

Faculty Senate Research Planning and Policy Committee

Charge:

"Reviews issues of long term and short term importance to the ISU research efforts. Serves as the advisory committee to the vice president for research and economic development (VPR/ED), and prepares reports and recommendations on items of importance to the faculty and/or the VPR/ED."

November 17th, 2016 Minutes

Attending: Jorgen Johansen, Sridhar Ramaswami, Chris Seeger, Martin Thuo, Susan Wolsdorf Arendt, Fei Shuizhang, Julia Badenhope (Chair), Sarah Nusser, VPR (Ex Officio)

Absent: Michael Kimber

1. Approval of the Minutes: Minutes from September (revised) and October. Motion to approve by Johansen, Seconded Shuizhang. Passed unanimously.

2. Updates regarding CEAH

VPR Nusser provided an update on the formulation of a Visioning process, including Committee organization and charge. The VPR envisions a broad-based team will go out to the university community and get input, then create a vision based in results of the engagement. The group will then work with admin on enhancement goals and strategies of the current CEAH. Some foci for the study are programming for core support, campus engagement and new initiatives for transdisciplinary projects.

Badenhope presented the results of a discussion with Michael Bailey about the current status of the Center, relative to other peer institutions, and ideas for enhancing the Center to improve impacts of support for arts and humanities and provide new kinds of support for transdisciplinary or emergent forms of inquiry. In the ensuing discussion, committee members wondered if CEAH could become an advocate for *valuing* transdisciplinary scholarship across campus- much the way CELT is an advocate for teaching and learning. Administrative and faculty leadership is needed to support emergent topics at the interface between A&H and other modes of inquiry and knowledge creation. This is a good time to tackle this issue, as we have hired many people with the charge of interdisciplinary research and practice.

The Center could become a campus catalyst for helping people understand the diversity of creative inquiry/practices in the arts and humanities. The committee also agreed that revisiting the level of support for arts and humanities research and creative activity would be worthwhile in the context of Bailey's initial study. Badenhope requested RPP members consider how arts and humanities scholarship might influence research and scholarly activities in their colleges. How would faculty benefit? What new opportunities emerge?

3. Faculty Engagement through RPP: VPR Nusser

The VPR is interested in convening some focus groups to tailor communication with faculty about research support, opportunities, deadlines, etc. The idea is to consult with faculty in different colleges about communication topics, mode of delivery, and topics. For example, should communications be organized thematically- around topics? Or modes of inquiry? Nusser and her team are continuing to develop an engagement plan. The committee will have a role in the implementation of the plan, possibly as facilitators, spokespersons, focus group recruiters... This can be funded for support. TBD based on future committee discussions.

Motion to adjourn: Wolsdorf Arendt; seconded Johansen; unanimous approval.