

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL MINUTES

Friday, December 4, 2020

Noon

Via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/93119154639?pwd=VHZoN0l4bVdiOHBJOWdKek5xbEd3Zz09>

Present: Keith Rambo, Jason Byrd, Moon Lee, Amanda Phalin, Angelos Barmpoutis, Jonathan Orsini, Hannah Norton, Ralf Remshardt, and Laurie Bialosky.

I. Call to Order –

- The meeting was called to order at 12:02 by Keith Rambo, Research and Scholarship Council Chair.

II. Approval November 6, 2020 Minutes

- The minutes were approved.

III. Council Chair's Report / Faculty Senate Steering Committee Update

- Faculty Senate Steering Committee has not met since the last council meeting but meets next week.
- Council agreed to continue with online meetings for the spring semester. The online meeting calendar will be updated to remove the Grinter Hall meeting location. Members are asked to please update their individual calendars. The meeting location for Faculty Senate meetings for the spring semester will soon be announced.
- Council discussed its role in advising policy and reviewed it's [central charge](#).

IV. New Business

-Electronic Lab Notebooks

- At the last College of Engineering Faculty Council meeting, Faculty Senator and UF IT Committee member Juan Nino also noted that the Faculty Senate Chair raised the topic of Electronic Lab Notebooks (ELN) at last week's UFIT Committee meeting.
- The Faculty Senate Chair has reported interest in this product in the College of Medicine and has relayed its potential and usefulness in assisting faculty and researchers in multiple colleges to CFO Chris Cowen.
- The tool provides the benefits of notebook features, but which are permanent. It also provides automated population of fields, such as timestamps, and assists with collaborative efforts between researchers and users. Other benefits, such as facilitating laboratory work and increasing rigor can be reviewed at:
- University Libraries and research computing have been discussing ELN for a number of years and provided a recommendation in August following a survey which asked about which tools are being used (i.e. One drive, Google docs., etc.)
- Cost is a significant impediment to UF implementation of ELN's, particularly given UF's investment in other platforms. No one, including the Office of Research and UFIT, has stepped forward to provide funding for this product.

- Due to the recurring costs of ELN, it may be useful to consult the e-Learning Advisory Committee.
- The standard practice of reviewing products for security and infrastructure-related applications has not been done for this product; this step would occur after funding is secured.
- To assist faculty in absence of UF's usage of ELN's, the University Libraries continues to advise and provide directions for faculty seeking technical support to UF's currently available resources.
- It is anticipated that there are forthcoming federal agency requirements mandating additional, specific, electronic reporting. Compliance with these new requirements may provide an opportunity to examine the tools needed to fulfill such new compliance requirements. The Office of Research is awaiting guidance from the government.
- **UF's Artificial Intelligence (AI) initiative**
- Council would like more information on UF's Artificial Intelligence (AI) initiative.
- In addition to the cross-collaboration, there are currently six areas in the College of Engineering which will be included in the AI initiative.
- **Faculty Evaluations / T&P**
- The need for many faculty to teach in three modalities (in person, hybrid, and hyflex) in Spring 2020, Fall 2020, and Fall 2021 is fueling concern about how it may affect faculty evaluations, and tenure and promotion.
- Spring 2020 evaluations denote that they occurred during COVID; however, the council would like to consider what other more meaningful and long-term policies can be recommended to mitigate potential negative impacts on upcoming faculty T&P packets.
- The slower-than usual process of scholarship and research during the COVID period was also discussed. Publication issues during COVID, including the length of time it now takes to obtain peers' and other reviewers' feedback, is another T&P-related item of faculty concern.
- Council members are welcome to join the meeting Monday at 11: <https://ufl.zoom.us/j/92594755524?pwd=SVBXL0d6blVObk1VVzcvS0FWZkdNQTO9> which will be led by Senator Phalin, to brainstorm some ways to address the above issues; these will be relayed and discussed at the next council meeting.

- **Administrative Liaison/Contributing Committee Chairs Updates**

- University Libraries Committee (ULC)** - Angelos Barmpoutis
- <https://digitalpartnerships.uflib.ufl.edu/uf-author-rights-policy/> - Perry Collins, Scholarly Communications Librarian, George A. Smathers Libraries presented information pertaining to this policy at the last College Council Chairs and Faculty Senate Chair monthly meeting.
- A link to the policy FAQ page was shared: <https://digitalpartnerships.uflib.ufl.edu/uf-author-rights-policy/frequently-asked-questions/>
- The policy reads that UF faculty would grant a non-exclusive license to the university (not a transfer of copyrights), which would be held in reserve, even if a faculty member signs an article copyright agreements.

- Although faculty may opt out of the policy, it was discussed if the policy should be applied automatically, as a 'default'.
- Feedback and recommendations from the colleges are being sought by the University Libraries Committee; some meeting feedback included:
 - The effects of such a policy on different colleges
 - The consideration of the timing of such a policy roll-out during COVID.
 - General discussion of faculty control over their own intellectual property.
 - It was clarified that there is no faculty requirement to submit to the UF institutional repository; the options presented would allow faculty to reserve the right to do so in the future.

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.