Research Policy Committee **Approved Minutes**

January 31, 2020

2:30-4:00 pm

Fleming, Regents Room

Chaired by Dr. Francine Dolins

Members present: Francine Dolins, Natalie Colabianchi, Jacob Carlson, Nicholas Harris, Nicholas Ernst, Irene St. Charles, Nocona Sanders, Marisa Conte, Akira Nishii, Ashley Kalinski, William Close, Yi-Su Chen, Jessie Lee, Jenna Manske, Zenon Sommers

Guest(s): Rebecca Cunningham; Ken Sylvester; Yi Lu Murphey

Absent: Francois Beaufay, Mimi Dalaly, Kate Eaton, Hafiz Malik, Annalisa Manera, Jairam Menon, Teri Rosales, Priti Shah,

I.   **Review of minutes from December 2019**

- Request of review of minutes
    - i.   No objections to minutes
    - ii. Agreement of minutes

II.   **First topic:** UMOR – Rebecca Cunningham

- Overview of UMOR
    - i.   Working to rehaul the website over the next year
        - 1.   Check out the new webpage: research.umich.edu/resources
    - ii. Services across all 3 campuses
- Focuses for 2020
    - i.   Research analytics
        - 1.   Accelerate Blue
        - 2.   Cubed Communities
            - a.   Meant for faculty to create "communities"
            - b.   Access not intended for students
    - ii. Firearm Injury Prevention
        - 1.   Funded by the institution
            - a.   Dr. Cunningham will not be involved in the funding allocation based on academic interest in the field
    - iii. International Engagement
        - 1.   Increasing mandatory federal regulations
            - a.   The office is working to make compliance possible
    - iv. Animal Care and Use (ACUP)

1. Half of the federally funded research on campus involves animals
                a. Continue to work towards renewal of accreditation
        v. Michigan Cores
        vi. Research Commons
            1. Webtool: researchcommons.umich.edu
                a. Search for funding/grants
                b. Relies on information entered into the system
        vii. Catalyze Research
        viii. Support and Safeguard Research

   III. Questions
        • Jake – appreciate the overview. This committee is focused on providing a voice
          of campus to Dr. Cunningham, but also how can we support her;
            i. Response: provide input on existing tools and updated tools, such as M-
               Inform, Communities, International Engagement
        • Ashley – is the office looking to support people (vs. projects), specifically post-
          docs?
            i. The office does not really distribute grants, necessarily. The knowledge
               and distribution sits more at the school level. There is ongoing discussion
               regarding support for post-doc and student engaged learning.
        • Francine – asking for the undergrad representatives to inform Dr. Cunningham
          on the programs that they are currently supporting.
            i. Jenna – giving a brief explanation of their work and looking for publicity
                1. Question: Rebecca asked about UROP conferences
                    a. Akira - Brad Orr is helping and in contact with the group
                       for support of the symposium
        • Nick – is your approach as an interim VP different, either by necessity or
          strategy?
            i. Rebecca - Do the job as though you are going to have the job. Set it up to
               leave it in great shape or taking on the role permanently. Taking on the
               large issues without hesitation. The transition so far is really about setting
               up the ability to make impact and change.
        • Francine – asking about the concerns for international collaboration. There was
          another faculty member arrested at Harvard recently. Is there any further
          discussion on this topic?
            i. Harvard this week, last week MD Anderson; every week is a different
               institution. UMOR is doing everything they can to protect and inform our
               faculty to make sure they are not put into difficult positions with
               compliance.
                1. There are FAQs on the webpage
                    a. Consistently updating the FAQs
                2. Phone calls are taken for hypothetical situations
                    a. There is a helpline
                3. NIH has "updated" guidance that seems new and shiny

     a. We have updated our forms and templates
    4. There are not necessarily added restrictions, but the need for disclosure is real.
    5. Formed a multi-office committee to attempt to understand the new climate around international collaboration.
   ii. Irene – does this include other agencies?
    1. Rebecca - Yes, over-disclosure is a good idea right now.
   iii. Francine – is there an update on the 3 cases at U of M?
    1. Rebecca – not at liberty to discuss individual faculty cases

- Francine – Commenting that Dr. Hu never received funding with discretion for distribution. Is there anything that the committee could do to help take a different strategy this way?
  - i. Right now there is no formula for IDC management or relationship. If she were to hang around in this job, she would spend more time on the modeling. There is need for consistent updating to the budget modeling.
- Committee – there is emphasis on continued need for Deep Blue and library support.
  - i. Jake will follow-up with Rebecca to identify the correct point person to see this work through.

IV. **Topic 2: Ken Sylvester**
- Not a lot of funding to this campus dedicated for research
  - i. Slight increase from the Flint Water Crises
- Rely heavily on work that generates from the main campus (UMOR)
- Currently focused on R-15 Mechanism
  - i. No NIH funding in Flint since 2006
    - 1. Rebecca – the main campus has completed a lot of NIH work in Flint
- The culture is very individually driven
- Chancellor Dutta has proposed a new school in Flint – technical institute.
- Question (Ashley) – how can the three campuses work better together?
  - i. Response – the lead of the project holds onto the funding through MCube collaborations.

V. **Topic #3: Yi Lu Murphey; Dearborn Campus Research Report**
- New Office of Research Development
- 4 colleges on campus
  - **i.** Science
  - **ii.** Engineering
  - **iii.** Education/Health and Human Services
  - **iv.** Business
- 8 million dollars in research funding
  - **i.** Mostly in engineering
  - **ii.** Largest funding source is industry

- Major challenges
    i. Submit more/competitive funding proposals
- Questions (Akira): are the campuses different in how they support student research?
    i. Flint and Dearborn may be more engaged based on the size of their campuses.
        1. Funding for students sits within units
    ii. Francine: suggestion for better collaboration of undergraduate research through campuses, in a similar format to "community" for faculty.

VI. **Discussion**
- No further points of discussion

VII. **Announcements**
- Call for announcements
    i. No response

VIII. **Call for other business**
- Call for other business
    i. No response

IX. **Meeting adjourned: 16:00**