

Academic Senate Research Committee Minutes
Via Zoom
Time: 3 pm – 3:43 pm

October 21, 2021

Members present: Noreen Rossi (chair), Alan Dombkowski, Andrew Fribley, Krishnarao Maddipati, Shane Perrine, Joseph Roche, Shirley Papuga, Robert Harr, Tamara Bray, Arun Iyer, Karen MacDonell, Wanda Gibson Scipio, Robert Reynolds, Le Yi Wang, Timothy Stemmler (liaison), Christian Bozeman (liaison), Edward Cackett (liaison)

Members absent with notice: Lance Heilbrun, Ramzi Mohammad, Jennifer Lewis

The chair opened the meeting at 3 pm by Zoom.

Additional new members and liaisons were introduced to the group.

The meeting proceeded with members confirming their assignment to the subgroups (student, faculty, or R1+ facilities) for working on the Future of Higher Education at WSU. Then, the members of each group entered into their respective breakout rooms to discuss their next meeting times, agendas, and plans to move forward with their section.

After about 8 minutes the committee at large reconvened. Deadlines for the initial drafts from each of the three subgroups were identified. Anticipated rough draft for the committee of the whole to review and add to should be in by mid November, prior to Thanksgiving. After comments, edits, and additions from members of the whole committee, a final draft will be written and provided to the committee for final approval. The goal is to provide a final document to the Policy Committee by early December, 2021.

The attendance by Associate VP for Research Compliance, Dr. Cunningham, at the Nov. 18, 2021, to discuss the process of assessing research misconduct by faculty at WSU was confirmed.

The discussion then moved to other issues that need to be addressed by the Research Committee. Among the items were the following: staffing and process at SPA, WSU requirements on grant submissions, proper disposal of biologic samples from old studies that are now closed, identifying the individuals, roles and functions of the various associate and assistant VPs for Research, and issues with clinical subjects having to become vendors to receive stipends.

- **SPA:** Staffing at central SPA but also within various departments for assistance in submitting grants and budgeting were raised as key issues. Gayle Ryan and Lisa Wisdom (SOM) were recommended as potential speakers who could address these issues. Request for names of additional speakers from other schools or departments was put forward.
- **Disposal of biological specimens:** Dr. Stemmler mentioned that Richard Pearson and Sandamali Ekanayaka would be able to address the issues of biologic as well as chemical disposal.
- **Assistant/Associate VPs for Research:** The individuals and their roles and function in the Research Office. Four Associate/Assistant VPs were identified: Denise Figelwicz, Philip Levy, Timothy Stemmler, Philip Cunningham. There was some sentiment expressed to have these individuals come before the committee to provide information regarding their roles.

- **Vendor designation for participants:** Several issues have arisen when human subjects are required to enroll as vendors to receive their stipends for participation in clinical studies. This is difficult for many of our population who have limited access to enroll. A centralized or collaborative assistance for enrollment by subjects from a variety of investigators would be helpful. The rationale for this approach (e.g., legal, tax, etc.) needs to be made clear.

Dr. Rossi was directed to invite the Gayle Ryan and Lisa Wisdom as soon as possible, hopefully December 16. They may provide some insight into the Vendor issue as well. The others could be invited as a panel of Assist/Assoc VPs, and the other individuals after the new year.

The meeting adjourned at 3:42 pm.