



## GENERAL CHARGE FOR STANDING SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Standing committees are established by the Senate Assembly as mandated in Section 4.06 of the Regents' Bylaws. In collaboration with the Faculty Senate Office and SACUA, standing committees advise and consult with the vice presidents of the university on matters within the areas of their respective responsibilities. Senate Assembly standing committees are charged with bringing faculty voice and perspective to a broad range of university activities including policy and procedure. Senate Assembly standing committees shall strive to provide advice and consultation to their respective vice presidents in a timely fashion so that faculty perspectives are considered during the decision-making process.

*Research Advisory Committee (RAC)*

*Advisory to:* Skip Lupia, Vice President for Research

*Committee Chair:* Orsolya Lautner-Csorba, Medical School

### SPECIFIC CHARGE 2025 – 2026

**1. IT/Research Collaboration** - In conversation with the Information Technology Committee (ITC), discuss ways that IT might enhance support for U-M researchers, including through AI technologies.

**2. Evolving Federal Actions** - Monitor and respond to evolving federal actions impacting research funding. Reassess the implications of federal policy shifts, including the drawdown of funding in critical areas, and explore viable alternative funding strategies. Evaluate the bridge funding program developed by the OVPR and suggest amendments that respond to the changing structures of federal funding. Discuss ways to support research and publishing in climate science, diversity, equity and inclusion, and other areas that have been de-funded by federal agencies.

**3. Communicating Research Impact** - Develop strategies for faculty to communicate the impact of UM research. Identify ways to articulate and disseminate the University's research contributions at the regional, state, national, and international levels. Engage community partners to help share these narratives with policymakers.

**4. Interdisciplinary Research Support** - Strengthen support for interdisciplinary research across units. Examine barriers to meaningful cross-unit collaboration and propose concrete solutions to enhance support for interdisciplinary centers and initiatives beyond the current limited frameworks (e.g., MIDAS, Blue Sky).

**5. Emergent Issues** - Consider emergent issues or topics brought forward by RAC committee members, SACUA, or the VP for Research and Innovation for discussion over the course of the year