Research Policy Committee
Minutes
October 6, 2017
2:30 pm, Fleming 4006

Members present: Kate Eaton (chair), Jake Carlson, Marisa Conte (by phone), Francine Dolins, Silan Fadlallah, Peter Lenk, Jessie Lee, Albert Liang, Sandy Momper, Adam Van Deusen

I. Introductions: Kate gave a brief overview of the purpose of the committee and the issues that we have addressed in the past. Members introduced themselves.

II. Scheduling: Members suggested that Wednesday afternoons or Friday afternoons would be reasonable times for a regular meeting schedule. Kate will arrange a doodle poll to determine best times, and will schedule the next meeting so that Jack Hu, VP for Research, can attend.

III. Meeting with Jack: We will ask for an update as to the state UM research as well as some suggestions as to what the UMOR would like us to work on. There was some interest in the current state of our research funding.

IV. Communications:
   a. There was some confusion as to whether we can still use the C-tools site or will move to Canvas. The C-tools site has not been updated to include new committee members. Kate will ask Robyn to update the site. (Note: C-tools will eventually go away. We can use M-box)
   b. Kate neglected to send the summary of last year’s activities to the group. She will send it out to all committee members and make sure that it is on the C-tools site.

V. A few updates from last year:
   a. Most of what we worked on was related to administrative burden, and there have been some improvements.
   b. Bill Greer (Assoc VP for Animal Use) and IACUC are working on a revised animal protocol which will (hopefully) be more user-friendly

VI. Suggestions for focus areas:
   a. IT: Kelly Trosvig? Eric Michielssen?
   b. Defining the interaction between UM research and community service as defined by the administration
   c. Tech transfer: We haven’t had an update in a few years. This could be one avenue of linking academic research and community service. Ken Nisbet?

VII. A new area of administrative burden was discussed in reference to the attempts of a UM faculty member to subcontract work using Alliance agreements from Toyota. There seems to be some confusion as to restrictive agreements that prevent researchers from seeing the contract wording. Francine will get more information to try to clarify the issue.