

Committee on Committees (CoC)

Minutes

November 8, 2021

10 a.m.

*MBI L1-108

*or, if cannot attend in person, via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/91481247006?pwd=TUdHQWZtRmxClJlaVNvWXJ2U3Axdz09>

Attendees: Paramita Chakrabarty, Steven Swarts, Nian Wang, Lori Knackstedt, Patrick Klager, Jason Byrd, and Keith Rambo.

- 1. Call to Order** – Paramita Chakrabarty - Chair, COC
- The meeting was called to order by Chair Chakrabarty at 10:02 a.m.
- 2. Approve October 11, 2021 Minutes** - Paramita Chakrabarty - Chair, COC
- The minutes were approved.
- 3. [Parking & Transportation Committee \(PATC\)](#)** - Keith Rambo, Chair, PATC

Professor Keith Rambo, PATC Chair, provided an update on behalf of the Parking and Transportation Committee. Professor Rambo described how this committee works along with different stakeholders, such as Infrastructure committee, UFPD, faculty members and community members. Meetings are in person and well-attended. The committee is running well with no major concerns. Significant actions of the committee in the last year include: In response to a request by Dr. Emily Hind (faculty in Spanish and Portuguese Studies) a working group has been constituted to ensure better safety procedures for pedestrians and cyclists on campus.

A request was made for clarification on the rules of operating e-scooters on campus. Recommendations can be made to scooter operators and other users so as to facilitate traffic and ensure general safety. Professor Rambo will discuss this with Parking and Transportation committee. The e-scooter project has been initiated as a collaboration between the City of Gainesville and different commercial entities. Rambo clarified that these are deemed as bicycles (rather than motorized vehicles). Swarts asked for clarification as to whether the e-scooters are classified as motorized vehicles, and thus excluded from use of bike lanes, or as bicycles. Professor Rambo indicated that the e-scooters are classified as bicycles in regards to having access to bike lanes.

The speed bumps on University Avenue (collaboration between City of Gainesville and FDOT) has been regarded highly. Additional bollards are being constructed on the University Avenue near the library. This will ensure safe passage of pedestrians and other road users.

Some concerns were raised in a recent Parking and Transportation committee and Infrastructure Committee about overcrowded conditions in UF Health parking. The committee is looking into this.

The new Garage 14 has alleviated parking problems. However, non-green decal holders are often parking in areas reserved for green decals, especially in O'Connell parking area. This issue has been resolved by dedicating these zones as exclusively green decal areas with accompanying enforcement.

In this year and in the near future, the committee has seen a significant number of construction approvals. For example, concerning a project relating to the addition of a gymnasium to the student recreation center (across from Parking Garage 5), no impact on parking has been reported. A future parking project for the central energy plant is expected to come up for in the future.

4. [Research & Scholarship Council](#) - Jason Byrd, 2021-2 Chair, Research & Scholarship Council and Keith Rambo, 2020-1 Chair, Research & Scholarship Council

Research and Scholarship Council Chair Dr. Jason Byrd provided an update on behalf of the Research and Scholarship Council. This committee has no major concerns in regards to member attendance or operations. Meetings are in hybrid format and are well-attended. In this year, several issues have been addressed. The [Faculty Author Rights Policy](#) was updated and moved to the Welfare Committee for review. The goal is to have Faculty Senate approve this policy by Spring 2022. A draft of this policy was shared by Dr. Byrd with the CoC Committee.

The Council considered electronic lab notebooks (eLN) for campus wide use. A meeting has been arranged between members of this Research and Scholarship Council, commercial eLN representatives and Faculty Senate Chair Dr. David C. Bloom. Dr. Sylvain Doré described the eLN's uses and benefits to the council. Because an enterprise license \$140K per year is needed for the use of eLNs, the breakeven point is 380 campus-wide users. It was confirmed that no university-wide or CARES funding is being made available for this initiative by individual stakeholders (Office of Research, Provosts' Office, UF Health, etc.) although general awareness of eLN benefits could be raised to help facilitate general eLN use.

The Council also considered funding options for open access publications. There is a possibility that the Provost's Office could contribute to this. The University Libraries Committee (ULC) has explored funding options for the \$300K per year needed for such a recurring initiative. It is possible that this cost could be shared across multiple units, departments and colleges.

An upcoming matter is regarding a discussion on approval efficiencies of IACUC and EHS which was deemed as unsatisfactory. In response to several faculty and campus-wide requests that an external review for this process be done, a task force will be set up to identify the inefficiencies. Several faculty and shareholders will be presenting as part of this task force at a meeting scheduled for November 19, 2021.

A proposal was made by this council to the Graduate School to clarify and simplify the thesis dissertation formats. A recommendation was made that the thesis submission could be done in an article format. The Graduate School is open to these suggestions and will take any needed actions as appropriate. The council also reported that the criteria for the graduate mentoring awards may be revised in the near future.

A post tenure review process a hoc committee is currently being constituted and the Research & Scholarship Council is interested in contributing to and information-sharing with it once it is formed.

- The CoC Chair and vice Chair concluded that both of the presenting committees/councils are adequately addressing the needs of the faculty and that no major concerns that need immediate attention have been identified.

5. Identify next month's Committee/Council Invitation

- View [APPENDIX](#) of Recommended Committee on Committee Review Rotation
- The next meeting will have presentations from Dr. Richard Scholtz (Academic Policy Council) and tentatively from Dr. Tim Brophy (Academic Assessment Committee).

6. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.