

Committee on Research Meeting

Minutes April 6, 2021 11am

Attendees: Xiaobo Zhou, Dmytro Bozhko, Jessi Smith, Yongiee Lee, Glen Whitehead, Grant Clayton, Mary Hurless, Kathy Prue-Owens, Emily Skop
Minutes Prepared by Lindsay Coppa

Emily Skop – An Ethos of Care & Strategic Planning

- There are so many ways that privileges and hierarchy can affect research. With a new provost, it will be important to show how we handle research at UCCS. One of the major concepts of An Ethos of Care pledge is about how to look at research in higher education that is increasingly treated in a business model. This is especially prevalent as we start to transition into the new budget allocation model (BAM). In this model, certain metrics are perceived as more important than others which causes inequality when it comes to research opportunities. The Ethos of Care pledge is working toward addressing this and looking at research that might not necessarily be in a lab but engaged in the more emotional aspects of our scholarship. Another important aspect of this is looking at the impact that COVID has had on researchers; especially female researchers.
 - The group spent time talking about how this pledge can be used by the COR and make an impact for research at UCCS. Emily has been gathering feedback and it has been received very positively. Some of the feedback included how underrepresented communities have evidence of not being heard in group settings. This pledge can be used as a framework for COR as this committee moves forward. It will be good to look into the terms used and defining those terms.
 - Important to strengthen the call of collaboration between disciplines to help bridge the gap between the disparities there are between disciplines (such as sciences and the arts). It is especially important for researchers to find funding by collaborating with areas that they might not have thought about. These collaborations are helpful not only to the researchers, but also the R2 status of the university.
 - UCCS's R2 status: UCCS has reached the funding requirement for R2 status for years (over \$5 million given). The main area that Carnegie is looking at is the number of PhD graduating students. We must graduate 25 students at the year that Carnegie grabs the data.
 - This led to a conversation about how the Ethos of Care pledge could affect our graduate students. It would also be an interesting discussion to have with graduating coordinators. Many of our PhD students take a longer time to graduate due to the need for them to work and other outside factors. We should look into how we can support these students working on research/thesis that may need more time. Possibly looking at RA positions compared to TA positions for these students.
 - A possible future topic to discuss are the current metrics for reviewing research. The current metrics are convenient and not necessarily inclusive of all types of research. We need to really assess those metrics for equity (including Distinguished Professor). To really dive into the work, we may need to look into course releases so that evaluators have the opportunity to really give the research a thorough look. It would be good to investigate our options and see what is plausible and how we can put this into action.

May Agenda 5/11/21

- FAWC Document: taking time to review the FAWC committee on mitigation of COVID impacts
 - Emily is on the task force but will be leaving for sabbatical this summer. Will need someone to take over.
- Workload Task Force – Invite to our next meeting (provost & 2 chairs)
- Maybe have a longer meeting in May
 - Lindsay will send out a hold for your calendar on May 11th

Meeting End 12:10pm