



USF Senate Research Council

Minutes

March 4, 2024

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Hybrid meeting via MS Teams

In-Person, USFRI Multipurpose Room

1. Attendance

Council Members

Ponrathi Athilingam, Kelli Barr, Feng Cheng, Elizabeth Hadley, Ganesh Halade, Richard Heller (Chair), James Leahy, Kristian Lynch, Mark Luther, Emily Shaffer-Hudkins, Kristina Schmidt, Marilyn Stern, Jenny Qin

Council Members Not Attending

John Adams (Past Chair), Taryn Sabia, David Simmons (Vice-Chair), Kersuze Simeon-Jones

Invited Guests and Other Participants

Eddie Aikins, Keith Anderson, John Johnson, Sandra Johnson-Austin, Tina Lucas, Allison Madden, Mark McLaughlin, Cerise Mullins, Stephanie Rios, Ben Shnitser

2. Call to Order, Review of Agenda

Richard Heller called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: February 19, 2024

Motion duly made, seconded, and carried; it was resolved that the minutes of the meeting were approved.

- a. Richard Heller brought to the board members, putting the meeting dates and approved minutes on the website, no one opposed.

4. InfoReady Update

- a. Discussion on the IDRA peer review process for university applications, focusing on the number of reviewers, scoring system, and potential for external reviewers to attend council meetings.
- b. John Johnson and Richard Heller discuss funding for IDRA applications, with a maximum of \$500,000 available and a possibility of only funding two or three due to budget constraints.

5. Research Development Update

- a. Sandy Justice mentioned that the RDI is meeting with the 59 CREATE Pre-Proposal applications not invited to move forward, to provide Strategies for Next Steps, and potential funding opportunities.
- b. Discussion of “Think Tanks” to create visibility around shared interest of research.
- c. Sandy Justice discussed the RDI being a concierge service to faculty by adding Research Development Strategist, Grant Writers, Graphic Illustrator, Data Analyst.
- d. Summer Grant Writing workshops discussion of charging for outside USF participants and a discounted cost for USF faculty. Richard Heller proposed the cost of USF faculty, be covered by USF Research & Innovation in lieu of the cost to the student or faculty member.
- e. Sandy Justice discusses the RDI Positions selection committee and representation of the Research Council. Richard Heller offered himself and David Simmons to represent. Kelly Barr offered assistance.

6. Update on the Carry Forward Investment Proposal

- a. Discussion of ways to improve IRB compliance and efficiency, including more training and resources for faculty members.
- b. Talked about the need to allocate budget surpluses in a way that prioritizes faculty contributions and investment in the college, as well as the importance of formalizing guidelines for bridge funding and carry forward proposals.

7. Bridge Funding

- a. Circle back in April to discuss.

8. Research Council Proposal for USF Core Facility Identification

- a. The council discussed the need to define and establish core research facilities, including updating the inventory of university research facilities to reflect changes in technology and research priorities.
- b. Richard Heller motion duly made, seconded, and carried to accept the Core Facilities document as written.

9. Other Business

- a. Review ORAA at the April 29, 2024, meeting.
- b. Nomination for next term’s Vice Chair at a later meeting.
- c. Kelly Barr updated the council about the IRB meeting from last meeting.

10. Invite Guests for Future Meetings

- a. Jennifer Condon to discuss carry forward.

11. Having completed its agenda, the Council adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

12. Next Meeting Scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2024