Meeting Minutes: February 12, 2021

The meeting was attended by the following members:
Michael Accorsi
Christopher Bernard
Tracy Borden
Ming-Hui Chen
Gregory Kivenzor
Jesica McBride
Katherine McCarthy
Carl Rivers
Michael Rodriguez
Jeffrey Shoulson
Casa Tutita
Ethan Werstler
Mehdi Anwar
Guest: None

Absent: Deepa Shukla

1. The meeting started at 10:01 am.

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

3. Announcement: Dr. Mostafa Analoui will be our guest at the March meeting.

4. Mike Accorsi and Jessica McBride informed of the recruitment of personnel at the Office of Vice President for Research to assist single- and multi-PI teams to prepare research proposals.

5. Members recognized the importance of department and college level supports to faculty to generate successful proposals. It was also felt that school/department and OVPR need to play complementary roles to make initiatives at all scales successful. The use of personnel on special payroll to assist with proposal preparation was mentioned. The Deans and Department Heads might judiciously use their 10% return on generated F&A to hire personnel (e.g. editors) and provide additional assistance to faculty at the pre-award phase. It is also likely that OVPR and the Office of the Provost might be approached for additional support in special cases.

6. Defining research strategies at the department or college levels is a good practice and having an annual retreat might be an option. The Office of the Provost organizes such retreats annually for center directors.
7. Promotion of research and “news flash” for internal and external audience.

8. Consulting firms hired by the university provided strategies for UConn to expand on its R&D portfolio and expenditure. This committee will look into that.

9. Meeting was adjourned at 10.59 am.