

University Senate Research Committee Meeting
26 October 2018
1:00 PM
156 CL

In Attendance: C Bonneau, B. Conrique, G. Huber, P. Humar, G. Melhem, K. Pope, R. Rutenbar, D. Salcido, S. Sant, P. Smolinski

The minutes from the September meeting were approved as standing.

G. Huber mentioned that the Research Conduct and Compliance Office produced its Annual Report which gives the data on the Office's activities for the year. He also stated the Office is keeping abreast of any changes to the Common Rule and that there may be changes forthcoming. Among these could be new rules for consent of tissue use which may now have to take into account advances in technology that allow for tissue identification.

Rob Rutenbar stated that the modification of the University's Non-Discrimination Policy (07-01-03) is a good short term solution for the University to meet the NSF's requirement for harassment disclosure. He said that the change is probably the minimum number of words needed to bring the University in legal compliance.

There was a question on what NSF intended to do with this information. C. Bonneau mentioned that it is not yet clear what the NSF will do with the information. He added the move to centralize investigations of this type within the University would allow for better trained people to handle such inquiries.

G. Huber asked: at what point in the investigation will information be sent to the NSF?

R. Rutenbar responded that after the investigation has been completed and all appeals have been exhausted.

P. Smolinski asked: what is the meaning of the term "finding" in the NSF announcement?

K. Pope said that a finding means a finding of responsibility for harassment.

C. Bonneau referred a question: can internal research/travel funds be used for childcare?

R. Rutenbar responded that he will ask an auditor about this. (It was later determined that this cannot be done.)

P. Smolinski stated that the Chancellor mentioned that for policy reviews and revisions a "charter" will be developed specifying the process to be followed.

C. Bonneau said that there is a so-called "policy for policies" that is being developed.

R. Rutenbar responded that when a major policy change is being planned, a charge will be formulated which will define the stakeholders and process.

P. Smolinski asked about any efforts to provide assistance for community based and non-funded research.

R. Rutenbar stated the M. Holland has joined the University as Vice Chancellor for Science Policies and Research Strategies. He has previous experience at New York University where he was the Executive Director the Center for Urban Science and Progress and while in this position was engaged in several large funding partnerships. He mentioned that the University of Illinois has developed the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities. He stated the Office of Community and Governmental Relations may be able to assist with research that involves interaction with governmental bodies.

Several people mentioned that community based service may also incorporate research.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Minutes submitted by P. Smolinski.