

COMMISSION ON RESEARCH

November 9, 2016

130 Burruss Conference Room

3:30pm – 5:00pm

MINUTES

Attendee: Benjamin Corl (Chair), Theresa Mayer, Myra Blanco, Jennifer Irish (Vice-Chair), Kurt Zimmerman, Scott Klopfer, Bruce Vogelaar, Tom Bell, Van Crowder, Ginny Pannabecker, Steve Nagle, Kevin McGuire, Barbara Lockee, Andrew Neilson, Samantha Fried and Monica Rich (recorder).

Absent: Srinath Ekkad, Cheryl Carrico, Dipankar Chakravarti, Saied Mostaghimi, Nathan King, Nancy Dudek, Sally Morton and Stefan Duma.

Guest: Sandra Muse, Peggy Layne, Ken Miller and Martin Daniel.

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

- II. Announcements
 - a. Approval of the Minutes of October 12, 2016 – The meeting minutes were approved electronically.
 - b. Academies of Faculty Service in Leadership – Kurt Zimmerman volunteered to be the commission’s representative to the review committee.

- III. Unfinished Business
 - a. Report of Ongoing Activities
 - i. University Library Committee – V. Pannabecker reported that the fourth floor of the library is going through a major change/renovation. All of the materials are being transferred to other areas. Staff are conducting a review of peer workspaces and hope to share the results in December. The library staff are also working with Dean Spiller (CLAHS) on a Digital literacy course and Digital humanities space on the first floor.
 - ii. Update from Faculty Senate – B. Corl reported that Mike Moyer discussed the VT Engagement Center. Dr. Theresa Mayer and Mr. Ken Miller also gave a presentation on the Indirect Rate.
 - iii. Centers and Institutes Update – No Report
 - b. Committee on Research Competitiveness – B. Lockee reported they will start to form focus groups and will seek help from the Center for Survey Research or Institutional Research and Assessment. Dr. Mayer has offered to support this.
 - c. Project Site Migration Concerns – The Commission’s resources and minutes will be migrated from Scholar as the university ends its support for Scholar. Members identified the features they feel are important to support the work of the Commission. B. Corl will share the needs with D. Pike and S. Midkiff so they can be prepared when they come to the Commission meeting in February.
 - d. Key Thoughts on Open Access and Peer Institutions’ Policies –Ben asked for volunteers to draft an open access policy for next year. Kevin McGuire and Ginny Pannabecker volunteered. Key discussion points were: ease of submission of papers, use of an embargo, and waiver clauses.

IV. New Business

- a. Task Force on Shared Governance Update – A. Neilson reported that the Task Force had met and decided on an approach to examining shared governance.
- b. Update to Policy 13025 – Considering revisions.
- c. Potential Revisions to Faculty Handbook related to Research Faculty – M. Daniel reported that there are a few edits that need to be put in place. Several edits are needed to align the language in the handbook with recent guidelines on the process and timing of research promotions. In addition, the commission might want to consider adding language on dismissal of research faculty for cause, and to formalize the pilot program on overload pay that has been in a pilot phase for the last few years. Saied Mostaghimi, Barbara Lockee, Kevin McGuire and Myra Blanco volunteered to help edit and bring suggestions back to the committee for approval.

V. Adjournment – 4:40pm