

2021-2022 Final Report:

Research and Development Committee

Members

- Meghan Kowalski, chair
- Botao Chen
- Craig Wynne
- Rosie Sneed
- Glen Benedict
- Timothy Oladunni
- Paul Cota

Bylaws

This committee shall: (1) Review campus and system-wide research policies and issues related to the campus research mission; (2) Establish procedures to facilitate communication between those doing research and those who guide, fund, and administer research projects; (3) Facilitate regularly scheduled research seminars to provide interaction between the funding organizations and the university researchers; (4) Compile faculty publications in a database for easy retrieval and distribution; (5) Represent faculty research interests individually and/or collectively and be responsive to questions and concerns of both faculty and student researchers; (6) and Encourage and support University faculty in their scholarly endeavors.

Achievements and Initiatives

- The committee reviewed the existing bylaws. We had no changes to submit.
- The committee developed a project plan to create a Faculty Research Index as a joint initiative with the Library. The project plan was approved by the Faculty Senate in December 2021. The committee began executing the steps of the plan and created a submission form and website. The Library began initial outreach and data collection in May 2022. The project was transferred to the Library for on-going development.
- The committee met with Dr. Cherie Ann Turpin. The presentation allowed us to discuss ways RAD could encompass the diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within our work.
- The committee met with Dr. Victor McCrary in March 2022. We discussed ways our committee and the Office of Sponsored Programs can work together to support faculty research at the University
- The committee facilitated the creation of an Ad Hoc committee to liaise with administration regarding the external funding moratorium.

Carry Over Items

- The Faculty Research Index will be an on-going data collection and processing project. This is a joint initiative with the Library. Meghan Kowalski, Outreach and Reference Librarian, will handle the faculty outreach, data entry, and Index updates going forward. She will report back to the committee by request.

Committee Reports

The attached pages include all the submitted minutes from the RAD committee meetings this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan Kowalski, Chair

May 6, 2022

Faculty Senate – Research Committee Report

Meghan Kowalski (chair)

Thursday, October 21 – Committee Meeting

In Attendance: Meghan Kowalski, Rosie Sneed

- The committee discussed the best possible dates and time to meet. Following the meeting (and with additional email follow-up), the third Friday of each month at 1:00pm was selected.
- The committee held a brief discussion about prior actions for the committee.
- The committee discussed possible initiatives for the coming year – including creating a centralized index of current faculty research on the UDC website. They also discussed meeting with Victor McCrary, Vice President for Research and Graduate Programs.

Friday, October 29 – Faculty Retreat

In Attendance: not available

Due to conflicting schedules and delays during the Faculty Senate Retreat, Meghan Kowalski (chair) was unable to host a committee session during the event. She put a message in the chat asking current members of the committee to contact her with questions or concerns. She also invited interested faculty to join the committee.

Next Meeting:

Friday, November 19 at 1:00pm

Tentative Agenda:

- Introduction of New Members
- Old Business
 - Bylaw Review and Recommendations
- New Business
 - Initiatives
- Questions

Research Committee Meeting

November 19, 2021 – 1:00PM

Attended: Meghan Kowalski (chair), Glen Benedict, Botao Chen, Rosie Sneed

Absent: Timothy Oladunni, Paul Cotae

Excused: Craig Wynne

1. Introductions
2. Review of Bylaws and Scope
 - a. Committee reviewed the bylaws recommend no changes
3. Proposed Initiatives
 - a. Current Faculty Research Index
 - i. Created on the library's website or on the main website
 - ii. Collect Information On
 1. Faculty Name
 2. School / Program
 3. Contact Information
 4. Subjects of Research
 5. Specific Research Projects
 6. Funding Locations or Funders
 - iii. Linked wherever possible
 - iv. Action Item
 1. Create project plan (MEGHAN) and share with committee
 - b. Meeting with Victor McCrary
 - i. Invite to meeting in January (before semester starts)

- ii. Goal of the meeting to be an introduction; inquire about faculty seat grants (will they be coming back)
 - iii. Get more involved with University research week next semester
- 4. Other Business
 - a. No other business
- 5. Adjournment

