

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

Members in Attendance- J. Dhaliwal, G. Emmert, J. Orosz, A. Hall, C. Pierce, S. Ivey, C. Havard, J. Johnson, A. Allen, M. Gill, K. Oller, B. Pence, H. Zhang, C. Chapell, J. Evans, A. Jennings, S. Shiva, R. Banai, K. Trump, D. Moncrieff, S. Mishra, M. Gkolias, G. Beck, S. Kumar, C. Langston, B. Waldron, L. Pichon, M. Amini, G. Bowlin, D. Dasgupta, A. Fatemi, R. Fisher, C. Jia, S. Kedia, K. Lambert-Pennington, J. Murphy, M. Paquette, S. Potter, C. Preza, T. Sutter, S. Zanskas, A. Boykins,

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 Discussion
- 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
- STEM department data reports
- Book publication resource (on website)
- Highly Cited Scholar Series (in newsletter)
- Service reminders: Grant Forward, The Conversation, Academic Analytics
- Tom Sutter: Asks about gap funding earlier on in resubmission period
 - Jasbir Dhaliwal - will be flexible, until the \$1 million gets reinstated, approach cognizant Deans regarding financial support resources because the F&A excesses are distributed among the Deans.

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 ICDR 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.