

The University of Tennessee
Faculty Senate Research Council
Minutes of the Meeting
September 7, 2022

Elected Members present:

Dania Bilal, Megan Bryson, Yuri Efremenko, Gregor Kalas, Jacob Latham, Brian Long, Katie Morgan, Angel Palomino, Sean Schaeffer, Andrew Steiner (Chair), and Mariya Zhuravleva

Ex-Officio Members present:

Suzie Allard, David Anderson, Chad Autry, and Holly Mercer

Other Members present:

Marc Gibson, Jamie McGowan, Jean Mercer, Jon Phipps, Josh Price, Sarah Pruett, Renee Thomas, and Jennifer Webster

Call to order:

A regular meeting of the Research Council was held via Zoom and Andrew Steiner called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.

Announcements and Reports

Faculty Senate By-Laws

Media Releases of Research Successes

- The Research Council shall furthermore encourage media releases of research successes by UTK, UTIA, and UTSI researchers.”
- Possible way of making progress on concern with administration’s value of non-applied (or “basic”) research; increase visibility of this kind of science. Basic research or non-applied is research that does not have practical or industry use.
- Communication is now not part of ORIED’s office, so we may need to change the bylaws and meet with Tisha Benton. It was recommended to involve Christie Kennedy with External Communications and Chris for Internal Communications.

ACTION: Chair will provide by-laws draft for members to review and comment.

Proposal Deadline Policy

- ORIED is instituting procedure changes effective November 1, 2022 that affect the timing of research proposal submission. Deb Crawford suggested that this is a focus on more even enforcement rather than a change in timing. The Associate Deans of Research (ADRs) will be responsible for granting exceptions. The Research Council is invited to comment on the new policy.
- The current policy to have documents to Office of Sponsored Programs five business days before the deadline but 80% are received a day before not allowing enough review time and federal agencies have added more requirement for proposal submissions.
- The overall deadline is 10 business days in advance to gather certifications from sub, budgets, collaborators, and everyone involved as well as the draft narrative. Final documents are required 5 business days prior to the deadline.

ACTION: Chair will send information to Research Council for review and comment.

Restructuring of College of Arts and Sciences

- A survey from Elizabeth Schussler was sent and members are encouraged to participate. Please see the RC blog for associated documents.
- The RC blog also includes various activities and potential meeting topics.

Subcommittees

- The Research Council subcommittees: SARIF Summer Graduate Research Assistantship, Equipment and Infrastructure Fund, Chancellor's Awards as well as representatives for the Graduate Council Representative and Core Facilities Representative.
- It was recommended that nomination letters have more explicit expectations to include in the letters and applications. It should clearly state the average expectations/norms and how the nominee's accomplishments far exceed those norms.

ACTION: Members to email to chair the committee they would like to be assigned.

ACTION: Members to review the call for proposal and make recommendations to Brad Day, ORIED.

Joint Meeting with Budget & Planning on 9/26/2022

- Deb Crawford will present to the Budget and Planning Committee to discuss the new BAM model, ORIED's vision under the new model (support unit), and how the B&P Committee can facilitate effective delivery of support unit services by serving as an intermediary between colleges and ORIED.

Adjournment:
Minutes submitted by:
Next Meeting:

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.
Paula Brown
September 26, 2022