

RAC Notes
Mon. Dec 11, 2017
1-2pm, IARC room 401

Participants: Andres Lopez, Rob Rember, Larry Duffy, Wendy Croskrey, Anna Liljedahl, Cassandra Pinkel (VCR office), Andrew Gray (OGCA) and Rosemary Madnick (OGCA) (In-person). No one online.

NOTES

1. **Approve meeting minutes** from Nov 20, 2017
 - a. Approved
2. **RPG update by Cassie and Anna**
 - a. RAC's inquiry about including a RAC representative on the RPG has been approved by the VCR. RAC drafted a rewrite of the RAC bylaws during this meeting to clarify who will represent RAC on RPG. The drafted and approved the addition of the bylaws includes in red:

*“ **The Research Advisory Committee.** The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) consists of up to ten voting members, a chair and a co-chair, along with at least one ex officio member who is the vice chancellor for research. The committee exists to review the issues of researchers at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and to provide reports, recommendations, and resolutions to the UAF Faculty Senate on behalf of the UAF research community. The Research Advisory Committee will provide a connection between the faculty and the UAF vice chancellor for research, and advise the VCR on developing productive relationships with the different research facilities across UAF. **At the first RAC meeting of each academic year, RAC appoints a member to represent RAC at the VCR's Research Program Group (RPG) meetings.**”*

- b. RAC encourages a RAC member to serve on the UA President's new Research Council (1-yr appointment) as it is unclear how the person is currently selected to this new Council. The Faculty Senate has informed the UA President that it would like to take part in the selection of the Faculty representative.
 - c. Cassandra briefed RAC on the notes of the last RPG meeting:
 - i. Many institute directors are buying sat phones and in-Reachers using the returned Research Funds and coordinate a safety fair in spring on campus.
 - ii. Legislators attended a Research Forum on UAF on Dec 8.
 - iii. National Lab day is planned for late May on UAF campus and is aimed to increase the collaboration with National Labs (Gwen Holdman is leading).
 - iv. The UA President wants a 5% research revenue growth per year for 5 yrs. The UAF Centennial Postdoc program will support ~3 postdocs and announcement will be made any day now on the AK Jobs website.

3. **Letter to Chancellor about the value of a student award program like the ending CGC Student Research Competition program by Anna.**
 - a. The group revised the letter. The number of the amount of total research revenue brought in by CGC Alumni awardees is still not refined. Anna will re-send the anonymous survey to these 20 UAF faculty to get a better estimate of the total number.

4. **Inequality for Research Faculty across campus in graduate student advising**
 - a. Anna briefed the group on an issue addressed in collaboration with the GAAC Chair and Nicole Misarti, an INE Research Faculty. Research Faculty, who belongs to research institutes such as INE, have approached academic departments but received the response that the Research Faculty are not been allowed to serve as the main graduate student chair despite the Research Faculty funding the entire graduate degree via the awards where the Research Faculty are PI's. In other departments the Research Faculty are first required to co-chair the first graduate student, while the same rule does not apply to tenure-track faculty. RAC and GAAC will continue to assess the issue and gather more information.

5. **New Faculty Research Orientation**
 - a. Rosemary presented a ppt draft targeting new faculty hires via a ~2h long research orientation, which is aimed to start in spring. RAC members provided feedback to the content to date. RAC noted that Oregon State has lots of resources available online in regards to new faculty's introduction to research activities that can inspire our crafting: <http://research.oregonstate.edu/new-faculty-orientation>. RAC suggested that in addition to this 2-h long orientation, it would be useful to have short videos available online that goes more into detail. The videos can be made by the different offices at UAF. The content of the 2h long orientation would also be made available online. Rosemary will integrate the feedback she received and present a new version at our next RAC meeting.
 - b. Andrew and Rosemary presented two draft documents: One aimed to clarify the F&A waiver exempts (word doc) and another a form (FARE Form.pdf) that the faculty would submit to request such a waiver. Rosemary asked RAC to comment on the forms if any improvements could be made.

6. Meeting adjourned