

RCA Council approved

10/23/2020

**RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES COUNCIL**

**Meeting Minutes of 15 May 2020**

**Attendees:** Nicole Larson, RCA Council Chair (Faculty Senate), David Patrick, Interim Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, Tracey Finch, Research and Sponsored Programs, Farrokh Safavi, College of Business and Economics, Susan Costanzo, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Humanities), abby koehler, Libraries, Evan Mueller, College of Fine and Performing Arts, Andy Bunn, Huxley College of the Environment, James Vyvyan, College of Sciences and Technology

Absent: Lorrie Brilla, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (Social Sciences), and Jerry Ek (Faculty Senate)

**Call to Order:** Nicole Larson, Chair, RCA Council called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** The RCA Council approved the meeting minutes of February 27, 2020 as written.

**Nicole Larson, RCA Council Chair – Congratulations to David Patrick**

Chair Larsonindicated congratulations to David who plans to accept an appointment to begin next month (June 2020) as the new Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School.

**David Patrick, Interim Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate School summary of recent developments**

**COVID-19 Impacts**

David gave an overview of COVID-19 impacts on the unit specifically financial, operation of research labs and internal grant revisions. Additionally, he provided an overview of current plans some of which include:

**Patent & Copyright**

Will be re-activating the Patent and Copyright Committee as a standing committee AY21 as mandated by CBA. It is currently operating as an ad hoc committee. Intellectual property and patent activity has increased this year and from more diverse WWU academic areas.

**National Institutes of Health (NIH) Grants**

Will continue working with faculty to pursue NIH grants in AY21.

**NSF iCore-hub**

WWU is currently considering collaborating with the University of WA on this program.

**Human Subjects Task Force**

Progress in this area has been greatly slowed due to COVID-19 however remains a priority and will continue in AY21.

**Budget Report** – tabled to fall 2020

The unit continues to progress in balancing the ongoing multi-year approximately $400K carryforward deficit in RSP. It is estimated that approximately, $13 million in annual external grants need to be obtained to balance. The current amount of $10 million which has been the past 10-year average will need to be increased.

**COVID-19 Impacts**

On Campus Research Labs – Phase 1

David explained how the exemption process works while Stay Home Stay Healthy is in effect.

On Campus Research Labs – Phase 11

David described the formation of a group with Sue Sullivan under the Academic Operations section of ICS to develop a set of recommendations for gradually ramping back up research and creative activities. He sketched an outline of what to expect. Goal is to have materials to departments near the end of the month.

*Note:*

*Currently, Governor Inslee’s Stay at Home Stay Safe Proclamation Phase 1 may end the end of May 2020 however WWU’s current guidance under President Sabah Randhawa will not end before the end of Spring Quarter 2020.*

**Nicole Larson,** **RCA Council Chair items**

**RCA Council Chair for academic year 2020-2021**

Congratulations to Susan Costanzo who accepted the Research and Creative Activities Council nomination to serve as chair for one year beginning AY21. A suggestion was made that chairs be encouraged to continue serving on the committee the year following the year they serve.

**Research and Creative Activities Council membership**

Nicole requested council members to advise her if they wish to continue serving and for how many years (1-2) to determine the nominations needed from colleges for next year. Formal requests will be distributed via email. Member Tracey Pincher, Woodring College of Education will recruit members in her college for the RCA Council.

**Research and Creative Activities Council Subcommittees membership**

Nicole will also request subcommittee member terms from those chairs via email.

**Spring 2020 Graduate and Undergraduate Reviews**

The reviews are currently being conducted. Nicole has requested that the subcommittee chairs provide the council reports indicating how many applied, were awarded etc.

**Next meeting** – to be scheduled fall 2020.

**Adjourn -** meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Connie Hernandez, Secretary to the Vice Provost for Research

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| **RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES COUNCIL (RCAC)**  **2019 - 2020** | | | |
| CBE | Business & Economics | Farrokh Safavi | Finance & Marketing |
| FX | Fairhaven |  |  |
| CFPA | Fine & Performing Arts | Evan Mueller | Theater & Dance |
| HUM | Humanities | Susan Costanzo | History |
| HUM | Social Sciences | Lorrie Brilla | Health & Human Development |
| HUX | Huxley | Andy Bunn | Environmental Sciences |
| CSE | Sciences & Technology | James Vyvyan | Chemistry |
| WOOD | Education | Tracey Pyscher | Secondary Education |
| LIB | Libraries | abby koehler | Libraries |
| SENATE | Faculty Senate | Nicole Larson | Engineering & Design |
| SENATE | Faculty Senate | Jerry Ek | Anthropology |
| SENATE | Faculty Senate |  |  |
| SENATE | Faculty Senate |  | 12/5/21019 |