

**Research Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes for Monday, February 20 (10-11 am, Kayak Room)**

**Members present:** Srijan Aggarwal, Jamie Clark (co-chair), Larry Duffy, Javier Fochesatto, Anna Liljedahl, Robert McCoy (ex-officio), Gordon Williams (co-chair)

GW called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

**1. Old Business**

- a. Approve minutes from January 13

Minutes were approved as submitted.

- b. Discussion of the proposal re: NSF CAREER workshop

The group discussed the proposal that SA pulled together for the VCR's office re: an annual workshop for those interested in applying for NSF CAREER grants. Before submission, the group thought it would be helpful to add a brief statement about peer institutions that have conducted similar workshops, and to specify that the request is for a 3 year trial period starting in AY 2017-2018. Once these changes are incorporated by SJ and GW, the co-chairs will submit the proposal to the VCR and cc: to the Deans and Directors group.

- c. Discussion of research.uaf.edu website suggestions

JC led a discussion of possible revisions to the research.uaf.edu website. The suggestions were assigned "high" "medium" and "low" priority status. JC was assigned to re-organize the document based on these designators. The document will then be submitted to the VCR's office for consideration.

- d. Discussion of faculty development (research/travel) funding

GW led a discussion of the ongoing RAC research into the availability of faculty development funds at peer institutions, and whether or not RAC wished to continue to pursue this topic. The committee decided to focus more specifically on funding for travel as opposed to broader funds for research/faculty development. As part of the discussion, it was discovered that the UNAC travel funding specifies that applications from tenure-track faculty will be prioritized, despite the fact that research faculty are also members of UNAC. GW said he would look into this further. Moving forward, need to work not only on pulling together a comparative database, but also on justification for increasing this funding at UAF.

**2. New Business**

- a. Preparing discussion items for VCR for next (?) RAC meeting (re: ICR, etc.)
- b. Discussion re: agenda items for the remainder of this academic year (and into the next)

In the last five minutes, the committee tackled the new business- it was decided that committee members should email the co-chairs re: questions to pose to the VCR at the next meeting. During the course of the meeting, two additional agenda items were raised for consideration at future meetings: 1) where research fits within strategic pathways, given that increasing research capacity/funding is claimed to be a priority, and 2) the composition of the university-wide tenure and promotion committee; having tenure is a pre-requisite of service on this committee, and yet the committee is evaluating non-tenure track research faculty for promotion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am.