MINUTES
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
6 February 2020
130 Burruss Conference Room
3:30pm-5:00pm

CoR Documents available to CoR members in Team Drive: CoR FY20

Attendance (quorum met)

Members present: Coy Allen (for Lijuan Yuan), Raj Bhagavthula, Nick Brown, Jack Finney, Elizabeth Grant, Don Hempson, Uri Kahanovich, Jack Lesko (for Julie Ross), Kevin McGuire, Alan Michaels, Ken Miller, Deborah Milly, John Phillips, Karen Roberto (remote), Stephanie Trout, Erin Smith, Bruce Vogelaar

OVPRI: Laurel Miner, Kim Borkowski

Members Absent: Jeff Alwang, Ralph Badinelli, Matthew Holt, Tasia Person, Blake Smith, Don Taylor

Guests: Rich Helm, Ginny Pannabecker

I.   [3:30] Introductions

II.   Approval of the Agenda

III.   Approval of Minutes
        A. Minutes for 12/5/2019 approved electronically

IV.   [3:35] Announcements
        A. Commission chairs meeting 1/23/20 with President Sands and Provost Carke
             1. Updated Dr. Sands and Provost that CoR would be bringing 13005 to University Council soon and that 13000 undergoing discussion and hope to have that ready by the end of semester.
             2. There is still a question on whether or not changes regarding Postdocs, definition, and where they will sit within the faculty handbook, are required to go through University Council.

B. University Council meeting 2/3/2020
   1. Resolution on Accommodating Religious Observances Commission on Faculty Affairs; CFA 2019-20A. Had university-wide support.
      a) Jack Finney noted that the resolution places religious observances and meaning-making events in the same approval process that Dean of Students has for family illness or death; so the Dean of Students will issue a letter for a student who asks for one.
   2. CUSP Resolution 2019-2020E Resolution for the Establishment of the School of Communication and Digital Media

V. [3:40] Continuing Business
   A. Report of Ongoing Activities
      1. University Library Committee – E. Smith
         a) Continuing to work on a strategic plan. Currently receiving feedback from general stakeholders. Alan Grant inquired about the timeline. Erin Smith believes it needs to be done by December, but will check.
      2. Faculty Senate – B. Vogelaar
         a) Meeting held in January and one scheduled for February 7, 2020. The main topic of discussion is whether or not we have mechanisms in place for representation of A/P faculty, as they are not currently part of the Faculty Senate. Research faculty have also been raised in the discussion; however, there is no recommendation. The senate is also looking at the election of senators and making things more transparent; including gaining higher attendance.
         b) Jack Finney commented at the February 3 University Council Meeting, a statement was appended to the resolution providing support for A/P faculty.
         c) J. Finney mentioned that a small group met in November 2019 to discuss research faculty migrating to the Provost Office and the potential of research faculty, as well as other career-track faculty, to be incorporated into the Faculty Senate. Suspect this will be a task for governance next year.
         d) Jack Finney noted that the research chapter changes in the Faculty Handbook are being declared administrative. Separating Postdocs from other research faculty categories, with no effect on employment. Goal is to have the edited chapter of the research faculty and newly created section for Postdocs in the Faculty Handbook for the August 2020 BOV meeting.
      3. Open Access Policy update – K. McGuire
         a) Proposed updates to Policy 13000 are available on CoR Team Drive.

b) Since last meeting, there are only two additions to the document: 1) word "scholarly articles" under ownership of IP and 2) specific situations in terms of policy guidance for IP are spelled out (point 8); this will also be incorporated into the IP policy. Still waiting for feedback from Legal Counsel before we do a first reading. If you have any comments, please email them to Kevin McGuire or Ginny Pannabecker.

c) Stephanie Trout relayed a question from Mary Potter about Policy 13015, requesting that 13000 would be reviewed in parallel as they were relevant to each other.

4. Public Access to Research Data Committee – E. Grant

a) Action items remain as they were in November 2019. Recommendation to have a Data Sharing Action Committee to review data sharing and report to CoR; as well as review potential updates to Policy 13015.