ACTION ITEMS

- MEGHAN will contact Victor McCrary to discuss his availability to meeting with the committee in early January
- MEGHAN will draft a project plan for the Current Faculty Research Index

Research Committee Meeting

December 17, 2021 – 1:00PM

Attended: Meghan Kowalski (chair), Glen Benedict, Rosie Sneed, Timothy Oladunni, Craig Wynne, Botae Chen

Absent: Akosoa McFadgion, Paul Cotae

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions
- 2. Old Business
 - a. Faculty Research Index Plan (Review Plan)
 - i. Reviewed and made no revisions
 - ii. Motion to move the plan to the Faculty Senate approved unanimously
 - b. Meeting with Victor McCrary (Update)
 - i. Meghan has reached out but has not received a response
- 3. Other Business
 - a. Discussion of Gender/Women and LGBTQIA Studies at the University
 - i. Idea came from Dr. Turpin. She asked if we had discussed any of these issues at our committee. She offered to do a presentation.
 - ii. The committee agreed that a presentation would be welcome.
- 4. Adjournment

ACTION ITEMS

- MEGHAN will send approved Faculty Research Index Plan to the Faculty Senate
- MEGHAN will reach out to Victor McCrary again in the new year
- MEGHAN will invite Dr. Turpin to our January meeting to do a presentation

Research Committee Meeting

January 21, 2022 – 1:00PM

Attended: Meghan Kowalski, Botao Chen, Rosie Sneed, Glen Benedict

Absent: Akosoa McFadgion, Tim Oladunni, Paul Cotae

Excused: Craig Wynne

Guest: Dr. Cherie Ann Turpin

AGENDA

1. Agenda was accepted unanimously.
2. Introductions
 - a. Our guest, Dr. Turpin, was introduced to the attending members of the committee.
3. Old Business
 - a. Presentation by Dr. Turpin
 - i. Dr. Turpin gave a presentation on why we should seek to dismantle the institutional structures and trends that perpetuate racism, classism, ableism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia.
 - ii. She covered what we don't talk about and how that is perpetuating these trends. Dr. Turpin shared how we need to be open to and listen to minoritized voices in our community to create safe learning spaces for our students, faculty, and staff.
 - iii. Dr. Turpin shared that, as an HBCU, UDC still needs to do the work. (Cites how we don't discuss minoritized groups or promote events that highlight these groups.)
 - iv. Asking what is needed for the research and work of minoritized groups (more emphasis of funding in areas of women, transgender, queer, etc. projects)
 - v. Brainstorming Ideas
 1. Adding pronouns to faculty research index
 2. Having students/faculty help build content/events that promote these areas of research (Inviting more voices and opportunities to the table.)
 3. Encouraging students to come back to UDC to join the discussion

4. Finding ways to encourage/fund more research in these areas (good not just for our students/faculty but also for UDC and the community as a whole)
 5. Creating more virtual tools (i.e. Zoom, twitter, etc.) to share and promote more minoritized voices (ex. Webinar series promoting research being done by or about minoritized groups)
 6. Diversity and Inclusion in Research and Learning Statement (adopted at the University level) - crafted in such a way as to not tokenize
 7. Creating a UDC newspaper/newsletter that is independent of the University but about the UDC community (to share student and faculty news)
- b. Faculty Research Index Plan (Review Plan)
 - i. No updates about the proposal but it is in front of the Senate for discussion
 - ii. Meghan met with the law library to discuss their institutional repository. This platform may be something the Library on main campus can adopt. The Index would eventually roll into this as it would be more user friendly and searchable.
 - c. Update on Meeting with Victor McCrary
 - i. No news to share.
4. Other Business
 - a. Question about the research moratorium (why is it happening, what are next steps, what does this mean for faculty work that involves other universities and partnerships)
 5. Adjournment
 - a. Motion to adjourn was approved unanimously

