

# Research Council

Minutes for meeting of November 6, 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, Mansy, Klonoff, Harrington, Shtrom, Miller, Shillingford, Yalim, Turgut, Eadens, López Castillo, Johnson, Weremchuk, Ge, Kent-Walsh, Listengarten, Brisset, Kristin, Coffee, Kapucu, Yu, Delfyett, Wells, Sovinski, Norris, French, Sonmez, Kuebler.

**3. Approval of Minutes.** Minutes from 10/23/23 meeting were approved.

**4. Recognition of guests.** Elizabeth Klonoff (UCF Vice Provost and Dean, College of Graduate Studies) and Joseph Harrington (UCF Associate Vice President for Research).

## 5. Announcements:

Walters introduces the two items on the agenda:

- Dr. Klonoff to discuss dissertation/thesis embargo policies.
- Dr. Harrington to discuss a new section of the draft of the Research Enterprise Plan and seek input.

**6. Old Business.** No old business was discussed.

## 7. New Business:

### Dissertation/Theses Embargoes

Klonoff: Current practice at UCF is not systematic regarding when and for how long to embargo dissertations/theses. Why do we embargo dissertations/theses? There are four reasons:

1. because of patentable technology in theses,
2. because there is work previously published in an outlet that restricts public release,
3. because of non-disclosure agreements, or
4. because the work is publishable in the future and cannot be made public yet (e.g., creative writing).

Klonoff proposes three new categories of embargo in the future:

- 6 months (for point #1 above)
- 2 years (to address points #2 and #3)
- 6 years (to address point #4)

In addition, Proquest platform will be used to access documents, not Stars any longer. Klonoff also mentions that different journal policies will be researched and made available by the library. The practice of “release only to the community” will be terminated.

Mansy: Recommends using a 1 year embargo for documents with patentable technology, to minimize pressure on researchers.

Klonoff: embargo times could be extended as needed.

Luna: For clarification, confirms with Klonoff that no dissertations/theses will be embargoed unless they fall in the three categories mentioned above.

Klonoff will move forward with the new guidelines for dissertation/theses embargo.

### Research Enterprise Plan

Harrington: OR has updated the PI dashboard on Workday to respond to comments from faculty “testers”. The team is still seeking testers, especially from the social sciences, arts, and professional colleges. Volunteers should reach out to him directly.

Wells (Interim Communications Director) presents the Communication Plan section of the Research Enterprise Plan. The objective is to improve OR internal and external communications, including: redesigned website, social media, newsletter, annual report, events calendar (for professional development opportunities, etc.), press releases, marketing materials, photo/video, and a listserv for researchers.

The Communication Plan also includes collaboration with UCF Communications and Marketing and with Technology Transfer to promote technology available for license.

Faculty should consider let their College Communications offices about new published studies and new funding that could be publicised externally.

Walters: OR should try to publicize stories about projects that may not be received attention currently. Also, student researchers should be featured.

Harrington: Communications about students could help with recruiting new students.

Harrington: Discusses the section of the Research Enterprise Plan on Data Awareness and Decision Making.

Due to the new budget model for UCF, colleges need more data about productivity and the work being done and who does it.

Harrington shows some of the capabilities of the Power BI platform, and explains about the Academic Analytics platform (subscription-based). The latter is helpful when comparing groups of people across the organization. Deans currently have access and perhaps Chairs in the future.

Question to the Council: what other data tools exist that could be used by OR? If anyone has any ideas or comments on this or any other part of the Research Enterprise Plan, reach out directly to J. Harrington.

### **8. Other Business.**

Walters announces that at the next Research Council meeting, the full Research Enterprise Plan will be discussed and open for comments.

### **9. Adjournment** at 5.01pm.