University Committee on Research
2017-2018 Academic Year

NAME | SCHOOL/DEPT
---|---
James McNew, Chair | Department of BioSciences
Cymene Howe | Department of Anthropology, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Jeffrey Kripal | Department of Religion
Milivoje Lukic | Department of Mathematics
Peter Lewjune | Department of BioSciences
Alexander Morgan | Department of Philosophy
Steve Murdock | Department of Sociology
Peter Nordlander | Department of Physics and Astronomy
Rob Raphael | Department of Bioengineering
Eduardo Salas | Department of Psychology
Stan Sazykin | Department of Physics and Astronomy
Elena Shehabuddin | Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality
Reif Verduzco | Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Ron Witte | School of Architecture
Anthea Zhang | Jones Graduate School of Business
Logan Bishop | Non-voting graduate student representative

(a) To serve as the primary committee for faculty to inform the administration of any problems and opportunities, including suggested policy changes, that relate to the ability of the faculty to engage in research and other scholarly activities.

(b) To initiate studies of various aspects of research and other scholarly activities with the intent of improving the climate for these activities at the university and articulating faculty vision on research issues.

(c) To become familiar with the functions of the Office of Research and provide feedback to the Vice Provost of Research when requested.

(d) To assist the Faculty Senate by investigating issues brought to it relating to research.

(e) To provide feedback to the Research Administration Advisory Group when the opinions of a broad representation of faculty on research-related issues are needed.

(f) To prepare a brief, written report of the committee’s activities at the end of each academic year and to submit copies of this report to the president of the university, the provost, the vice provost of research, and the Faculty Senate.

Policy Issues

- Revisions of Policy 326-Human Research Protection Program
  - Approved
- Rice Participation in the Texas Data Repository
  - Presentation by Lisa Spiro, Executive Director of Digital Scholarship Services
  - Committee voted no objection to joining, but noted weak faculty support.
Functions of the Office

Office of Research
- Shared Equipment Authority (SEA)
- Research Compliance
- Technology Transfer
- Research Centers & Institutes
- Sponsored Programs

Director
Sponsored Projects and Research Compliance (SPARC)

Faculty Committee
Shared Equipment Authority (SEA)

Role of the Faculty Senate in Committees that report directly to the Office of Research

Most of the faculty committees that report to the OR have no conduit to the faculty senate.

We wanted to hear from committee chairs to learn how the COR could provide access to the broader faculty through the Senate.

Likely outcome will be to propose that these committee chairs become ex officio members of the COR.
Invited Speakers

- Krystal Toups
  - Director, Sponsored Projects and Research Compliance
- John Cornwell
  - Chair, Institutional Review Board
- Dan Wagner
  - Chair, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
- Ed Nikonowicz
  - Chair, Institutional Biosafety Committee
- Yousif Shamoo
  - Vice Provost for Research

Scheduled for 4/20/18

Lisa Biswal, Chair, Shared Equipment Authority

University Committee on Research
2018-2019 Academic Year

- Evaluate strategies for implementing research goals of the V2C2
  - Meet with stakeholder to generate ideas and strategies for implementation
  - Work with the Office of Research to develop a plan to execute strategy initiatives

V2C2 priorities that could be impacted by the University Committee on Research

**Invest in Faculty to Achieve Preeminence.**
We will foster faculty innovation and accomplishment in education, research, and artistic endeavors, and make additional investments in targeted areas to reach the highest levels of achievement and recognition.

**Elevate Research Achievement and Reputation.**
We will elevate our research accomplishment to the highest level to advance human knowledge and creativity, and make vital contributions to the betterment of our world.

Preliminary Strategy for V2C2 implementations

- Develop a suite of initiatives to make Rice an extraordinarily attractive option for faculty candidates
- Develop incentives for current Faculty to expand and enrich their research and scholarship

Preliminary Strategy for V2C2 implementations

- Potential initiatives to make Rice a more attractive place to do research
  - Streamline PI compliance issues with a user-friendly web interface
  - Improve research accounting support and post-award grants management
  - Improve pre-award grant submission and administration processes
  - Improve purchasing and purchasing management support
  - Improve infrastructure support for instrumentation

Potential methods to expand and enrich current research
- Incentivize current faculty
- Fractional indirect cost returns directly to PIs for research awards
- Matching university funds for research awards from new agencies
- Incentivize new grant submissions
- Improved institutional support for graduate education