

Meeting Minutes: October 5, 2021

The meeting was attended by the following members:

Tracy Borden
Bonnie Burr
Joanne Conover
Inge-Marie Eigsti
Abbey Engler
Louis Hanzlik
Bethany Javidi
Ruth Kustoff
Suman Majumder
Kathy Hendrikson
Jessica McBride
Marissa Naclerio
Carl rivers
Jeffrey Shoulson
Audrey Silza
Daniel Stolzenberg
Rachel Tambling
Casa Tutita
Mehdi Anwar

Not Available:

1. The meeting started at 1:03 pm.
2. Motion to approve October 5, 2021, meeting minutes was moved by Senator Suman Majumder and seconded by Bethany Javidi. The October 5, 2021, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Enhancement of UConn's R&D footprint was the topic of discussion. Means to increase R&D expenditure (especially from full indirect generating external funding) and be nationally competitive and known for our excellence in targeted research areas are topics of great importance. Decisions and development of strategies to address the Excellence in R&D challenge must adopt a "whole-of-university" approach with different units executing relevant duties. OVPR has the responsibility to provide administrative support for grant administration and make all process transparent and effective. However, it is felt that some policies might hinder research active faculty to become less successful due to adoption of unilateral policies adopted by OVPR, thereby, deviating from the challenge to double our R&D expenditure. To understand the practice adopted by OVPR to process proposal submissions, two subcommittees were formed:
 - a. The 5-Day Review Committee
 - i. Joanne Conover, Chair
 - ii. Tutita Casa
 - iii. Inge-Marie Eigsti
 - iv. Bethany Javidi

- v. Daniel Stolzenberg
 - b. Limited Submission Opportunity Committee
 - i. Daniel Stolzenberg, Chair
 - ii. Dr. Jessica McBride
 - iii. Louis Hanzlik
4. OVPR has initiated an internal initiative that's going on through a group called the National Organization of Research Development Professionals. The group supports universities faculty and administration in their pursuit of grant funding, and the regional group has just launched a pilot project around identifying areas of research strength to facilitate regional collaborations.

It was observed that this effort does not include inputs from the constituents (faculty) and does not have the ability to estimate the level of research expertise.

- 5. Role of centers in addressing our R&D strategy was discussed. It was suggested that the committee invites Professors Steve Suib and Manos Anagnostou to get their opinions.
- 6. Meeting was adjourned at 1:58 pm.