

Research Council Minutes
December 12, 2019
3:00pm –5:00pm
President's Conference Room

1. Introduction of guests

- Dan Miller, ARL Director
- David Weide, Director of Controlled Research
- Kenning Arlitsch, Dean of the Library

2. Spring Convocation Awards

- Brock LaMeres, Fox Faculty Award for Outstanding Research
- Blake Wiedenheft, Charles & Nora Wiley Award for Meritorious Research & Creativity
- Garrett Moraski, VPREDGE Award for Meritorious Technology/Science

3. VPREDGE Budget; Internal Grant Program

- VP Carter plans for the VPREDGE budget to be transparent, and is making progress to have this complete for January or February meeting.
- PIVOT program was discussed. This software can help faculty searching on activities for research funding. We have an opportunity to be part of a pilot trial and give feedback.
- Hoping to launch VPREDGE Internal Grant Program in Spring Semester. Need to make sure what FY20 budget looks like before soliciting and accepting applications. Expecting slightly reduced funds for internal grants this fiscal year due to a number of factors (including ARL start-up costs), but FY21 budget is projecting to be much healthier.

4. Research Expenditures/HERD survey

- Had conversations about how to modify our submission of the HERD survey to make sure we do it properly, and consistently with other universities.

5. Jan/Feb Campus Presentation(s)

- VP Carter plans to provide his presentation to the committee in January, and get feedback before he presents it more broadly to campus. Regular communications with the Research Council & Deans have guided these conversations and priorities.

6. Applied Research Laboratory Update – Dan Miller and David Weide

- VP Carter shared a leadership change for ARL in which Justin Cook will step down as ARL Director, and focus exclusively on export control. Dan Miller will assume ARL director role, with a focus on business development. Dave Weide serves as Director of Controlled Research, and is focused on ARL accreditation.
- Dan: This is an MSU effort and is an extension of what we already do. Not just DOD and DOE research – there will be a lot going on – health, food and agriculture, Homeland Security, medical. Many great projects getting ready to land.
- Dave: Shared where ARL is located; layout and structure. Making sure we meet accreditation requirements; follow proper procedures, processes and security clearances.
- The ARL hugely increases marketability for our students, giving them networking and employment opportunities after graduation.
- Mary Cloninger voices appreciation for update, and encourages continued transparency with not just internal stakeholders, but also external stakeholders and community.

7. Library Update and Journal Subscriptions – Kenning Arlitsch

- Dean Arlitsch discussed the continuing problem of escalating journal costs. Wanted to get this conversation in front of the Research Council to try to get ahead of the problem. Average number of titles in most disciplines has dropped, while the cost of each journal continues to rise over

time, but the library's collections budget has remained flat. Kenning hopes to return in January or February to continue this conversation in more depth.

8. RC Subcommittee Updates/Discussion

- Shared Facilities
 - Desire to bring the cores into alignment with not only the institution's research objectives, but also teaching objectives.
 - Administratively, there may be inefficiencies. Opportunity to normalize some operations.
 - There are areas where we need to strengthen our policies, procedures and training opportunities.
 - Develop a way to measure successes (or lack of success).
- Centers/Institutes
 - Set up priorities to develop graphic representation and inventory of what centers we have, what's their mission, what departments are represented, what their reporting structure is.
 - Suggestion to capture time of existence, activities, expertise accomplishments, funding.
 - Gather input specifically from centers and institutes about sharing credit.
 - Consider strategies and mechanisms for strategic cluster hires. There is a desire for more coordination of hiring processes with Centers & Institutes.
 - Leslie commented that there is no policy on our campus or at the Board of Regents for sunseting.
- Graduate Research
 - Critical to connect with the land-grant mission
 - Desire to seek external funding & training grants
 - Strengthen the process by which grad students can apply for fellowships
 - Engage Center for Faculty Excellence with these discussions
 - Endorsement of some % of F&A return to PIs for the graduate salary/stipend components. Subgroup is working on recommendations to consider.
- Large Collaborative Grants
 - Major charge given was to coordinate large collaborative grants and brainstormed what this subcommittee would do that would be beneficial:
 - Identifying barriers to the development and coordination of large collaborative grants;
 - Identifying large collaborative funding opportunities that do exist;
 - Identify any strategic advantage relative to those opportunities;
 - Create an organizational structure that will strategically optimize our opportunities

9. Academic Analytics Awards Module – David Singel

- MSU has outstanding scholars – we need to make sure to nominate them for highly prestigious national awards which bring prominence to the individuals and the university. Academic analytical data tracks scholars at hundreds of universities by looking at their scholarly productivity, publications, grant dollar expenditures, awards, citations and conference proceedings.
- David demoed the AA tool, and there was broad interest. Research Council members are invited to think through how they can envision MSU using this tool more effectively, engaging department heads, as well as Center/Institute Directors.

10. Meeting adjourned.

**Next Research Council Meeting: January 29, 2020 3:00 pm
President's Conference Room, Montana Hall**