

**Research Council**  
**Minutes October 28, 2021**  
**3:30pm – 5:00pm**

**VOTING:**

Jason Carter

Mary Miles

Mary Cloninger

Ron June

Brent Peyton/Robin Gerlach

Michael Brody

Molly Secor Turner

Sarah Shannon

Colin Shaw

Nicole Tuss

Blake Wiedenheft

Carl Yeoman

Nicholas Childs

**NON-VOTING:**

Craig Ogilvie

Chris Kearns/ Jim Mitchell

Terry Leist

Robert Mokwa/Durward Sobek

Leslie Schmidt

Ryan Knutson

Jayne Morrow

Liz Shanahan

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Meeting Called to order at 3:30 pm

- Brief Announcements
  - New awards and other scholarly accomplishments
    - VP Carter highlighted two significant awards- Dr. Alexandra Adams was elected to the National Academy of Medicine, considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine. Dr. Angela Des Jardins received \$6.5M for NASA ballooning eclipse projects.
    - Dr. Michael Brody added that Dr. Jayne Downey received a \$1.5M grant from Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies for “Advancing Support, Preparation and Innovation in Rural Education”.
    - Dean Craig Ogilvie also brought up Madeline Garner, a doctoral student in the Molecular Biosciences program, wins the FINESST award.
  - Position updates: ORD director, AVPRA, Core Facilities support position
    - Dr. Nicole Motzer is the new director of the Office of Research Development. She will begin her role on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
    - The Associate VP for Research Administration position is posted on the Chronicle on Higher Education. We are also searching for the Core Facilities support position to help provide some additional administrative support.

- Update on 5-state USICA meeting and federal updates
  - The USICA workshop was successful. We shared our expertise and strength in the Endless Frontier Act with follow-up conversations after. This interaction will help us prepare for the bill of the expansion of the National Science Foundation.
- Leslie to report-back on Metric 2.2.2 progress
  - The grant expenditures associated with investigators and multiple units was increased to 34% more than 25% expectation by 2022.
- Research Year-In-Review on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (3-5pm, NAH)
  - VP Carter announced hosting the Research Year-In-Review at the Inspiration Hall on Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. It will be a campus-wide forum. He invited all the RC members to join as he would like to acknowledge and recognize everyone.
- Spring awards – need 3-4 reviewers per category (Wiley and Fox)
  - VP Carter asked the Research Council members, if interested to be part of an Ad-Hoc committee in reviewing the Wiley and the Fox award nominations.
- UIT visit to discuss transition from Box to One Drive (R. Knutson and UIT reps)
  - Paul Lindsey, Joshua Turner and Coltran Hophan-Nichols, from the UIT joined the meeting to share information about Box transitioning to One Drive. The UIT will handle the migration of your data. For more information and to check out how to clean up your box account before migration, visit [montana.edu/uit](http://montana.edu/uit).
  - Dave Weide added that we have a CUI data server platform with the 3<sup>rd</sup> party contract offsite to store data for some research contracts or have export control restrictions. Please email [researchit@montana.edu](mailto:researchit@montana.edu) for questions or reach out to export compliance official in the Office of Research Compliance.
- Campus Survey Policy Input (C. Fastnow)
  - Dr. Chris Fastnow joined the RC meeting for feedback on developing a survey policy. She's working on the draft that would codify a process for proposing a survey, quality, time and sampling of our respondents. It will be more burden but will have a better result for all of us.
  - Dr. Brody suggested that another group to get feedback is the Faculty senate.
  - Dean Ogilvie suggested addressing the draft policy that surveys could be delivered by text, not by email. The response rate from the students might be better.

- Dr. Molly Secor Turner suggested the idea that students signing up to participate in the research survey would get credit for the class. There could be a repository of students that you get to connect to the right group for the survey.
- Executive Order for federal contracts and cooperative agreements (J. Carter & L. Schmidt)
  - We are still waiting for some guidance on the vaccine mandate on contracts as we are navigating federal and state laws and looking for more clarity. We need to have a verification system and process in place by December 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Undergraduate Scholars Program (C. Shaw)
  - Dr. Colin Shaw asked how to move forward and revive the Undergraduate Scholars advisory board that hasn't been active for a long time. Who would be representation? What's the constitution of this oversight board?
  - The suggestion was to have an internal community organization to create a grassroots effort and coordinate together among ourselves to add scholarly value.
- Continuation of Strategic Plan input/feedback – Goals 2.3 and 2.4 (*If Time Allows*)
  - We are going through each metrics to see if we are making a process- The number of National Academy members were increased.
  - The goal of increased international projects collaboration on 2.3.6 is an issue because of the Pandemic.
  - VP Carter will work with Dr. Liz Shanahan on goals and documenting progress on the annual research reports on 2.4.1.
  - We are on track on 2.4.2 and used analytics analysis on 2.4.3. We are working on 2.3.4 to increase the number of research faculty, research staff, post-docs and graduate students funded on external contracts and grants by 2022.
  - VP Carter will track and follow up on some areas and look at the Strategic Goals once a year.
- Other/Future Items?
  - Due to the holidays, we combined the November and December meetings to meet one time on Thursday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Next Research Council Meeting: December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 3:30 pm**