



## **USF Senate Research Council**

### **Minutes**

**April 1, 2024**

**10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.**

**Hybrid meeting via MS Teams**

**In-Person, USFRI Multipurpose Room**

### **Attendance**

#### **Council Members**

John Adams (Past Chair), Ponrathi Athilingam, Kelli Barr, Feng Cheng, Elizabeth Hadley, Ganesh Halade, Richard Heller (Chair), Matthew Johnson, Kristian Lynch, Jenny Qin, David Simmons (Vice-Chair), Kristina Schmidt, Marilyn Stern,

#### **Council Members Not Attending**

James Leahy, Mark Luther, Emily Shaffer-Hudkins, Taryn Sabia, Kersuze Simeon-Jones,

#### **Invited Guests and Other Participants**

Eddie Aikins, Keith Anderson, John Johnson, Sandra Johnson-Austin, Sandra Justice (Research Council Liaison), Eric Kern, Tina Lucas, Allison Madden, Mark McLaughlin, Cerise Mullins, Jason Ramage, Ben Shnitser, Sylvia Thomas

### **1. Call to Order, Review of Agenda**

Richard Heller called the meeting to order at 10:46 a.m.

### **2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings: March 18, 2024**

Motion duly made, seconded, and carried; resolved, that the minutes of the meeting were approved.

### **3. Research Security Training**

Jason Ramage, Research Integrity & Compliance

- a. Jason discussed training on research security and resources available for NSF grant applicants.
- b. Modules on research security include intro, closures, transparency, and international collaboration.
- c. Discussion of potential challenges and conflicts of interest in completing NSF required training modules.
- d. Discussed requirements for research programs, with training available but no new requirements implemented.
- e. Sylvia Thomas mentioned that the federal government requires compliance with layers of regulations, which will take time and effort to implement.

- f. Discussion on streamlining the process by aligning with federal requirements to reduce faculty time and confusion.
- g. Jason serves as a liaison with the Compliance and Ethics office to manage faculty compliance issues, including foreign influence and research misconduct.
- h. Discussion of creating a centralized system to streamline administrative tasks for faculty research, reducing overload and amplifying faculty success.
- i. USF Research Administrative Burdens folder created in shared Box folder, for faculty to list all administrative burden items associated with USF research.

#### **4. Update on the IDRA proposals.**

- a. John Johnson mentioned 10% have received reviews and will be sending out reminders to reviewers.
- b. Deadline for reviews is April 10, in person discussion will be on April 15 meeting.
- c. Council members with conflicts of interest asked to recuse themselves from the April 15 meeting.

#### **5. Discussion on Cores and Infrastructure**

- a. Discussed the importance of defining and establishing core facilities at the university, with a focus on recognizing research active entities and including external entities in the conversation.
- b. The provost wants to meet with Core Facility advisory committee to establish guidelines for assigning core facilities.
- c. The committee aims to standardize language and recognize core facilities across colleges.
- d. The committee will define and categorize university facilities, including colleges and research centers, with input from Faculty Senate, Research Council, and Office of Research and Innovation.
- e. Discussed defining core facilities in research, with a focus on process for recognition and designation.
- f. Richard Heller emphasized the importance of faculty involvement in decision-making regarding shared facilities.
- g. Discussed compliance with Research Council requirements for Core Facilities, including election of users and approval by advisory committee.

#### **6. Other Business**

- a. Vote for Vice-Chair at the April 29 meeting
- b. Jay to be invited back in the fall to discuss the federal government Guidelines for Research Security.
- c. Discussed new foreign principal screening requirements for student employees, which may lead to their employment being denied if they answer questions incorrectly.

#### **7. Having completed its agenda, the Council adjourned at 11:55 a.m.**

#### **8. Next Meeting Scheduled for Monday, April 15, 2024**