

The University of Tennessee
Research Council
Minutes of the Meeting
December 13, 2017

Elected Members present:

Jay Chen, Julia Jaekel, Juan Jurat-Fuentes, Qiang He (Chair), Michael Kilbey, Jacob Latham, Andreas Nebenfuehr, Greg Reynolds, Soren Sorensen, and Tammy Wyatt

Ex-Officio Members present:

Teri Baxter, Beauvais Lyons, Holly Mercer, and Robert Muenchen

Call to order:

Qiang He called the meeting to order. A regular meeting of the Research Council was held at Blount Hall room A004 on December 13, 2017. The meeting called to order at 3:34 pm.s

Announcements and Reports

Core Facilities Equipment and Infrastructure Fund – Xiaopeng Zhao

The Equipment and Infrastructure Fund received 27 proposals requesting \$530,253 in SARIF funds. The committee recommended to fund 15 of those proposals with a total award of \$212,113.

Working Group for Human Subjects Research – Greg Reynolds

The Human Subjects Research working group is addressing the changes to the common rule, which will be shared by Dr. Wyatt later in the meeting.

Centers and Institutes Review Committee – Juan Jurat-Fuentes

The colleges submitted their review of the Research Centers and it was determined that 12 centers will remain under the review of the Research Council, 20 centers will now be reviewed by their appropriate college, and five were eliminated since they are no longer active or exist. There are three upcoming reviews for the Spring semester and their materials will be requested the week of January 8.

Members recommended discussion with future VCR about having a more overall institutional review of the centers and how they fit within the Strategic Plan and future directions.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the October meeting were not approved since there was not a quorum.

Presentations:

Institutional Review Board – Tammy Wyatt

On January 18, 2017, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), along with 15 agencies, issues final revisions to the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human subjects, also known as the “Common Rule” (45 CFR 46). This is the first revision of these regulations since their original publication in 1981. The majority of the changes are scheduled to go into effect on January 19, 2018. However on October 7, HHS submitted a proposed change to delay the effective date of the new regulations. The change was requested by HHS due to regulatory freeze earlier this year that delayed activities necessary to bring the human subjects research community into compliance by the effaced date. The proposal, “Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects: Proposed 1-Year delay of the general Implementation date while allowing the use of the three burden-reducing provision during the delay, is being reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget. If approved, notice will be published in the Federal Register. HHS policy disallows personnel commenting on policy matters prior to their publication in the Federal Register, so we are left to speculate on the proposals contents. *Please see attached for specific changes.*

IRB training will be provided via videos which will cover the typical timeline and expectations of the process. This includes exempt reviews, expedited reviews and full board reviews.

Research Activity Data Analysis – Bruce LaMattina and Anna Banks

The Office Research Development has been developing a research metric dashboard to provide just in time reporting of research expenditures by college and department stratified by funding sponsor. Anna Banks demonstrated the beta dashboard currently at the college-level sharing the expectation for release to general public will be Spring 2018. UT’s OIT department has been a tremendous asset in development.

Members asked whether there is an opportunity to capture merit-based vs. competitive; which Cayuse does not track that element. Also, should ORNL funds be included in federal funding since they are typically non-compet. It was also requested that the dashboard provide a breakdown by department of the ORNL funds.

Adjournment: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:15pm.

Minutes submitted by: Paula Brown

Next Meeting: January 10, 2018 @3:30 pm in Blount Hall A004.

Zoom Attendance: <https://tennessee.zoom.us/j/705429195>, please confirm with Paula Brown