Meeting Minutes: October 9, 2020

The meeting was attended by the following members:
Christopher Bernard
Tracy Borden
Ming-Hui Chen
Jessica McBride
Katherine McCarthy
Carl Rivers
Michael Rodriguez
Casa Tutita
Ethan Werstler
Mehdi Anwar
Guest: Dr. Abhijit Banerjee

Absent: Michael Accorsi, Gregory Kivenzor, Kristi Napolitano and Jeffrey Shoulson

1. Due to audio issues with the Webex meeting platform, the G&D committee meeting started at 10:15 am using Zoom. The meeting was recorded. This transition and the late start might have resulted in at least one committee member not being able to join.

2. The September 11, 2020, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Dr. Abhijit Banerjee, Associate Vice President, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Office of the Vice President for Research, made a detailed presentation discussing ways other universities have addressed similar challenges of increasing their research expenditure. He emphasized the engagement of faculty to develop the required R&D Strategic Planning document and in the process engage UConn. As per Dr. Banerjee, to successfully implement any strategic plan with the challenging goal of enhancing R&D will require that we address the following:

   a. Strategic Investment
   b. Collaboration among schools and colleges
   c. Organizational preparedness.

Moreover, excelling in R&D and be globally recognized will require our addressing the following:

   a. Alignment of institutional research.
   b. Means to achieve and implement strategic goals.
   c. Process to differentiate UConn from other institutions – work on our uniqueness.
   d. Establish relationships – it matters.

Dr. Banerjee mentioned his ongoing work with School of Nursing and some of their successes. The presentation was followed by a Q&A session covering topics from
involvement of CT Insurance Company and Data Sciences to participation of undergraduates in research and innovation efforts.

4. Meeting was adjourned at 11:19 am.