University of Memphis Research Council
Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2022
12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting – Virtual and in person @ FedEx Institute Methodist Presentation Theater

Meeting Called to Order at 12:30 p.m. Consideration of Minutes – October 8, 2022
- Motion to Approve Minutes by Jeremy Orosz and Seconded by John Evans
- Unanimously approved by the Council

Division Staff in Attendance - S. Thompson, C. Behles, B. Evans, L. Wright
Others in Attendance - A. Olney

I. Opening Remarks - Dr. Dhaliwal
- Congratulations to UMRC and UofM Faculty on Achieving R1
- Introduction of Dr. Lou Qualls - joining the FIT team to move UofM in 3 areas (AgriTech, Energy, Defense), 2nd floor of FIT is a space called Endeavor - Energy, Defense and AgriTech Innovation Research. Endeavor will focus on identifying common ground between researchers to provide access to new research areas and collaborators
- PostDoc Plan – will be counted again this fall (Nov. 21), funding will be released in accordance with new Carnegie criteria
- UofM Request to Governor and State Legislature for $50M Research Endowment - UofM needs to raise $50M to match (End result: $100 million endowed in the research foundation – will be used to seek recurrent funding in the future)
- Build Back Better Regional Challenge - In Dec., UofM was the only entity to be selected for the Build Back Better program, received $0.5 million for being a finalist, submitted a proposal for $75 million. This endeavor reinforces the need to apply for larger grants to sustain R1 status.
- TANF Proposal
- Think bigger and focus on applying for research funding as federal research agencies have significantly increased budgets.
- Think about what is UofM’s goal as a R1 (became R1 in 3 years)

II. Carnegie R1 Ranking and Sustainability Update - Dr. Dhaliwal
- Carnegie Classification:
  - 2018 Rank: 125/261 schools (cutoff: 131)
  - 2021 Rank: 170/280 schools (cutoff: 135)
- 2018 ranking year vs. 2021 - research expenditures (Adding research portion of faculty salaries will add at least $40M to research expenditures.)
Comparisons: Universities close to UofM’s Carnegie ranking
Comparisons: Universities a part of the Southeastern Conference
Key considerations (2024 cycle):
  ○ Biggest risk: Changes to model, measures, and timing arising from the move of Carnegie classifications from Indiana University to the American Council for Education (e.g., social and economic mobility)
Hongmei Zhang: Do we know if postdocs are being considered in the R1 specifications for next year?
  ○ Jasbir Dhaliwal: No.
Dipankar Dasgupta: Do we know the timeline for the criteria for R1?
  ○ Jasbir Dhaliwal: No.
Dipankar Dasgupta: How often does Carnegie do this analysis?
  ○ Jasbir Dhaliwal: Every 3 years.
Cody Havard - What is the percentage of faculty salaries allocated to research used in Point #1?
  ○ Cody Behles: 30%

III. Divisional Reports
Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP)-Stephanie Thompson
  ○ Initiative to bring on post-award support (OSP is collaborating with Linda Hyde and Branca County)
  ○ 2 positions needed, have identified the candidate pool and search committee (4 PIs including Stephanie and Linda)
Research Compliance-Beverly Jacobik
  ○ IRB - member evaluations and updated procedures
  ○ IACUC – just hired new part-time veterinarian in the stead of Karyl Buddington (Tim Mandrell from UTHSC)
  ○ Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) - being reconstituted by Research and Innovation
  ○ Financial Conflict of Interest Module on Cayuse - at the end of its implementation (soft roll out at the end of April - full access by mid-summer)
  ○ Chunrong Jia: suggested training and compliance with associated deadlines should be incorporated into a module on my.memphis portal as opposed to emails. Will require integration with HR (Beverly to follow up)
Research Development- Cody Behles
  ○ Research Development new team member - Dr. Brian Evans
  ○ 2 NSF CAREER awards secured, 20+ applying in July
  ○ Offers external review support
  ○ Offers gap funding
  ○ NSF workshop series
  ○ UTIA-UofM AgriTech Call for Proposals
  ○ EDA grant development
  ○ Find Out/Foundation Friday Series
  ○ The Conversation update: 540,000 unique reads in 12 months
IV. Task Forces Updates/Reports

- IRB Review and Improvement Task Force Report (Brandt Pence)
  - Updating policies due to concerns brought forth by community (addressing difficulties and human subject research disengagement)
  - Dr. Ackerman - a consultant who will review pre and post review processes, communications processes, etc.
  - Dipankar Dasgupta - asking about clarification on data collection through internet changes based on methods of data collection.
  - Jasbir Dhaliwal - refer to Beverly Jacob for this.

- University IDCR and Faculty Buyout Policies (Gary Emmert)
  - Presented by Andrew Olney in the stead of Gary Emmert
  - During Fall Semester 2021, a committee was convened to study existing University of Memphis Policy related to IDCR Distribution and Faculty Buyout policies.
  - Faculty Buyout recommendations - based on other colleges’ models (12.5% of salary to buyout of a 3 hr course - any effort on grant applied to a teaching load first - no limit on buyouts
  - IDCR Distribution Policy recommendations - committee recommends for UofM to adopt an official policy; 10% of IDCR to PI; surplus measures (spending plans based on >$10,000; PIs need to adhere to the guidelines with respect to their IDCR accounts (create spending plan every 2 years if IDCR accounts > $10,000, 5 years if > $1,500, an accounting form annually unless 30% spent/yearly if $1,500 < accounts < $10,000); there should be a subsequent committee to better evaluate this in more detail
  - Concerns raised:
    - Santosh Kumar: raises concerns about the recommendations (raises a counter-proposal to create a “bank” for the unspent funds which would cause some administrative burden - rec. 3)
    - Satish Kedia: why would faculty be forced to spend money from grants?
    - Hongmei Zhang: notes that faculty with smaller IDCR treasure these funds
    - Brian Waldron: notes that if the approval aspect is eliminated, it is less of a burden to simply provide notes on spending plans
  - Jasbir Dhaliwal: Provost is worried about 100% buyout, will go back to faculty senate and look at motions and recommendations, will ensure deans/chairs/provost consider these recommendations

- Additional comments:
Kim Oller: The global motivation for the buyout policy is to encourage everyone to submit proposals
  ○ Call for volunteers to convert recommendations into formal document(s)/policies

- **Standing versus Ad Hoc Task Forces**
  ○ Will classify these in fall meeting

V. **Open Forum**
- **Call for new task force**
  ○ Recommendations on changing bylaws for UMRC (on UMRC website)
  ○ UMRC can be chaired by a member as opposed to VP of RI (i.e. Jasbir Dhaliwal)

- **Other business**
  ○ None

VI. **Adjournment**
- Kim Oller moved to adjourn
- Brian Waldron seconded
- Unanimously approved by the Council
- Adjourned at 2:10 p.m.