

Committee on Research
Minutes November 8, 2021 12PM

Attendance: Glen Whitehead; Yongjei Lee; Jessi Komrofske; Robert Dassanowsky; Melinda Hamilton; Dmytro Bozhko; Jessi Smith; Grant Clayton; Lynn Gates;

Absent: Charles Zhou; Mary Hurlless; Kathy Prue-Owens;

Minutes Prepared by: Lindsay Coppa

Approval of 9/20/21 Minutes

- Edit to amend minutes to correct that Grant & Glen will serve as Co-Chairs
- Motion to approve the minutes w/ edits from September 20: Robert
- Second: Yongjei
- Approved unanimously

Workload Task Force Update

- Two members are on the task force and shared updates.
- The task force is collecting information from peer institutions about research workloads
- There will be 2 listening sessions this month to gather feedback
 - November 15th, 3:00-4:30pm
 - November 16th, 10:30-12:00pm
- There will also be a survey coming out early spring semester
- This committee discussed the best way to check in with the Workload Taskforce to remind them of the charge and ensure that the committee's early feedback is included in the taskforce work.

ADVANCE Project CREST Update

- Discussion of the next big campus wide CREST activity, research facilitation and mentoring. All are invited to the Dec 1 event: Research Facilitation, Networking, and Mentoring at UCCS
 - December 1 from 1:00-2:00 Event hosted by Dr. Silvia Mendez
- New Research Development Coordinator position will be starting on December 1st. This position will provide support for research facilitation and research mentorship for the campus. This was discussed as a great example of how part of the funding comes from NSF and part from campus so that all faculty can benefit from this "wrap around support" staff position.
 - Please share at your various meetings that we will have this new resource for campus soon!

BAM Effect on Research

- Discussion about how the new BAM impacts research support on campus. In the new BAM, F&A cost will go 100% to the colleges. Consensus that everyone appreciates the the transparency this will bring.

- Discussion of possible concerns with 100% F&A returned to colleges. What does this mean for offices (Library and Grad School and Office of Research) that rely on the F&A to fund campus level prioritizes and resources? Will their current F&A budget be considered in the cost allocation or is only base budget included? It appears that there is a “SIP tax” that will be taken from colleges but this will only take base budget expenses into account. Will research really be “harmless”? This raised questions about:
 - Concerns were shared about the impact that this may have on non-funded research.
 - Concerns about how research approvals (e.g., IRB) and other research compliance issues will be paid for in the BAM.
 - Concerns about how the BAM supports high level priorities and emerging opportunities to support research opportunities for faculty that go beyond the colleges.
 - There are two possible ideas for alternative options that have been shared with the Provost and other in leadership:
 - 1) Make sure that the SIP tax that will be taken from colleges reflect all of the expenses in the selected model year (including F&A expenditures) and not just operating budget expenses. However, with this idea there is still concern that then there is no room for growth or strategic investments in research
 - 2) Ask for 65% of F&A to be returned to colleges, 10% to KFL, and 25% to AA (which is then split with office of research and grad school)
 - There will be a way to request for funds from colleges. This process will include going through the 5 BAM committees that have been established. This is good for transparency and buy-in. However, this process could reduce moving quickly to be responsive to a new need and could muddy creative and new ideas to support research especially among colleges that feel like they want or need all the budget they can get.
- COR would like to bring up the concerns about BAM with Faculty Assembly and make sure that the colleges are aware of what this will mean for research at UCCS

Merit Evaluation Criteria

- Project CREST is providing guidance on the annual evaluation process. [Check out the Toolkit on the website.](#)
- Tabled until next meeting

Lindsay will put together a doodle poll for the next meeting in December.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:03pm