

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE  
Research Policy and Advisory Committee

**Minutes**

December 12, 2018, 1:30 p.m.

**Kenwood IRC 2175**

**1. Call to order and approval of the agenda**

Robin Mello called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Members Present:

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska (ex officio), Mark Harris (ex officio), Linda Kopecky, Tom Marcussen (ex officio), Robin Mello, Victoria Moerchen, John Reuter, Jorg Woehl, Dietmar Wolfram (GFC Representative); Michael Zimmer

Members Absent:

Brooke Slavens

Guests:

Kathleen Koch, Rachel Schiffman, Michelle Schoenecker, Kari Whittenberger-Keith (Office of Research)

The agenda was approved as distributed.

**2. Automatic Consent**

The minutes of the September 12, 2018 meeting were approved as distributed.

**3. Propose Open Research Policy as a SAAP**

Mark Harris provided background on the current policy. It is based on UW Madison's policy and was endorsed by the RPAC in 2008. Limited exceptions may be granted by the Vice Provost for Research. Exceptions for classified research are granted in Wisconsin State Statute 36.11 (55m), however UWM does not have clearance for classified research. One minor revision is needed to match UWM's current administrative structure.

Advantages of having the policy as a Select Academic and Administration Policy would be greater visibility and stronger authority for enforcement. There was consensus to move forward with proposing this as a SAAP.

**4. Research Roles and Responsibilities Task Group**

Rachel Schiffman discussed the formation of a task group to identify the roles and responsibilities of principal investigators, schools/colleges/departments, the Office of Sponsored Programs, and other entities involved in development and management of research proposals. The goal is to produce a document that would lead to increased clarity, efficiency, and accountability across the relevant processes. An important point, that is often misunderstood, is that grants are submitted on behalf of the UW Board of Regents, not individuals, and the institutional is held responsible for compliance with sponsor requirements. In preliminary work

done by Dr. Schiffman, she reviewed R1 public institutions in the Midwest, and R1 urban public institutions (among others) to determine their practices. The task group was supportive of developing a RASCI (Responsible/Accountable/Support/Consult/Inform) matrix with inclusion of timelines where possible and setting criteria for and better defining the role of Principal Investigator. This work will continue through the spring semester.

Members of the group are: Victoria Moerchen and Brooke Slavens (RPAC), Tom Marcussen and Michelle Schoenecker (Office of Sponsored Programs), Eric Gresnick (Shared Office for Administration of Research), Amber Grupe (Academic Dept Mgr, Biological Sciences), Rachel Schiffman and Kathleen Koch (Office of Research).

Dr. Schiffman also informed the RPAC that the Research Misconduct policy has been approved by campus administration (the last required step in the process) and is now posted as SAAP (Selected Academic and Administrative Policy) 45.5 at [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S\\_45.5\\_UWM\\_Research\\_Misconduct\\_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/other/S_45.5_UWM_Research_Misconduct_Policy.pdf).

## 5. Topics for future agendas

Suggestions for future topics were

1. The Libraries' role in supporting research. (What are the goals for supporting research? What is the interface with campus and how is that working? What are the essentials for major research university libraries?) N.B. Tentatively scheduled for May meeting
2. What is the communication plan for our research? How does UWM build an identity for its research? N.B. scheduled for March meeting
3. Digital research infrastructure/data management and security

## 6. Graduate student diversity in research

Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska, Dean of the Graduate School, reported on recent events and initiatives toward increasing diversity in the graduate student population including:

- Hiring a full-time director for the Office of Graduate Diversity and Inclusion
- Buying names from the GRE service for underrepresented groups
- Attending more recruitment fairs

Weekly application tracking shows a positive correlation between recruitment initiatives and Graduate School applications. However, more students are selecting "multi-ethnic" in response to ethnicity questions, making recruitment efforts for specific groups harder to track. The financial commitment remains a deterrent for all students, with only 25% of UWM's graduate students having full support via fellowships or assistantships.

## 7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kathleen Koch