

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

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

3:30 p.m.

Grinter 264

Present: Matthew Gurka, Sylvain Doré, Joyce Myers, Jamie Collins, Hannah Norton, Mario Poceski, Laurie Bialosky, Stephanie Gray, and Michael Mahoney.

Absent: Ikraumuddin Aukhil, Dimitri Bourilkov, David Norton, Henry Frierson, and Sobha Jaishankar.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m.

II. Approval of September 18, 2018 Minutes

The minutes were approved.

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

-The Steering Committee meets this Thursday and has not met since the last SCORS meeting.

IV. Office of Research Tool to help faculty submit more competitive grants

Sobha Jaishankar, PhD

Assistant Vice President and Lecturer

Office of the Vice President for Research

-Due to a schedule conflict, this item will be presented in November.

V. [Effort Reporting](#)

Stephanie Gray, MBA

Assistant Vice President

Office of the Vice President for Research

-An Effort reporting presentation was given to SCORS by Stephanie Gray, Office of Research Asst. VP and Director, Division of Sponsored Programs. Some examples were given and the FAR and tolerance rates were reviewed.

- Questions were raised about assignments and research appointments. There is no correlation or limitation between assignments and appointment letters and this effort certification. The % effort does not have to match faculty assignments from the department or unit chairs or what is represented in faculty P&T., How a unit chair approves applications, assignment reports, teaching load adjustments, etc. is dependent on each individual unit. Faculty can still only certify a 100% total.

-Faculty are asked to focus on what they actually worked for 100% of the time for a given

time period. Any errors are be resolved by the effort coordinator. Administrative staff ensure numbers align properly and once they input data into the system, the system is organized to ultimately do the needed math. Thus, faculty are being asked not to do anything other than confirm the effort they actually worked.

-Tolerance change was discussed. It is only a direction in the effort system. However, an overall tolerance still exists. For example, if a person is paid 24.49% in the payroll system, and you are expecting 24%, however the system rounds up to 25% that is still within UF's policy of overall average tolerance. Allocating and certifying 25% is ok because of the tolerance.

-The effort statement shows the sum of payroll and cost shared effort. The variance comes into play in determining when to certify a different level of actual effort than appears on the effort statement. If a reasonable estimate of the actual effort is within five percentage points of the effort percentage shown on the statement, it is permissible to certify the level of effort that appears on the statement.

-It is permissible to certify 50% effort for the project if the effort devoted to the project could reasonably be determined to fall between 45% and 55% of the individual's total UF effort.

-Council Chair will ask Steering about inviting Stephanie Gray to Senate to present a couple slides regarding: 1) FAR and relationship and 2) tolerance.

VI. Other (Open Discussion)

I. SCORS Topic Suggestions for 2018-19 Academic Year

SCORS topics of interest for the upcoming academic year include:

- i. SCORS discussed the beta testing of annual evaluations in Pharmacy and Nursing in relation to the online P&T system and noted that Dentistry, Vet Med, and two College of Medicine departments have also launched an effort to join this systems integration. SCORS feels this will also be helpful in assisting Academics Analytics to gather more exact information.
- ii. Council is interested in hearing about IRB changes which go into effect in January.
- iii. A SCORS member suggested it would be beneficial to do a survey of the efficacy of teaching and training methods. Does any university entity measure how effective trainings are and are they performed by teachers?
- iv. Council would like to hear updates from the Research Task Force located in The Division of Sponsored Programs, Office of Research.
- v. SCORS Administrative liaison Stephanie Gray mentioned that there is a newly hired IT manager devoted to addressing all systems used by faculty. Contact details are: Ryan Davison, Business Relationship Manager 2, rdavison@ufl.edu, 273-1006, PO Box 113359, UFIT – Enterprise Systems, Business Relations, 2140 Waldo Rd, Bldg. 1603. Council may add him to a future meeting agenda.

Other / Open Discussion

-Discovery Suites was brought up online during the SCORS meeting for a brief system overview. During the demonstration and review, concerns were raised regarding which faculty are included in the database. Some entries were not updated for such items as job titles, although publications were up to date for the samples reviewed. SCORS discussed the usage of VIVO. The Provost clarified that this tool was not supported campus-wide and was largely restricted to the Health Science Center. Dr. Cathy Lebo, Assistant Provost and Director of Institutional Planning and Research, will present at the next SCORS meeting; she is also now an administrative liaison to SCORS.

-SCORS discussed the burden of training requirements for faculty from multiple constituents. One (not new) faculty member did a one year survey of the time she spent training in various systems, such as IRB, IACUC, sexual harassment, teaching modules, etc. and it totaled 60 hours. SCORS recommends a task force be established to help consolidate training.

-Dean of Libraries, Judith Russell, has been confirmed as an administrative liaison to both SCORS and Infrastructure Council. The University Libraries Committee (ULC) Chair will report to SCORS and will attend Infrastructure Council for periodic updates/as requested.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.