

University Research Council  
Minutes of November 9, 2021 Meeting

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Dr. Mike Holland welcomed the Council members and called the meeting to order at 11:34 am.

**2. University-Assisted Community Scholar: Draft Guidance**

Currently working on drafting guidance for university-assisted community scholarship. Working with ULS to update guidance for sponsored research accounts for using university resources to conduct research. He noted that currently, access is via a sponsored Pitt IT email account – there are currently almost 14,000 of these.

He gave example of access privileges:

Electronic journal access

Research consultation, instruction, and training via ULS

Attendance at workshops officed by Pitt Research, OSP, PAE

Conference attendance funding from Engagement & Community affairs to help offset the cost of co-presenting with Pitt collaborators at scholarly conferences

Designation should be “auditable” with clear tests for what activities merit the designation.

He noted they are trying to make clear who is eligible and what activities are ineligible. Main distinction is whether the scholarly or creative activities are performed in collaboration w/ Pitt (list from slide) or if it is wholly separate from Pitt (list from slide). Further examples on next slide also, including instruction/teaching/mentoring. Finished list with instances in which research-informed practice(s) are implemented in collaboration with Pitt and serving on review committees for Pitt internal funding or award proposals. Last ineligible activity is uses for which the output is commercial research or commercial gain.

RAR noted this is something we’ve been working on for a long time. This is a rather significant perk for Pitt community, so need some structure around how it works.

MH noted the lack of clarity has led community partners to be unjustly kept out.

Asked anyone email feedback to him directly.

### **3. COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements**

Interim policy came out this week: effective 12/6, all students, faculty, staff on all campuses must be vaccinated against COVID-19 or have received an approved exemption to remain a community member.

Academic visitors require vaccination: Cat 2 (long-term, non-lab visits lasting more than 14 days) and Cat 3 (visits of any length that involve lab or clinically based research)

University Council is currently working to clarify policy requirements for visitors.

Shilpa Sant asked about the timeline for incoming people – when do we ask for this?

MH responded that they will have to prove full vaccination before start date. If coming from overseas, must be WHO-approved vaccine.

### **4. Recent & Upcoming Limited Submissions Selections**

Have recently completed down selection for Blavatnik Awards – Pitt is nominating three (names on slide)

Two selections for Moore Inventors Fellow – from slide

Andrew Carnegie Fellows down selection is being done tomorrow – one senior scholar and one junior scholar.

Noted other upcoming down selections (list from slide)

### **5. Other Business**

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 pm.