

COMMISSION ON RESEARCH

September 9, 2015

325 Burruss Conference Room

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Minutes

Attendee: Randy Wynne (Chair), Benjamin Corl (Vice Chair), Srinath Ekkad, Martin Daniel (for Dennis Dean), Annie Pearce, France Belanger, Jewell Trent, Myra Blanco, Kurt Zimmerman, Tom Bell, Ben Knapp, Van Crowder and Monica Rich (recorder)

Absent: Barbara Lockee, Jonah Fogel, Scott Klopfer, Paul Knox, Robert Vogelaar, Alan Grant, Jonah Fogel, Cheryl Carrico, Sue Teel, and Nathan Hall

Guest: Sue Magliaro, Ken Miller and Sandra Muse

- I. Approval of the Agenda – A motion was made and the agenda was approved.

- II. Announcements
 - a. Introduction of Commission Members for FY2015-16 – Members introduced themselves to the committee.
 - b. Approval of the Minutes of May 13, 2015 – The meeting minutes were approved electronically.
 - c. Reminder to Schedule FY2015-16 COR Meetings – R. Wynne reviewed the meeting dates for the academic year.
 - d. Update on VPRI Search – F. Belanger reported the airport interviews for eight candidates will be held September 21-22. The top three candidates will travel to Virginia Tech in October for interviews. The commission members will ask the same questions as during the previous search.

- III. Unfinished Business
 - a. Report of Ongoing Activities
 - i. University Library Committee – No report
 - ii. Centers and Institutes Update
 1. Approval of Charter of VT-STEM as a Research Center – S. Magliaro reported that VT-STEM serves as a research body producing evidence-based best practices through the evaluation of educational initiatives aimed at the merger of STEM, the arts, and design. We engage with researchers and educators to improve the quality of research and practice at Virginia Tech. A motion was made to endorse the creation of VT-STEM as an ICAT Center and approved.
 2. Approval of ISCE 5-year Review Report – S. Ekkad reported a review committee was appointed to conduct a 5-year review of ISCE. A copy of the committee report was distributed to COR in

Scholar. Upon endorsement from COR, the report and recommendations from the committee will be presented to the VPRI and considered the final report. Motion to approve this report as distributed was made and seconded.

iii. Research Administration

1. Project Overview & Update – M. Daniel provided a power point presentation of the history of and current status of the CREST project to bring all committee members up to date on this continuing effort to put useful information into the hands of the research faculty.

IV. New Business

- a. State of Research – S. Ekkad presented a synopsis of what the Research office is doing now, and the vision of where it is heading. Please see the attached presentation for more detailed information.
- b. Election of Vice Chair of COR for FY2015-16 – R. Wynne requested nominations from the floor to elect a vice chair for COR for the FY2015-16, understanding that the vice-chair migrates to the chair position in the following fiscal year. Benjamin Corl was nominated and elected to serve as vice chair beginning immediately.
- c. Suggestions for Topics for FY2015-16 – R. Wynne reported a number of topics suggested for discussion in COR for this year. He asked for additional recommendations. The following list was developed.
 - Approval of ISCE 5-Year Review Report (Sept. 9) - Completed
 - Approval of Fralin Life Sciences 5-Year Review Report
 - Research Computing Presentation (From Scott Midkiff)
 - Scholar to Canvas Discussion
 - Report on Overhead (From Ken Miller & John Rudd)
 - Changes to Policy 13005, Center and University Institutes: Establishment, Governance and Programmatic Oversight
 - Innovation Ecosystem
 - Response to Research Barriers Report
 - Open Access Discussion (Library)
 - VT Without Borders
 - Difficulty in bringing Visiting (Research) Scholars to VT due to new rules
 - Soft money faculty taking vacation after project has ended

V. Adjournment