

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.

The Senate Assembly is grateful for UM's vice presidents' time meeting with its committees and hopes that the meetings are of mutual benefit. Meeting agendas are best set collaboratively between the VP and committee chair, but because Senate Assembly committees are formed on behalf of the Faculty Senate, each committee retains final say on agenda items.

Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

Advisory to: Patricia Hurn, Interim Vice President for Research

Committee Chair: Adam Matzger, Charles G. Overberger Collegiate Professor of Chemistry, and Macromolecular Science & Engineering

SPECIFIC CHARGE 2026 – 2027

1. Consider emergent issues or topics brought forward by RAC members or the Vice President for Research for discussion over the course of the year. The committee may also continue discussing any issues or topics raised in the committee's most recent annual committee report. A planning meeting will be held to identify topics, with the committee only, after the first OVPR-RAC meeting.
2. Each meeting, receive and discuss an update from VPR regarding federal impacts on UM's research enterprise. This should include an orientation of OVPR structure in the first meeting.
3. Explore improved transparency and communication about internal funding opportunities and assess the impacts of internal seed/bridge funding changes. The committee may advise on program structure and communication.
4. Proactively collect research faculty concerns and represent those to administration.
5. Receive and discuss updates on National Labs collaborations. This should include advising on how to more effectively communicate with stakeholders on benefits and concerns with some of the initiatives.
6. Consider how to strengthen industry partnerships and provide practical pathways for research faculty



7. Discuss matters that will arise from the VPRI, most notably, but not limited to research security.