

The University of Tennessee  
Research Council  
Minutes of the Meeting  
November 9, 2016

Elected Members present:

Micheline Van Riemsdijk (Chair), Jay Chen, Alex Freire, Terry Hazen, Qiang He, Hillary Herndon, Juan Luis Jurat-Fuentes, Rebecca Koszalinski, Lisa Mullikin, Casey Sams and John Schmisser (via Zoom)

Ex-Officio Members present:

Teri Baxter, Chris Boake, Bill Dunne, Holly Mercer, Bob Muenchen, and Bonnie Ownley

ORE Members present:

Jean Mercer and Robert Nobles

Call to order:

Micheline Van Riemsdijk called the meeting to order. A regular meeting of the Research Council was held at Blount Hall room A004 on November 9, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 3:33 pm.

Announcements and Reports

SARIF Equipment and Infrastructure Call for Proposals:

Qiang He shared that the committee has made the recommendations to Dr. Eighmy. There were 26 proposals received, 23 were funded.

Research Council Committees 2016-2107

Micheline Van Riemsdijk shared that the Research Council committees have been finalized and please let her know if there are need for changes. The website will be updated to reflect the changes for 2016 – 2017.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the minutes for May 11, 2016 and October 12 meetings. Motion was seconded and minutes were approved.

Presentations

[UT System Research Misconduct Policy](#)

Robert Nobles presented the revised Research Misconduct Policy which included formalizing the process and implemented on September 15, 2016. The policy clarified that all student research activities (e.g. thesis, dissertations, etc.) fall under the new policy. One clarification included providing a better definition of research:

“a systematic experiment, study, evaluation, demonstration, or survey designed to develop or contribute to general knowledge (basic research) or specific knowledge (applied research) by establishing, discovering, developing, elucidating, or confirming information about, or the underlying mechanism relating to, the subject matter of any academic discipline (no just the physical sciences) in any University setting and includes

development of a Research Plan. This definition is intended to include scholarship and all creative works.”

The responsibility to decide actions related to findings of research misconduct will be determined by ORE, Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement in concert with the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Integrity. When allegations are received, they are assessed and the individual who has allegations against them are not told or shared. Disclosure of the individual is not shared until the process moves into the inquiry phase. Discussion occurred between the Council about the process and the pros and cons of sharing to targeted individuals about the allegations. There have been 100 or so allegations received and most have been related to plagiarism and publication practices and 90% of the allegations are made anonymously and 97% of them are dismissed through an objective process. The goal is not create antagonistic environment. The issue is open for discussion and the Council is encouraged to provide feedback to Dr. Nobles.

**ACTION:** Robert and Holly Mercer will create a fact sheet on publishing with a potential presentation to the Graduate Council to discuss Research Plans and potentially departments submitting dissertations through the iAuthenticate before entering into TRACE.

**ACTION:** Add Holly Mercer to future agenda to discuss publishing for faculty including copyrights and library support services.

#### **F&A Waiver Policy**

Jean Mercer discussed the F&A Waiver Policy that has been presented and discussed with various groups including the ADRs. She wants to verify the concept is reasonable and encourages comments be sent to her.

#### **New Business:**

The Chair asked for feedback on the start time and the Council decided to keep it at 3:30 pm. A committee will be formed to modify the by-laws to formalize the Research Council’s election process. Other future meeting topics to include: Kimberly Eck the new RDT Director, Brian Ranger from Biosafety and Bob Muenchen about IT support services.

#### **Adjournment:**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:40 pm.

#### **Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 3:30 pm at Blount Hall A004.

Zoom #: <https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/701978413>

Minutes submitted by: Paula Brown