

**2017-2018 SENATE COUNCIL ON RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP (SCORS) Minutes**  
**3:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 20, 2018; Marston Science Library L136**

**Attendees**

Jorge Peters, Jamie Collins, David Norton, Ray G. Thomas, Matthew Gurka, Terra DuBois, Valerie Minson, Laurie Bialosky, Stephanie Gray, and Sylvain Doré.

**Call to Order**

SCORS Council Chair Jamie Collins called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

The February 20, 2018 minutes were approved.

**David Norton**, Vice President for Research

**Topics:            New Developments in International Research**

-VP of Research David Norton provided an update on international research. Up until about two years ago, individual academic units handled all aspects of international research but it is now being overseen by the Office of Research to help facilitate challenges such as hiring personnel, leasing facilities, and banking in cash-based economies. The Office of Research has sought to hire in-country consultants and has worked to create legal entities such as non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and non-profits to assist in navigating some of the challenges associated with international research. These services are funded through grants' direct costs. With about 791 million dollars of research being conducted at UF and about 3 billion dollars of research proposals being submitted, research has increased dramatically while the placement of infrastructure is ongoing. To assist with the university's goal of being a top five public university, UF is aiming to reach the billion dollar mark in research funding.

-David Norton also discussed the [Office of Research policy change regarding the submission of research proposals](#) and agreed to remove the mandatory \$6,000 late fee for faculty who do not submit research two business days prior to the sponsor's published deadline. The council voiced a concern that this proposal may discourage researchers from attempting to submit a grant proposal and that 'extenuating circumstances' should be clearly defined. The fine was meant to encourage timely grant submissions, increase competitive applications, and ultimately ensure that all submitted grants are scored. 70 percent of grants submitted to the Office of Research have issues which are fixed seamlessly by the office's administrative staff and without the involvement (or awareness) of the PI's. Institutional re-submission costs were discussed as well as the challenges of grant submissions on the college level.

-SCORS will suggest to the Steering Committee that David Norton be invited to address the Steering Committee and Faculty Senate in May.

**Stephanie Gray**, Assistant Vice President, Division of Sponsored Programs

**Topic:            Effort Reporting**

-This item was tabled to the April SCORS meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.