

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL Minutes

Friday, September 2, 2022

2:00 p.m.

*264 Grinter

*or, if needed, via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/99635205952?pwd=MUNRQIFGYkNHdFITeVoxd0FJMStMQT09>

Meeting ID: 996 3520 5952 Passcode: 190222 Dial in: +1 646 558 8656

Present: Angela Bacsik, David Bloom, David Norton, Amanda Phalin, Tom Kelleher, Michael Mahoney, Yousong Ding, Laurie Bialosky, Josepha Cheong (Zoom), Ashley Ghiaseddin (Zoom), Jasleen Kaur (Zoom), and Nicole Stedman (Zoom).

I. **Introductions**

Research & Scholarship Council Chair Angela Bacsik called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. **Approval of April 20, 2022 Minutes**

- The minutes were approved.

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

- 2022-3 Research & Scholarship Council Assistant Chair

Council Assistant Chair is Yousong Ding, who will take meeting minutes and send the draft minutes to the Chair for distribution to the Council within a week of the meeting.

IV. **Update on Tabled May 2022 Senate [Resolution for Development of a Strategic Plan for Animal and Human Subject Research Resources](#) - David C. Bloom, Past Faculty Senate Chair / Amanda Phalin, Faculty Senate Chair**

- ([Efficiencies Final Report](#))

Council was provided with a brief update on the resolution for the development of a strategic plan for animal and human subject research resources.

Dr. David Norton added that two working groups involving multiple faculty from different colleges and units had been formed to identify methods for improvement in IACUC and IRB operations. Dr. Norton has received formal reports from these two working groups, which included both appraisals on the current IACUC and IRB operations and recommendations for further improvement. Dr. Norton's office is assessing these reports and then will generate action items, including bringing in an outside review. Some questions and recommendations were discussed in the Council meeting (e.g., proper relocation of resources to effectively support ongoing and projected projects involving animals and human subjects on campus.)

The council suggested further reviewing the action items when available in alignment with the requests listed in the resolution. Council members will be sent both reports and the list of action items derived from them prior to the next meeting. The resolution will be discussed again in light of those action items to determine if there are any remaining concerns.

V. Graduate Student Pay and Benefits – Nicole Stedman, Graduate School Dean & Associate Provost

Council was provided with an update on the negotiation with GAU about graduate student stipends and benefits. An investigation of stipends of current graduate students at UF suggested that the majority of departments offered stipends at comparable levels to peer institutions. The comparison further considered the local buying power of stipends. The provost's office previously announced a 3% increase in stipend and the increase of minimal salary from \$16/hr to \$17/hr on June 30, 2022. Negotiation with GAU is ongoing. In addition, the Graduate school will request 8-week pay for parental leave for graduate students and is also searching for a staff member to focus on the mental health of graduate students. This staff member would connect graduate students with a variety of resources on campus. Dr. Nicole Stedman further indicated that Graduate School will provide clearer descriptions, expectations and weekly working hours for 0.5 FTE appointments for doctoral students. Council discussed the need to clarify such requirements for graduate students whose work hours and study hours might be at risk of overlap in a singular lab environment.

VI. Council Topic Suggestions for 2022-23 Academic Year

- (1). Office of Research: Review reports related to IRB and IACUC
- (2). Graduate School: Graduate student's stipend and benefits
- (3). University Libraries: Enotebook
- (4). Office of Research: Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership (OMOP) database: de-identifiers
- (5). Office of Research: the development of a website with checkboxes for exemption of human subject IRB approvals.

VII. Administrative Liaison/Contributing Committee Chairs Introductions/Updates

University Libraries - Josepha Cheong/Judith Russell

Josepha Cheong indicated that University Libraries Committee had its first meeting recently. New members include some students. In addition, CoM and UF Health had an internal group to evaluate the use of Enotebook on campus. A list of 30 questions was created and used to shop for different vendors. Amanda Phalin reported that Faculty Senate is working with the Board of Trustees to seek the possibility that the Board purchases the Enotebook for the entire State University System of Florida.

Office of the Provost / Institutional Planning and Research - Cathy J. Lebo
(NA)

Office of Research - David Norton/Stephanie Gray/Michael Mahoney

Michael Mahoney reported that the Office of Research is developing (1) a website with checkboxes for IRB exemption for some human subjects research and (2) the Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership (OMOP) database with de-identified information to make data available for research without IRB approvals. In addition, the Office of Research is developing research project searching tools so a PI can more easily register IACUC protocols.

Graduate School - Tom Kelleher

New to the role and looking forward to working with the council.

VIII. Open Agenda Items / Discussion from Floor - *Three-minute limit per speaker.*

- Council Members
- University of Florida Faculty

(None)

IX. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Research & Scholarship Council members Yousong Ding & Chair Angela Bacsik.