

RAC Notes
Mon. Jan 22, 2018
1-2pm, ELIF room 401

Participants: Andres Lopez, Rob Rember, Larry Duffy, Wendy Croskrey, Srijan Aggarval, Jeff Benowitz, Anna Liljedahl, Larry Hinzman, Rosemary Madnick, Andrew Gray (In-person) and Andy Mahoney (Online).

NOTES

1. Approve Notes from Dec 11

We did not approve the notes as they needed editing.

2. OGCA F&A information document & FARE form by Rosemary Madnick and Andrew Gray

- Rosemary asked for comments on the F&A information and FARE forms. People seemed happy with as they are drafted.
- Rosemary spoke about OGCA's efforts related to the UA President's Strategic Pathways, which include identifying area where UAF OGCA can help campuses overlap in their efforts. They are currently working on strategic plans to recommend to the President. For example, maybe OGCA forms can be combined/similar between campuses.
- OGCA is having its annual open house on Feb 2. From 2:30-4:30.
- The faculty orientation material is still work in progress. Rosemary said they plan to show us an updated draft at a later RAC meeting to receive our feedback.
- OGCA do not know how grants etc are affected by the government shutdown.

3. RPG Update by VCR Larry Hinzman

The VCR appreciates RAC and its comments.

Proposal workshops

The VCR asked for feedback on the proposal panel in back in October as he is planning another panel/workshop upcoming on the NSF Early Career Award program. The attendance by faculty was low at the October workshop (many students, though). Larry asked: What can we do different? Should we continue these workshops or do different themes?

Suggestions from RAC that were mentioned during the meeting:

- Make workshop attendance a requirement for postdocs and new faculty?
- Individually tailored workshops where a faculty could get feedback on a specific proposal.
- Incentivize proposal mentoring/review.
- Would be good to have some sort of theme on the workshop.
- We need to make sure that the VCR's events are distributed to faculty!
- Have the deans and directors be more proactive to encourage their faculty to participate in workshops. Many proposals to NSF receive top reviews but are still not funded. This emphasizes

the importance of the program manager knowing the proposers personally. We can utilize our computer visual softwares and organize a workshop that is specific to an NSF program and have the program manager join the meeting. This could encourage faculty to set up an appointment with NSF director.

National Lab Day:

The VCR office is organizing a National Lab Day at UAF May 30-31, 2018. All DOE and DOD National Labs are coming, including directors and scientists. Senator Lisa Murkowski is pushing this event. The event will be ~1.5 day and cover about five themes (energy, arctic ecosystems, microgrid, extraction...).

Research Initiatives:

The VCR and the Provost have a call out to UAF researchers, deans and directors with the goal to increase research revenue (and return on investment is important). Proposals are due Friday Feb 16. Could be how we can increase our collaboration with industry. Something that could increase monetary and also enrollment would be great. RAC will submit ideas to the call on how to increase research revenue. Jeff has started a draft already.

The VCR recommended RAC invite the UA Faculty Member on the President's UA Research Council, Andy Seitz. Seitz was selected by the UA President.

The VCR reminded that a RAC representative is always invited to the monthly RPG (UAF directors and deans) hosted by the VCR.

4. Final edits: Letter to Chancellor about the value of a student award program by Anna

RAC members has had the opportunity to edit the letter now since early December. The letter is ready to submit.

5. Other

Anna briefly mention the large variability in verbal and written policies regarding graduate student committee composition at UAF concerning who can chair a graduate student.

6. Meeting adjourned