

RAC Annual Report 2016-2017

Introduction:

A significant portion of our activity this year was centered on defining our objectives for the committees this academic year. There was significant turnover in the composition of the committee between last year and this year, so establishing objectives was a necessary activity. Below is a summary of the activities that came out of that process and the actions taken upon them.

Membership

Co-chairs: Jamie Clark, CLA (18 - Alternate) and Gordon Williams, CNSM (19 - Senator)

Members: Srijan Aggarwal, CEM (18 - Senator)

Wendy Croskrey, CLA (18 - Senator)

Larry Duffy, CNSM (17 - Alternate)

Javier Fochesatto, CNSM (18 - Alternate)

Melissa Good, SFOS (18 - Alternate, Unalaska / BBC)

Anna Liljedahl, CEM (18 - Senator)

Andrew Mahoney, GI (18 - Alternate)

Steven Seefeldt, SNRE (non-senate member)

Gay Sheffield, SFOS (17 - Alternate, Nome / NWC)

Derek Sikes, Museum Research / CNSM (non-senate member)

Bob McCoy (Director of GI, ex-officio)

Larry Hinzman (VCR, ex-officio)

Orion Lawlor (Faculty Senate President, ex-officio)

Tasks completed:

- Prepared two reports for the Vice Chancellor of Research on the research.uaf.edu website suggesting improvements which we hope will make it more useful for the disparate audiences that are likely to access the website.
- Prepared and submitted to the VCR and the President an official response from RAC to the VCR on the Strategic Pathways Phase I Research Administration Report.
- Brainstormed on mechanisms for improving mentoring of research faculty, and handled off our suggestions to FDAI committee.
- Prepared a (successful) proposal to the VCR for increasing early career faculty participation and success rates for NSF CAREER grants.

Projects in development:

- We are currently conducting a review of best practices at peer and peer aspirant institutions for the support of faculty travel related to scholarship.
- We have also begun investigating potential improvements to the promotion review process to address concerns of inequitable treatment of term research faculty.