

2018-2019 SENATE COUNCIL ON RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP (SCORS) MINUTES

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

3:30 p.m.

Grinter 264

Present: Sylvain Doré, Jodi Gentry, Lily Lewis, Wayne T. McCormack, Paul J. Smith, Joyce Myers, Laurie Bialosky, Hannah Norton, Michael Mahoney, Dimitri Bourilkov, Czerne Reid, Sobha Jaishankar, Amir Sarayani, and Jamie Collins.

Absent: Ikraumuddin Aukhil, Matthew Gurka, David Norton, Henry Frierson, Cathy Lebo, and Stephanie Gray.

I. Call to Order

-The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.

II. Approval of the April 16, 2019 Minutes

-The minutes were approved.

III. Chair's Report

Sylvain Doré, PhD, Professor and Program Director, Dept of Anesthesiology

-The Chair shared an article discussing [Predatory Journals on PubMed](#).

-Please nominate and encourage the application of diverse nominees for University and Faculty Senate committees and councils. The nomination process takes place again in the fall.

-At the May 9th Faculty Senate, Welfare Council Chair Suzan Alteri presented a [resolution in support of international faculty, staff and students](#). The resolution was moved from an information to an action item and was [passed](#).

-To provide a slightly updated version from the last council presentation, Dr. Jaishankar's [Extramural Funding Assistance](#) slide presentation from the May 9th Faculty Senate meeting was distributed.

-Dr. Michele Tennant has followed up on council topics of interest (i.e. confidence intervals with P values and adaptive/iterative research design) and the Academic Research Consulting & Services ([ARCS](#)) will present a [workshop](#) prior to the next NIH (June 5th) grant submission deadline.

- SCORS liaison Stephanie Gray forwarded [a link to examples of grants successfully funded](#) by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

-A University Libraries handout containing a list of [free online graphic design and other presentation resources](#) was distributed.

IV. Postdoctoral Benefits Updates

Jodi Gentry, VP of Human Resources

- VP Gentry discussed efforts being made by the Office of Human Resources to address the change in health insurance options that Postdoc Associates transitioning to Postdoc Fellow appointments experience.

-The primary issue is the transitioning of insurance when a post-doc appointment changes (i.e. rather than issues with the health care plans/insurance in which they are currently enrolled in.)

-Some insurance eligibility is regulated by law so those ineligible for GatorCare may be able to shift to COBRA. There is also a specific window of time provided in which to select this election.

- UF is reviewing options to help offset the cost of COBRA and both VP Gentry and Postdoctoral Affairs Director Lily Lewis are monitoring issues related to this topic. A policy would be put in place for both pre- and post-docs by the fall.
- The percent effort to qualify for which status in a grant was discussed. Of 750 postdocs at UF, about 37 are currently categorized as postdoc fellows.

V. Onboarding of new Faculty and new Postdocs Updates

Lily Lewis, PhD, Director, Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

- Until this year, postdoc orientation was a one-day event with approximately 60-80 attendees. The orientation is now done quarterly, is two hours in length, and is available via Zoom. The next one will take place in June. This restructuring has helped simplify the process and prevents long waits for orientation for new postdocs. Registration is now available on-line on the [Office of Postdoctoral Affairs website](#).
- The [Postdoc Editors Association \(PEA\)](#) which was originally organized as a service for non-native speakers, now provides complimentary editing of scholarly writings for postdoctoral fellows and associates. This is a peer resource to be used for reviews of slides, manuscripts, and any other written submissions a postdoc would like reviewed for basic language use and clarity.
- Dr. Lewis reports to Associate Provost of Academic and Faculty Affairs, Chris Hass who is working on new and updated faculty documents for faculty onboarding, including a resource guide of faculty goals and expectations timelines, and introductions to Canvas and various campus resources. Welfare Council has also been working to assist the onboarding of new faculty.
- Other items the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is working on include a skills assessment; round table networking; and social event opportunities.
- The Office of Human Resources is coordinating increased automation for typical new faculty tasks, such as obtaining a UFID, parking pass, etc. and is expecting to roll out many of these items in the fall, at which time it also plans to communicate any new protocols and updates related to postdoctoral benefits.
- Anyone interested in subscribing to the postdoc newsletter or being added to the listserv should contact Dr. Lewis at lilyrlewis@ufl.edu.

VI. [CTSI Overview of services and outcomes](#)

Wayne McCormack, PhD, Professor and Director, Clinical & Translational Science Institute

- An overview of CTSI services and some outcomes was presented, including services provided for NIH grant-writing (primarily related to training, e.g., training grants, career development awards, and individual fellowships). Services include:
 - Online “toolkits” with vetted, up-to-date boilerplate language for some grant sections (Facilities and Curricula Descriptions, Diversity and Inclusion Efforts, Evaluation and Education Resources, Mentoring Resources)
 - NIH grant-writing workshops
 - Preparation of all NIH training grant data tables
 - Tracking of alumni career outcomes
- A previously downward trend in the number of K and T awards at UF has been reversed, and as of fiscal year 2018, there have been a record high number for both types of award.
- More information is located at: <https://www.ctsi.ufl.edu/education/grant-workshops/> and the links therein.
- Considerations are to expend the training and example to other Government Agencies and Associations/Foundation.

VII. Online P&T Annual Faculty Evaluation vs. Faculty Toolkit 2.0

Paul Smith, Manager, Enterprise Software Engineering, UF Academic Health Center IT

Joyce Myers, Assistant Director of Academic Administration, Dept of Anesthesiology

-The toolkit used by Vet Med, the College of Dentistry, and the College of Medicine departments of Surgery and Anesthesiology was introduced. The project aims to create an integrated faculty annual report system which began in 2008, with a 2.0 version created in 2017 integrating campus data sources (OPT and Enterprise Reporting). The sources and models which the toolkit pulls from and the support of the education mission were discussed. Security, packet workflow, and the toolkit's scalability were reviewed. Evaluation categories sources were explained as well as the possibility of the toolkit's augmentation to the current online P&T system. Council will share this information with the Steering Committee.

VIII. Update about Repository for Equipment

Michael Mahoney, Director of Research Operations and Services

-A centralized list for equipment used for research was discussed including the asset management list acquired earlier in the year. The list hopes to focus on core lab lists and the availability to faculty and will: pull annually from asset management; verify the accuracy of that spreadsheet annually; and Michael will verify with the ICBR interim director would like to continue on this route with a goal of fostering collaboration and assisting faculty with grant submissions. A primary consideration is how to track and verify which lab and faculty wish to opt into the equipment listing. Research centers and core labs information is also available in Dr. McCormack's toolkits (which is updated annually) and may list much of this equipment.

IX. Administrative Liaison/Contributing Committee Chairs Updates

Czerne Reid/Judith Russell, University Libraries

-(As of May) just under \$63,000 remains in the fund for the year which is expected to last until August or September. The fund is 'first come, first served' if applicants meet eligibility requirements.

-University Libraries continues to work with [CHORUS](#).

-The library leadership board is being re-configured to help with acquisitions, networking, and fundraising.

X. Other (Open Discussion)

-None.

XI. Election of 2019-2020 SCORS Chair

-Hannah Norton was elected.

XII. Adjournment

-The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.