THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
Research Policy and Advisory Committee

Minutes
February 4, 2022; 1:45 p.m.
Via Microsoft Teams

1. **Call to order and approval of the agenda**
    Robin Mello called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

    Members Present:
    Paul Brodwin, Noelle Chesley, Janis Eells, Jennifer Haas, Ann Hanlon, Mark Harris (ex officio),
    Jennifer Jordan, Jay Kapellusch, Robin Mello (chair), Kate Mollen (ex officio), Michael Pauers,
    Jason Puskar (ex officio); Kristin Roosevelt

    Members Absent:
    Liam Callanan, Alan Wiseman

    Guests:
    Kathleen Koch, Kristian O'Connor, Michelle Schoenecker (Office of Research); Michael Doylen,
    Susan Foran (UWM Libraries); Peter Schwander (ITPC liaison)

2. **Approval of the minutes**
    The minutes of the December 3, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

3. **Dissecting UWM's R1 status**
    Kris O'Connor, Associate Vice Provost for Research, gave an overview of the Carnegie
    Classification rankings.

    The rankings are based on a snapshot of relevant data, not a 3-year average. The 2021 data
    sources were:
    IPEDS 2019-20 Completions
    IPEDS Fall 2020 Enrollment
    IPEDS Fall 2020 Human Resources
    FY20 NSF Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) survey
    FY19 NSF Survey of Graduate Students and Postdoctorates in Science and Engineering (GSS)
    (Taken from the Carnegie Classifications webpage https://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu/)

    There are 7 aggregrate and 3 per capita measures, each with its own weighting.
    Aggregate:
    >   Research Expenditures
    >   •   STEM research expenditures (includes psychology and social sciences)
    >   •   Non-STEM research expenditures
    •   Number of Post Docs and other PhD trained research staff

    >   Research & Scholarly Doctorates awarded in
    >   •   Social Sciences

- Humanities
- STEM
- Other

Per Capita (by # of faculty):
> Research Expenditures
> - STEM
> - Non-STEM
- Post Docs and other PhD trained research staff

He then presented his findings on UWM's performance on the Carnegie Classification criteria since 2005. In the 2021 rankings, UWM UWM is 136th out of 146 institutions in the R1 (Doctoral University – Very high research activity) category. Our placement is most heavily influenced by PhD graduates, not research expenditures. Although PhD student production benefited from the expansion of UWM's program array beginning in 2010, it now shows declines, both in terms of raw numbers and rankings. This is not surprising given reduced faculty numbers.

STEM expenditure rankings remain flat despite intentional efforts over the past 15 years. Non-STEM expenditures display systematic degradation in raw values and rankings over the past four cycles (this is a possible area for strategic reinvestment).

4. **UWM Libraries and Research**
Michael Doylen, Director of the UWM Libraries, introduced his colleague, Susan Foran, Interim Library Associate Director for Collection & Resource Management, and presented an overview of how the libraries support research, focusing on collection development. Resources include print and ebooks, print and online journals, databases, and collections unique to UWM – American Geographical Society Library, Archives, and Special Collections. Access to other collections is possible through interlibrary loan and sharing between UW System institutions.

Forty percent of the Libraries' unrestricted funds are reserved for collections. With publishers' prices increasing by 5% annually, there has been a reduction in purchasing power resulting in (among other things) fewer journal subscriptions. In comparison with R1 peers, UWM is last in purchasing for collections. In comparison with peers identified by the Office of Assessment and Institutional Research (https://uwm.edu/institutional-research/data-toolkits-resources/faq-resources/) , UWM is either mid-range by total expenditures, or near the low end in per capita expenditures by either student or faculty headcount.

He asked the committee for input on how faculty are compensating for loss of immediate access to some resources, how they use the Libraries, and how satisfied they are with their current resource access.

5. **RPAC Advocacy**
This item was postponed until the March 4 meeting. Robin Mello reminded members to read and respond to the draft version of the document in OneDrive.

6.   Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 2:55 p.m.