

COMMISSION ON RESEARCH

May 11, 2016

325 Burruss Conference Room

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Minutes

Attendee: Benjamin Corl (Vice Chair), Srinath Ekkad, Martin Daniel (for Theresa Mayer), Jewell Trent, Tammy Trimble (for Myra Blanco), Jennifer Irish, Kurt Zimmerman, Alan Grant, Amanda French (for Nathan Hall), Scott Klopfer, Barbara Lockee, Jonah Fogel, Ben Knapp, Robert Vogelaar, Cheryl Carrico, Tom Bell, Kaveh Rahimi, Dipankar Chakravarti, and Monica Rich (recorder).

Absent: Stephen Hensell, Van Crowder, Annie Pearce, Randy Wynne (Chair), Paul Knox, and Sue Teel.

Guest: Sandra Muse, Dale Pike and Peggy Layne.

- I. Approval of the Agenda - A motion was made and the agenda was approved.
- II. Announcements
 - a. Approval of the Minutes of April 13, 2016* – The meeting minutes were approved electronically.
 - b. Tara Reel appointed to BOV for FY2016-17 – S. Muse announced past GSA representative to COR, Tara Reel, has been appointed to the BOV for FY2016-17.
 - c. K. Zimmerman to serve on selection committee for Academy of Faculty Service and Academy of Faculty Leadership – S. Muse announced K. Zimmerman would serve as representative of COR to the selection committee for Academy of Faculty Service and Academy of Faculty Leadership.
 - d. Mark your calendars for FY2016-17 COR Meetings – B. Corl reminded the committee of the upcoming meetings scheduled for FY2016-17 and noted they are at the bottom of the agenda.
- III. Unfinished Business
 - a. Report of Ongoing Activities
 - i. University Library Committee – Amanda French reported working with Peggy Layne on the EFARS System as an institutional repository for faculty publications and annual activities. May be used for tenure promotion as well. Also, a data repository www.data.lib.vt.edu was recently launched that is useful for large data sets. Both are maintained by the library. The Library is working on a digitization service system in the Library, available online hopefully in the fall.
 - ii. Update from Faculty Senate – No Report
 - iii. Centers and Institutes Update – S. Ekkad reported there are two new centers. The Packaging Center is led by Tim Long. The center will research into packaging using a wide range of materials. There are four colleges involved: Engineering, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Natural Resources and Environment, and Science. The second new center is the Green and Smart Civil Systems, Civil Engineering. This center will be focused on environmentally friendly technologies. The Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation is in the middle of five institute reviews. The review

for Roop Mahajan will be conducted as required by university policy even though he will step down as director. Looking at the past ten years will help the new person taking over. Tom Dingus, director of VTTI, will be reviewed. VTCRI will have their first institute review as well as ICAT and Ben Knapp. The Provost and OVPRI will do this review together.

- iv. Research Administration – No Report
 - b. Committee on Research Competitiveness – J. Irish reported representatives of the committee recently met with the Provost and VPRI. What emerged from this meeting was that there are synergies and three items surfaced. The three items were to sustain research and successful programs, increase research funding brominate with external resources, and access to large state of the art instrumentation. The committee recommends continuing collaboration next year with faculty focus groups and discussion of the incentive based budget model.
- IV. New Business
- a. Technology-enhanced Learning and Online Strategies (TLOS) – Dale Pike reported grants available through TLOS. They have received a lot of great ideas but have not done much to organize the offerings, publicize or measure impact. There are three key sources of funding: 1) Design and development grants for on-line course development, 2) 4-VA is made up of five Virginia institutions (VT, UVA, GM, JM and ODU) with four key factors; collaborative endeavors, course sharing (some course redesign), degree completion and STEM. 3) Innovation & Learning grants. A call for RFPs is usually made in the fall. These grants are usually focused on tenured/tenure-track faculty.
 - b. Suggestions for Topics for COR FY2016-17 – B. Corl reviewed the executive short list and requested additional suggestions. A suggestion was for the Commission to interface /find fit with the destination areas. The list includes:
 - Changes to Policy 13005, Center and University Institutes: Establishment, Governance and Programmatic Oversight
 - Research Administration System - Electronic Systems Demonstrations
 - Committee on Research Competitiveness – Focus Groups
 - Centers and Institutes – Report on Institutes and Directors Reviewed
 - VIVO – Researcher profile system (Julie Speer)
 - Discussion on Destination Areas and how COR will interface with the teaching role
 - Review Mix of COR Membership
 - Discussion of Policy Establishment for Open Access
 - Presentation on Lab Safety (requested by Lance Franklin)
 - Continued Discussion on Scholar to Canvas (Scot Ransbottom)
 - Review of 13,000 Series of Research Policies
- V. Adjournment: 4:08pm