Research Council

Minutes for meeting of November 20, 2023, 4:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting

Chair: Dr. Linda Walters, Vice-Chair: Dr. David Luna

1. Call to Order at 4:01pm

2. Roll call was replaced with noting people as they entered the Zoom meeting. In attendance were: Walters, Luna, Harrington, Miller, Gesquiere, Yalim, Turgut, Eadens, López Castillo, Johnson, Okumus, Kuebler, Weremchuk, Bochenek, Welch, Roney, Brisset, Gajentan, Coffee, Kapucu, Delfyett, Norris, French, Sonmez, Jurca, Ge.

3. Approval of Minutes. Approval of minutes from previous meeting was tabled since no one received a copy of the minutes.

4. Recognition of guests. Joseph Harrington (UCF Associate Vice President for Research). Saiful Khondaker (UCF Assistant Vice President for Research).

5. Announcements:

Walters announces that in Spring semester the Research Council will work on:

- Action planning for Research Enterprise Plan
- Discussion of dissertations based on confidential data
- Research space utilization.

Volunteers were requested for the Review Committee for University Research Awards. The following council members volunteered:
- Sarah Norris
- Ann Miller
- Humberto López Castillo
- Linda Walters
- Damla Turgut (Alternate)

Walters introduces Dr. Harrington, who will demonstrate the latest iteration of Workday's PI dashboard and solicit feedback on the entirety of the Research Enterprise Plan.

6. Old Business. No old business was discussed.

7. New Business:

<u>Demonstration of PI Dahsboard</u>

Harrington demonstrates the new Workday PI Dashboard.

Harrington: There will be six 1-hour training sessions next week for those who want it. But if researchers click on the Help and Setup buttons of the dashboard, training should not be necessary.

New dashboard will go live on 11/29.

LW: Can we see travel authorizations on dashboard?

> JH: Travel Authorization encumbrance visibility is a work in progress between OR and Workday Finance team.

Harrington: For faculty questions (e.g., cannot see a particular grant on dashboard), contact your College's Finance/Business Center. If they cannot solve issue, they will liaise with Michelle Greco's team.

Enterprise Research Plan discussion

Kuebler: Most important part of ERP should focus on supporting current faculty. UCF should manage risk but not be excessively risk-averse; e.g., should not create time-wasting bureaucratic processes.

López Castillo: Bureaucratic processes are hindering grant expenditures after an initial mistake or problem, or OR seems to be very risk-averse and does not approve practices that have not done in the past. Creative solutions that to bureaucratic problems are needed, to streamline grant administration and speed up research.

Harrington: Asks members how OR could improve internal communications.

> Kuebler: don't spend too much budget communicating about new opportunities through PIVOT or similar. Instead, focus on support of PIs. Maybe follow a more targeted, personalized approach to communications with researchers.

> Harrington: Some people may find PIVOT useful, perhaps in the social sciences. Hard to find a priori who will find communications of granting opportunities helpful.

Harrington: Suggests that Research Council members check level of support staff in each College to encourage appropriate levels of support across Colleges.

> Walters: It should be OR who does this.

> Harrington: If this issue is raised from faculty through the Senate, it would help OR balance support across Colleges.

Kuebler: This is not something OR should be concerned about. It is up to the Colleges.

8. Other Business: No other business was discussed.

9. Adjournment at 5.02pm.