B. Policy 13005 – A. Michaels

1. Updated [policy](#) and [resolution](#) on CoR Team Drive

2. After consulting with Kim O'Rourke, an addition was made that this policy does not apply to Cultural or Community Centers.

3. Motion to accept resolution and pass forward as a second reading with the changes. Motion seconded.

4. Jack Lesko and Ken Miller would like some time to review the updated version.

5. Policy 13005 will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

VI. [3:55] Continuing Business

C. OVPRI Update – L. Miner

1. OVPRI Spring Discussion Series

a) January 28: Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance, Lisa M. Lee; February 25: Foreign Influence with Trudy Riley, Cristen Jandreau, John Talerico; March: Strategic Alliances with Steve Mcknight; April 28: Investment Institutes with Stefan Duma, Ben Knapp, Sally Morton, Karen Roberto

2. Additional Updates

a) OVPRI will welcome a Communications Director, Lindsey Haugh, in March. She will help implement a strategic research communications plan internally and for the outside world.

b) Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority (VIPA). The Virginia General Assembly is reviewing the establishment of the Virginia Innovation Partnership Authority, which will consolidate the Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) and Virginia Research Investment Fund (VRIF), and create one streamlined funding mechanism. VIPA will have three focal areas: entrepreneurial ecosystem,

innovation (tech transfer), commercialization (research). The Board that will oversee the VIFA will be chaired by the Secretary of Commerce and will have venture capitalists, entrepreneurial and industry community representatives on the committee.

c) Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI). A statewide initiative led by Virginia Tech for cyber security and technologies. Recently recruited a new Executive Director, Luiz da Silva, who will start in March. In the Governor's proposed budget, CCI funding has been reduced dramatically and we are pushing back. We will know more soon.

3. Faculty Handbook Updates
   a) [Presentation](#) available on CoR Team Drive
   b) Postdoc Handbook Subcommittee has identified two work streams: administrative and programmatic.
   c) Chapter 6: Research Faculty edits will include removing anything not about Postdocs, take out language of restricted or regular, and improve the definition of Postdocs. A draft will be shared at the next CoR Meeting.
   d) The definition of Postdoc was further discussed. Jack Finney explained that the definition for some agencies is not tied to the title that you give the person, but rather the years since earning the Ph.D. and the assignment into a research position.

VII. [4:15] New Business
   A. Discussion of Shared Facilities – Rich Helm
      1. Presentation covered topics on: planning for shared research facilities, working principles of shared resources in the Life Sciences, core facility operations, and related activities. [Presentation](#) available in CoR Team Drive.
      2. Open discussion
         a) Bruce Vogelaar inquired about having high-end on-site equipment, accessibility and student experience. Rich indicated that it is not the instrument generating the data, but what are you going to do with the data? It is the big data problem that the students need to be engaged with.
         b) Jack Lesko asked about cost center models. Rich explained how rates are generated as well as noting that Amanda Morris is currently exploring the option of leasing equipment. Leasing might be good short-term and may ease concern and volatility; but is likely the most expensive. How to invest and coordinate with VPRI is going to be really important in this process. Ken Miller also noted that working through your dean and budget office can also help. When building a rate, depending on cost structure and

what you can afford, recommend depreciation to fund the purchase of a new machine. Federal rules allow for flexibility, but there is a balance.

      c) Kevin McGuire inquired about a one-stop-shop for equipment, noting that the Lab Connect website, but there is no substantial information. Rich responded that gathering information and creating a database was one of the first things they were charged with. A good portion of information has been gathered and populated on a website; however, it is not complete nor accessible at this time.

VIII.   [4:40] Additional Announcements and Discussion

    A. Alan Michaels announced that we will have John Talerico and David Brady talk about Foreign Influence at the March meeting. If there is specific interest for presentations for the last two meetings, please email Alan.

    B. Stephanie Trout asked about projected growth of university, particularly research growth.

    C. Jack Finney announced the Vice President for Research and Innovation Open Forum and Reception dates: April 9, April 16 and April 30.

VIII.   [4:45] Adjournment

*Please take note of the 2019-2020 meetings listed below which will all take place in Burruss Hall 130, 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
- March 5
- April 9
- May 7