Research Committee Meeting

February 18, 2022 – 1:00PM

Attended: Meghan Kowalski (chair), Craig Wynne, Botao Chen, Glen J. Benedict

Absent: Tim Oladunni, Rosie Sneed, Paul Cotae

AGENDA

1. Updates from the Chair
 - a. Send service letters
2. Old Business
 - a. Faculty Research Index Plan
 - i. Approval
 - ii. Next Steps
 1. Google Form (Content)

- a. Add pronouns
 - b. Add privacy/use statement to the introduction
 - c. Create draft
 - 2. Host Location
 - a. Will be hosted on library website
 - b. Update on Meeting with Victor McCrary
 - i. March 18 Meeting
 - ii. Agenda Items and Questions
 - 1. Will send request via email
- 3. Other Business
 - a. No other business
- 4. Adjournment

ACTION ITEMS

- Meghan will draft Google Form for Faculty Research Index submissions
- Meghan will send Service Letters ASAP
- Meghan will send email requesting agenda items/question for Victor McCrary

Research Committee Meeting

March 18, 2022 – 1:00PM

Attended: Meghan Kowalski, Botao Chen, Craig Wynne, Rosie Sneed, Glen Benedict, Timothy Oladunni

Absent: Paul Cotae

Guest: Victor McCrary

AGENDA

- 1. Old Business
 - a. Meeting with Victor McCrary
 - i. Role is to be an advocate for UDC's research internally and externally. (Came out of the Equity Imperative) At OSP, in charge of research administration.
 - ii. Questions
 - 1. Summer Seed program for faculty – OSP is looking at this in term of availability of funds (COVID put a pause on things); Going to continue faculty training in terms of putting together proposals
 - 2. Funding Moratorium – Only going until June 2022 (on track for this deadline to be reached); UDC leaves a lot of money on the table;

Looking for ways to not have faculty be overcommitted; Behind on time and effort reports (pandemic induced); New faculty need training on how to submit proposals to outside funding agencies; Moratorium does not affect CURRENT grants – but faculty may submit waivers; Looking at making sure faculty get release time, etc.; Looking at improving processes and workflows; Moratorium does not apply to travel funding (that may be a separate moratorium caused by the pandemic)

3. How can RAD help? - Encourage faculty to participate in UDC Research Week; How can the faculty work and get outside of UDC to share what we do as a comprehensive research University; Goal to be R2 by 2024 (across all domains, not just STEM); Collect more research stories to share with OSP – wants to meet with more programs; List of research capabilities and subject matter experts; Get NSF biosketches of everyone; Setting up regular meetings with Dr. McCrary to touch base more frequently; Helping get more data about how we are doing for a research point of view; How do we mentor faculty members?; Advocate for more staff at OSP; Not looking to become R1; Added that faculty should not hesitate to contact him about anything related to research and funding
- b. Faculty Research Index Plan
 - i. Google Form Review
 1. Is there a way to upload documents? Yes, but it is complicated. Meghan will find a way to work it out.
 - ii. Next Steps
2. Other Business
 - a. Ad Hoc Committee (External Funding Moratorium Review Panel) Update
 - b. April Meeting Date
 - i. Due to scheduling conflicts, we will meet via email. Meghan will send all items for review April 8 with comments to be returned by April 15.
3. Adjournment

ACTION ITEMS

- Meghan will send Dr. McCrary Faculty Research Index Plan
- Meghan will get details about external research advisory panel

Research Committee Meeting

April 7-14, 2022 – Email Meeting

Attended: Meghan Kowalski, Botao Chen, Craig Wynne, Rosie Sneed, Glen Benedict, Timothy Oladunni, Paul Cotae

NOTE: Due to scheduling conflicts, the meeting was held via email. Meghan emailed all members who were given a week to respond.

AGENDA

1. Old Business
 - a. Faculty Research Index Plan
 - i. Google Form Review
 1. Meghan asked for final edits to the form.
 - ii. Website
 1. All members were asked to review the template website and submit feedback and suggestions.

ACTION ITEMS

- Meghan will make changes to the Google submission form based on the feedback she received.