

Senate Council on Research and Scholarship
Minutes
December 11, 2009
9-11 A.M.
283 Reitz Union

Attendees:

Tom Walsh
Jacob Chung
Scott Nygren
Mark Orazem
Hank Frierson
Robert Cook
Deb Murie

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 AM

The minutes of the November 20th meeting were approved.

Scott Nygren reported that he will invite Marie Zeglen to the January meeting in order to discuss effort reporting.

The council discussed how the Senate should go about responding to the new RCM budget model. Scott Nygren suggested that a faculty committee be formed to parallel the administration's RCM committee.

The council discussed whether this committee would advise Matt Fajack and/or Joe Glover.

The council discussed a few possible committee structures including:

- representatives from the college councils should serve on a larger RCM committee
- have an existing council look at the issue or should a new council be created
- Form a group with a representative group from the budget, infrastructure, research councils, the senate, CLAS, HSC, IFAS and a representative mix of colleges and units from the main campus form a faculty RCM committee.

The council also discussed having the Senate charge the college councils to work with their deans.

Other ideas included hosting a town hall or a series of talks on RCM in the main campus, the HSC and at IFAS.

The council discussed issues and concerns they have seen so far or anticipate seeing including:

- There is a concern about where state matching money goes
- How declining programs will be tied to existing revenue and how to provide incentives for new growth without punishing no growth
- Revenues available through SCH from the state are declining
- No benchmarks yet, though the goal of the first year is to match last year
- Concern about lack of governance
- Off book programs, faculty donate time off book
- past flexibility in grants and off book programs
- Core programs tied to declining revenues without adjustment to weights
- Incentive to generate revenues likely to drive us to directions would be negative
- Dilute efforts rather than enhance them because programs are driven by grad students
- Masters are incentivized
- Incentivizing revenues at expense of quality
- Outside activities such as serving as the editor of journal has no particular benefit in RCM
- How does RCM incentivize activities that have little fiscal benefit to the university but are very important to the university's reputation and mission and also for tenure and promotion
- deans will have to be strong enough to support activities that RCM does not incentivize.

Scott Nygren relayed some concerns from the Infrastructure council:

- Classroom space
- Academic technology
- Sabbaticals
- Multiple department research contracts
- Incentives for energy conservation or sustainability

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 AM