

**Research Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for Friday, October 21, 10:45-11:45**

Members Present: Srijan Aggarwal, Jamie Clark (co-chair), Wendy Croskrey, Larry Duffy, Javier Fochesatto, Melissa Good, Andrew Mahoney, and Anna Liljedahl

1. Old Business

- a. Approve minutes from Sept 16

Minutes were approved as submitted.

- b. Discussion of Land Permitting Process- determine what, if, any, official comments the RAC would like to provide

The new permitting process was discussed. AL pointed out that it should be made clear when in the process the application for a land permit should be submitted; it appears that the permitting office would prefer to start an application before a grant is actually even approved—if this is the case, this information should be circulated more widely. The question was also raised whether the UAF land office coordinates with OGCA? Improved communication between the units could help trigger notifications for PIs should they need proposals (useful for new PIs who may not know the process).

The issue of insurance for research materials/equipment was also raised; this is something RAC may want to tackle in a later meeting.

2. New Business

- a. Discussion of the grant proposal process within the various units represented on RAC—i.e., proposal development/mentoring, submission, administration

Most of the meeting was dedicated to discussing these issues. Several points/issues were raised:

- Mentoring/orientation for new researchers is important-- the research faculty and post-docs are missed out many times. Should OFD include research faculty?
- LD: How to invite researchers or students from international locations to do research at UAF? JF: They need to go through research directors and not academic deans. Many new faculty/researchers do not how to go through these processes—how can we get this sort of information out?

- Research faculty need to have mentoring/orientation as well. Should OFD cover research faculty?
- Experience with mentoring was varied within the group, some felt well supported in this sense and others did not—and those that had good mentoring re: research sometimes lacked information on university processes (i.e., things orientation can/should cover)
- WC: should term teaching faculty be also provided resources for research and mentoring?
 - b. Identify most productive avenues forward and assign tasks for next meeting

Decided to gather more information/brainstorm/develop proposals for improvements in three areas:

- 1) Orientation (work on getting research faculty invited to faculty orientation; pull together a proposal on what we would like to see from a separate research-focused orientation run by the VCR)
- 2) Mentoring (brainstorming ways to incentive mentoring and how to build a network for mentors, including senior scholars who would be willing to read/comment on grant proposals in house)
- 3) Grant workshops (specifically relating to the NSF career grant; the goal being to write a proposal for the VCR's office to finance/support this endeavor)

Members of the RAC will be divided into three tasks groups that will work on these issues and present findings/ideas at the November meeting.