

University Research Council

DRAFT Minutes of November 15, 2018 meeting

Members Present: N. John Cooper, Deputy VC-Research, Holger Hoock, Prof and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research-School of Arts and Sciences, Velpandi Ayyavoo, Prof and Associate Dean-Graduate School of Public Health, Jennifer Woodward, VC-Research Operations, Jeremy Somers, Scientific Director-OORHS, Stephen Hirtle, School of Computing and Information, Kent Harries, Prof-School of Engineering, Michael Holland, Vice Chancellor for Science Policy and Research Strategy, William Layton, Prof-School of Arts and Sciences, Alexandre Vieira, Prof-School of Dental Medicine, Frits Pil, Prof-Katz Graduate School of Business, Julie Fiez, Prof & Chair-School of Arts and Sciences, Robert Gibbs, Prof-School of Pharmacy, Yvette Conley, Prof and VC-Research-School of Nursing, Anne Robertson, Prof-School of Engineering, Sean Kelly, Prof-School of Education, Elizabeth Monasterios, Prof-School of Arts and Sciences

Members Absent: Rob Rutenbar, SVCR and Chair, Debbie Brake, Associate Dean-School of Law, Brian Galla, Assistant Prof-School of Education, Neil Hukriede, Associate Prof and Vice Chair-School of Medicine, Alexandria Harris, Graduate and Professional Student Government Board/URC Graduate Student Representative; Shaun Eack, School of Social Work; Kacey Marra Associate Prof-School of Medicine, Mark Anderson, Associate Prof-School of Arts and Sciences; Karen Arndt, Prof-School of Arts and Sciences; Stephen Weber, Prof-School of Arts and Sciences, Marek Druzdzal, Prof-School of Computing and Information, Steven Stern, Prof and Chair-University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown; William Dunn, Prof-Graduate School of Public and International Affairs; Peijun Zhang, School of Medicine, Raymond Engel, Associate Prof-School of Social Work; Matthew Kropf, Assistant Prof-University of Pittsburgh at Bradford; Susan Sereika, Prof-School of Nursing

Dr. N. John Cooper welcomes everyone and calls the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Cooper explained that Dr. Rutenbar unexpectedly needed to drive out of town and had asked him to chair the meeting. Members of the Council introduced themselves.

2. October 22, 2018 URC Meeting Minutes

The October meeting minutes had been circulated to Council and were approved *nem con*.

3. Announcements

Dr. Cooper introduced Dr. Michael Holland, who last month began an appointment at Pitt as vice chancellor for science policy and research strategies. He invited Dr. Holland to provide a brief summary of his background and responsibilities. Dr. Holland indicated that his experience in DC had been in oversight positions at the interface between what agencies want to do and how to fund it--his core business could be thought of as buying science wholesale. He defined science policy as involving those decisions that affect the federal R & D portfolio, and indicated that his goal at Pitt would be to move the priorities of agencies towards Pitt's priorities. At this point in the present administration political appointees have been put in place to provide direction to NSF,

DOE, and NIH, but right now all agencies are all having a hard time seeing down the pipeline because of disfunction in the appropriation process.

4. Changes in Bayh-Dole Compliance Requirements

An appropriate faculty/staff Committee is being put together to draft a new Intellectual Property Policy that will meet the broad needs of the University and attract a faculty consensus. IP policy will be off the agenda of the University Research Council until there are specific recommendations to discuss.

5. Position to Engage Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and non-STEM Professional Schools- Concept and Process

Dr. Cooper asked for input from the group on the scope of the position, the nature of the position, and the process (how to identify someone in a way that engages a lot of people). The goal of this position is to ensure the Senior Vice Chancellor for Research has a way of facilitating opportunities internal and external for faculty to achieve their full research and scholarly potential. A lively discussion ensued, and Council members indicated that they could imagine an even broader structure involving a supporting advisory committee and a full-time leadership position. Dr. Cooper said that he would discuss the comments with Dr. Rutenbar and bring back a position description to the group.

6. Foreign Influence Concerns

The current federal administration is becoming concerned that collaborations of faculty members and their schools with foreign actors (specifically China) effectively leak IP, trade secrets and conceptual approaches to foreign entities. The various ways in which faculty are expected to disclose engagements with other entities (US, international, university, corporate) should provide faculty with a great deal of protection in this environment.

7. Any Other Business

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm