

Research and Scholarship Policy Council
May 30, 2007
3:00-5:00 PM
220 Tigert

Attendees:

Scott Nygren
William Buhi
Henry Frierson
Bill Properzio
Kenneth Boote
Saeed Khan

Tom Walsh

Guests:

Rick Yost
Michael McKee
Suzanne Sindledecker

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM.

The council made introductions for new members.

The council discussed the role of the council and what the council should focus on for the 2007-2008 academic year.

The council would like to promote scholarship and discussed ways to define scholarship.

Effort Reporting System

Mike McKee provided an overview of the effort reporting system pilot program.

The program is completed and the next phase is to expand the pilot program to 15 more departments during the summer. Instructions accompanied the new forms during the pilot program. Principal Investigators signed the forms for lab workers. The departments of Chemistry; Entomology and Nematology; Electrical and Computer Engineering; Community Health and Family Medicine; and Orthopedics participated in the pilot program.

Mike McKee and Suzanne Sindledecker requested continued support of the new program.

Graduate Student Bill of Rights

Rick Yost discussed a graduate student bill of rights he received from a member of the graduate student council. The council raised several questions regarding the bill of rights:

Should the bill go to the graduate coordinators?

Is there a national standard for the Bill of Rights?

Can the council obtain an electronic copy of the Bill of Rights (Amelia will work to obtain an electronic copy of the bill of rights)?

Has the Graduate Student Union seen the bill of rights- should general counsel review the bill of rights?

The council agreed that the Senate's review of the document would grant legitimacy to the bill of rights and alert a large audience to problems identified in the document.

Scholarship

The council continued their discussion of scholarship. The council agreed that it is important to focus on unfunded research and creative works.

The council will continue to consider ways to define and support scholarship.

Sabbatical

The council would like to look into the sabbatical program to determine whether it is fairly distributed across campus and how grant funded positions are granted sabbaticals. The council would also like to determine how the number of sabbaticals taken and the number of sabbaticals which are available have changed over time and how our numbers and policies compare to peer institutions. Information will be obtained from across campus to determine how sabbaticals are granted in different colleges.

The council would also like to determine how much research is conducted out of curiosity or if research is mostly based on what funding is available.

The council will also review the Strategic Work Plan to determine where research is heading and how legislative budget requests should be incorporated into research and scholarship planning.

The council will consider that needs vary by department and discipline and can include labs, time, travel money, etc.

IDC Report

Last year's IDC report will be compared to the current report. Tom Walsh will distribute the updated IDC numbers to the council and the council will review to determine if the IDC policies being followed. The IDC report will be posted on the Senate Web site when available.

The meeting adjourned at 4:41 PM