand protection. Information established regarding retention and protection of research data and appropriately protected while at VT. Activities transferred to another university / industry and requirements around that.
 - 2. Also, a clear definition of materials and types of materials that fall into that category (IRB, IBC or IACUC) was included in the definition section.

VIII. [4:30 pm] National Security Institute Presentation – S. Trent

- A. Stoney Trent, Principal Advisor for Research and Innovation, gave an Executive Summary on formalizing a National Security Institute that would capitalize on and accelerate Virginia Tech's expertise to solve our nation's problems. The

proposed institute is currently in draft charter form and was formulated by a charter working group made up of about 50 faculty members across the university who work in national security. The Provost is convening a review team to review the charter, then it will come to the commission for review in the next month or two. [National Security Presentation](#)

1. Key elements of the proposed institute, as well as understanding why they are building it was discussed.
 - a) Advancing Beyond Boundaries - really important to nest this institute with current university strategy.
 - b) National Security was given a broad definition that will give faculty members a really unique value proposition for both engineering and non-engineering experts at a land-grant university.
 - c) Dollars drive research – DoD R&D. Initiative is about giving some structure and offering programmatic support for secured and unclassified research activities that allow our experts to seize better investments from the federal government. There is also significant growth in corporate investments.
 - d) National Security priorities. There are ongoing efforts with existing VT research that would allow us to scale expenditures and find good performers.
 - e) Implementation vulnerabilities may include human resource, finance, security, access, administrative staff and collaboration vs. competition. It will be important to extend presence in D.C.; as well as knowing how to organize and collaborate versus competing will be very important for the stand-up of this institute.
 - f) Mission, Vision, Objectives shows a binary star institute that leverages the strengths of both D.C. and Blacksburg with a vision to be the Nation's preeminent academic organization for integrated applied research and development, and experiential learning to advance National Security.
 - g) National Security Institute will create increased visibility, streamline management and contracting, improve facilities and security, create innovative research programs and education programs. To achieve strategic initiatives, there are four lines of effort - business operations, plans and engagement, research, and education.
 - h) Governance. Falls under the Vice President for Research and Innovation, with an Executive Director and Deputy Director, one in Blacksburg and one in D.C. with complementary strengths. There will also be a stakeholders committee and advisory board with former government executives and industry executives.
 - i) Structure is a thematic institute with three research centers: Defense Technology (Hume), Domestic Prosperity, Policy &

Partnerships. Once the Innovation Campus is built, NSI would occupy some of that space.

- j) Q&A Discussion. Members of the CoR had questions and comments related to the diverse working group and collaboration efforts, leadership, transparency, and ethics concerns.

***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

- November 12
- December 10

2021

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