

Research & Scholarship Council Minutes
January 14, 2015 1:45 p.m.
Marston Library Room L-136

Attendees:

Irene Cooke
Edith Kaan
Henry Frierson

Kimberly Brown
Jorg Peters
Jasmeet Judge
Gillian Lord

Florin Curta

Kimberly Brown presented the IDC distribution of IFAS. Notably departments receive 15% and the Dean 25%. Data from Engineering was provided by Bill Heitmann via the Engineering member of the council. This left some questions unanswered.

A discussion on Academic Analytics (AA) was triggered by a solicitation by an administrator to a faculty to immediately add information into a database in order to ensure good AA rating. (AA states that its outcome measures 'academic performance'.) There was information that pressure to use AA comes from outside UF.

The following was discussed.

- If the pressure to adopt AA comes from the outside, why is there such uncertainty about its internal use?
- If a faculty or groups of faculty were to curate their information (currently the data are not accessible to faculty) -- how would they know whether the pool of faculty they are compared against have done so, too?
- If the data are vetted and complete, would a false sense of objectivity be attached since weights can be chosen in arbitrarily. (Weights are currently taken from the NRC survey.)