

## **FY2018 Final Report- Faculty Senate Research Committee**

### **Members:**

Chair: Ivana Radovanovic, Anthropology (2019)  
Sarah Robins, Philosophy (2020)  
Nyla Branscombe, Psychology, (2018)  
Ron Hui, EECS, (2018)  
Bozenna Pasik-Duncan, Math (2018)  
James Thorp, Kansas Biological Survey (2019)  
Yan Bing Zhang, Communication Studies (2019)  
John Keating, Economics (2019)  
Diane Fourny, Humanities (2019)  
Sherri Brown, Libraries (2020)  
Becci Akin, Social Welfare (2020)  
Peter Bobkowski, Journalism (2020)  
John Colombo, Interim Vice Chancellor for Research  
Ex-officio: Rodolfo Torres, Associate Vice Chancellor Research  
Graduate Student Representative: TBD

### **Committee Charges**

The **standing charges** were reviewed, and no new topics or actions were discussed related to them.

1. FY2019: Monitor the administration of the General Research Fund (GRF) and make recommendations, as needed, to ensure its effectiveness and appropriate utilization. Report to FacEx by 3/8/19.
2. Monitor the execution of the University's Restricted Research Policy (Faculty Senate Rules and Regulations, Article IX) in handling requests for exceptions.
3. Monitor the implementation of policies and procedures for determining which proposals will go forward in cases where the number of grant applications that may be submitted from the University is limited

A discussion about the sole **specific charge** for FSCR in FY 2018 (approved by FacEx 6/8/2017 and by Faculty Senate 9/7/2017) ensued.

**Specific charge for FY 2018:** *Reevaluate the allocation method for the GRF in view of the analysis in FSRC FY 2017.*

Dr. Radovanović explained that FSCR had in previous years discussed the process of allocating GRF funds when there was a potential for underutilization of funds within a Unit. In the prior FY 2017 year, there was an instance when the College requested and was allowed to reallocate leftover funds from Behavioral Science Unit to Social Science Unit as “one-time” re-allocation in 2017 (per FSCR FY 2017 report).

Recommendation from the previous year's FSRC report to revisit the method used to allocate GRF in the light of perceived disparity among Units was also reviewed and discussed.

Below are key points from the discussion:

- GRF funds should be used to promote faculty scholarship.
- The allocation and reallocation of GRF funds should be based upon merits of the applications.
- Reallocation within or across Units is acceptable as long as the allocations are based upon merits of the applications.
- Because GRF funds are used in varied and divergent ways across disciplines and across levels (e.g., assistant, associate, and full professors), the allocation process should continue to allow flexibility for Units. Individual Units know best how the funds can maximally promote scholarship within their discipline.
- The Committee reviewed the available data on recent GRF allocations, assessing that disparities were not evident. In all, the Committee did not view the current allocation procedure as problematic.
- After further discussion of the current allocation method, the Committee determined that this method is working satisfactorily and does not require revision at this time. Should a Unit present a request or complaint about the GRF fund allocation, the Committee will reconsider its recommendations. The Committee decided to continue the current procedures for GRF allocation.

Submitted by,  
Ivana Radovanović Chair