



Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

Minutes of Meeting: 4/18/23

Circulated: 9/25/23

Approved: 10/10/23

Present: Yulia Sevryugina (Chair), Vaibhav Khanna, Hakam Tiba, Nathan Qi, David Cooper, Vania Hinkovska-Galcheva, Suresh Madathilparambil, Amanda Brown, Vitaliy Popov, Jessica Durkin

Absent: Marilia Cascalho, Hui Deng, Claudia Figueroa-Romero, Vilma M. Mesa, Robert Ploutz-Snyder, Rebecca Cunningham (VP for Research)

Guests: Arthur Lupia (Gerald R. Ford University Professor at the University of Michigan and Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation), Lindsey Mitchell (Senior Project Manager- OVPR)

Faculty Senate Office: Eric Vandenberghe

11:00am-11:01am: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was approved. The minutes for the March 20th meeting were approved.

11:01am-11:28am: Bold Challenges Initiative

Summary: Arthur Lupia joined the meeting. Introductions were made. Lupia began discussing the Bold Challenges Initiative. It is a part of OVPR's Amplify Strategy. Part of the initiative is identifying potential collaborators and enabling mechanisms to connect.

There are events, programs, and services set up to support researchers with bold ideas. They support increasing UM's competitiveness, support skill-building, and offer broad and inclusive pathways to new collaborations. The programs are looking to work across schools at UM. The programs are application based. The Boost and Accelerate programs are presented.

BC Services are listed: Research Development; Bold Networks; Bold Stories; Analytics. A success story from this new initiative is discussed. All are welcome to apply for the described programs

Action: Presentation and discussion

11:28am-12:00pm: Discussing the Internal Research Review

Summary: The Internal Research Review is introduced by Lupia. A timeline of President Ono's strategic visioning is presented. OVPR is gathering information on the current state of the UM research enterprise and the challenges and opportunities. This portion of the process is lasting from early March to the end of May. Every unit on campus is involved, and a wide array of stakeholders are being consulted.



The committee is consulted on the questions being asked broadly to the UM units. They are asked to identify strengths and barriers at the university-level in research success of the committee members.

A point is made that the decentralized nature of the University can make it difficult to collaborate across schools. There is often interest, but there is a lot of heavy lifting that needs to be done.

A strength mentioned is the level of expertise at UM.

There are a lot of resources available for new processes and procedures.

Hiring higher level researchers can be a challenge due to the restructuring of titles.

The next set of questions are listed: What could be done at the unit level, and at the university-level, that is isn't currently being done?

Open access publishing is discussed. Space cost for labs is discussed. Other examples in specific units are listed. Focusing on smaller grants, in addition to the big grants, is discussed.

The main goal of this is to improve the university. A Google Doc will be provided to provide further feedback.

Action: Discussion

12:00pm-12:02pm: Closing remarks for academic year 2022-23

12:02pm: Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Vandenberghe
Faculty Governance Coordinator
Faculty Senate Office