Minutes
COMMISSION ON RESEARCH
5 March 2020
130 Burruss Conference Room
3:30pm-5:00pm

CoR Documents available to CoR members in Team Drive: CoR FY20
https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/10LtMBuRCF-v4czUfvVT7NHoXBWwtI8Gg

Attendance (quorum met):

Members present: Raj Bhagavathula (remote), Clay Caswell (for Lijuan Yuan), Elizabeth Grant, Don Hempson, Uri Kahanovich, Jack Lesko (for Julie Ross), Kevin McGuire, Alan Michaels, Ken Miller, Deborah Milly, Ellen Plummer (for Jack Finney), John Phillips, Karen Roberto, Stephanie Trout, Erin Smith

OVPRI: Laurel Miner, Kim Borkowski

Members Absent: Jeff Alwang, Ralph Badinelli, Nick Brown, Tasia Person, Blake Smith, Robert Vogelaar

Guests: David Brady, John Talerico, Ginny Pannabecker

   I.   [3:30] Introductions

  II.   Approval of the Agenda

 III.   Approval of Minutes
           A. Minutes for 2/6/2019 approved electronically

  IV.   [3:35] Announcements
           A. University Council meetings 2/17/2020, 3/2/2020
                1. Resolution CFA 2019-20B: revisions to faculty handbook P&T (first reading)
                2. Seven new academic majors approved

   V.   [3:40] Continuing Business
           A. Report of Ongoing Activities
                1. University Library Committee – E. Smith

a) The University Library Committee has not met and will be meeting in two weeks; currently there is no update. The committee is still working on a strategic plan and getting feedback from stakeholders.

2. Faculty Senate – B. Vogelaar
   a) Absent, no update.

3. Open Access Policy update – K. McGuire
   a) Proposed updates to Policy 13000. A meeting has been arranged with legal counsel for April 15. This pushes us too far along into the semester to bring Policy 13000 forward this semester.
   b) Proposed updates to Policy 13015. We are going to touch base with Mary Potter on Policy 13015 on the open data issue and see if there is any need to cross reference the two policies.
      (1) D. Milley asked about Policy 13015 and who does that go to in governance as it gets worked on? A. Michaels responded that it goes to the Commission on Research, as well as Faculty Affairs and Faculty Senate.

4. Public Access to Research Data Committee – E. Grant
   a) Checked in with Andi Ogier and received a report that they are working on setting up a Data Security and Sharing Committee. Jon Petters recently attended an event sponsored by AAU and APLU in Washington DC aimed at accelerating public access to data, and he learned some things they are hoping to implement in the committee structure. In addition, we are working with the group that is looking at restricted data at VT so that we are not recreating the wheel. We are also trying to find more information on the Data Governance Group that Scott Midkiff has reportedly created. If anyone on COR has information on that group, please let us know.

B. Policy 13005 – A. Michaels
   1. Second reading and vote. We have gone through several external comments and there is a desire to go through sections of the policy. We have been discussing this since November 2018; with version 9 currently under review. Three changes were highlighted, which included clarifications or updates: 1) section 2, explicit clarification that establishment of centers does not include cultural community centers. 2) 3.4.2.2 - this is in the review process; reinserting all the language K. Miller provided. 3) Discussion of more streamlined process for department-level center reviews and termination of centers. 4) summary of all the changes.

2. Resolution has been updated as well to include the proposed changes, which will make it easier to present to the University Council.
3. Motion that we vote and adopt and discuss details. Motion seconded.
4. Discussion of the Policy 13005, specifically section 3.4, included discussion topics such as: definition of administrator, definition of funds, termination of institute, reporting process, risk level, and Faculty Activity Reports.
5. Motion to remove highlighted section of 3.4.2.2 College, Department and Institute Center Director Review: "In the specific case of College, Departmental, and Institute centers that do not receive University funds to support their operations, the review may be achieved via a review of faculty activity reports, or similar documentation, as requested by the Administrator. In this case, no formal summaries of the review are required to be generated unless there is an intention to terminate the center, in which case the Administrator shall report findings to the appropriate Vice President and Provost to initiate a more comprehensive review. For Centers receiving University funds to support their operations,".
6. Changes will be made off-line and Alan will email everyone with the new language. All agreed.
7. Motion to 2nd reading. All agreed. Quorum was met. Alan will get back to Ken Miller, Jack Finney and Don Taylor within the next day.

VI. [4:15] New Business
   A. Discussion of Foreign Influence in Federally-Sponsored Research – D. Brady, J. Talerico.
      1. Presentation covered topics on: what is foreign influence, current cases, differences in agency reporting (DOD, DOE, NIH, NSF) requirements; as well as steps that Virginia Tech has taken. Presentation located on CoR Team Drive.
      2. Foreign Influence website: https://osp.vt.edu/researchers/compliance/nonfinancial-compliance/foreign-influence.html
      3. Questions and answers
         a) K. Miller asked if you disclose and the federal agency does not like your relationship, what is the outcome? David Brady responded that it is agency-specific.
         b) It is important that you also disclose non-financial information as well; such as being part of an organization or being "honorary", whether foreign or within the United States. John Talerico noted that you should disclose everything that might be relevant.
         c) E. Grant asked for the October 7 memo to be shared with the CoR. OESRC will get this information out via the website.

VII.   [4:45] Continuing Business
    A. OVPRI Update – D. Taylor
       1. We are working on the development of a National Security Institute in Arlington. Eric Paterson has developed a Letter of Intent to establish the institute. We would like to give the CoR a high-level review at the April CoR meeting and get on the agenda for final consideration at the May 7 CoR Meeting.
       2. Fralin Life Sciences Institute has named Matt Hulver as the new FLSI Executive Director, with a start date of May 10.
       3. HERD numbers have been pulled together. In the last year, our external expenditures went from $311.9M to $320.2M and overall $531.6M to $542M, growth of just under 2%.
       4. L. Miner - Postdoc faculty handbook update. Changes are administrative only, no policy changes. This means that this will not go through governance.

VIII.   [5:00] 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
    -    April 7*
    -    May 7