Council of Principal Investigators and Research Administrators
Monthly Meeting
January 16, 2020 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
HRI 127

MINUTES

Attendees: Jim Lee, Carmen Osier, Sarah Scott, Trent Thigpen, Tianxing Chu, Theresa Garcia, Dorina Murgulet, Toyin Ajisafe, Jordan Greer, Gina Glanc; Riccardo Mozzachiodi, Nandi Daru, Phyllis Robertson, Dugan Um, Brien Nicolau, Brandi Reese, Jud Curtis, Heather DeGrande, Erin Hill

Absent: Mike Wetz

Alternates: Diedre Williams (James Rizzo), Lucy Huang (Michael Starek), Deanna Greer (Gina Concannon) Katya Wowk (Mark Besonen)

Guests: Dr. Kelly Miller

Quorum present

1. Guest Speaker: Dr. Kelly Miller, President/CEO, TAMUCC (15-minute presentation, 10-minute Q&A)
   - Dr. Miller gave an overview of the employee salary study.
   - Discussion about campus growth is expected to be 2-3% per year
   - Discussion about graduate tuition and fee stipends.
   - Discussion about hired researchers not having resources on campus to conduct research.
   - Discussion on building construction and updating older buildings.
   - Questions
     - Master’s students’ fees are going up but salaries are staying the same. Will graduate pay increase? This is being looked at.
     - Can students who run their own be classified as staff? Currently no, but this can be looked at. To get tuition paid for, you need to be a full-time employee.
       - Miller is trying to get employee dependents TAMUCC tuition discounts.
     - How can we ensure new faculty can hit the ground running? In the process of getting all the blueprints for all the buildings. Need to have a catalog of “needs and purpose of rooms.”
   - Discussion that CPIRA will be involved in the campus’ strategic planning.

Meeting called to order by Sarah at 11:33 am.

2. Agenda was approved
   - MOTION: First-Carmen, Second-Terriie, All in favor to add Ex-Officio updates to agenda.

3. December 2019 meeting minutes were unanimously approved
   - MOTION: First- Carmen, Second-Riccardo, All in favor.

4. Alternates introduced.
   - Diedre Williams (James Rizzo), Lucy Huang (Michael Starek), Deanna Greer (Gina Concannon) Katya Wowk (Mark Besonen)

5. R&I Social
   - Scheduling social is in progress.
• Erin and Criselda working on details.
• Will be scheduled for a Thursday evening.

6. Ex-Officio Senate Updates
• Senate has not met yet.
• EC meetings moved to Thursday so updates can be given to Senate.
• A proposal on spousal hires is in the works.
• Graduate tuition is still a high priority in Senate and CPIRA.

7. CPIRA Committee Updates
• Research Administration Development & Training
  • Sarah asked committee to start planning for 2020 Forum.
• Roles & Responsibilities
  • No report
• Facilities
  • Campus wants to bring back building coordinators.
    • **MOTION: CPIRA is in support of bringing back building coordinators and submitting a memo stating this. First-Phyllis, Second-Brandi, All in favor 14, opposed 0, abstaining 2.**
• Operations & Communications for Sponsored Projects
  • Trent is scheduled to meet with Colleen and Mayra.
  • Microsoft Teams will be used to test communication between PIs and R&I staff.
• Graduate Recruitment & Retention
  • Graduate Fellowship Voucher Program Plan is out.
  • Will cover tuition and fees for terminal degree students.
  • Discussion about vouchers and how programs will select students for awards.
  • CPIRA generated a list of questions for the Provost on the new program.
• Bylaws, Elections, Rules, & Procedures
  • PI CPIRA census data is being generated by Sharmeen.
  • Tuan and Dan will generate PI census data for internal award recipients.
  • Three open seats on council, Riccardo, Phyllis, and Brien.
• Open Access
  • Committee is Toyin, Jim and Mark.
  • Currently $15k is available.
• Research Liaison
  • Phyllis met with Andy Piker and Sam Ramirez.
  • Discussion about this position duplicating an already existing position on campus.

8. **MOTION: Extend meeting 10 minutes. First-Riccardo, Second-Brien, All in favor.**

9. Vice CPIRA Chair
• Brandi Reese is stepping down as Vice Chair.
• No one wanted to nominate themselves.
• **MOTION/VOTE: In favor of Mark Besonen for Vice Chair First-Carmen, Second-Terri, All in favor.**

10. Other Business
• R&I Updates
  • Next Research Café, 2/18/2020.
  • 2/21/2020 deadline for Summer Grant Fellows Program.
    • Question: Are there exceptions for those who teach online?
o R&I is working with the library to pilot two funding databases. They would like volunteers from CPIRA.
  o Research Development Officer position (Cindy Lyle’s position) is open.
• Immigration Support
  o Sarah asked one rep from each college to send Carmen any issues by the end of January 2020.
• CPIRA Budget
  o Council received a copy of the budget request memo.
  o **MOTION: CPIRA approves budget with $ amount for Forum changed to $1500.00 and okays to send to Provost. First-Phyllis, Second-Riccardo, All in favor.**

11. Adjourn: 12:42p.m.
• **MOTION: First-Carmen, Second-Brien, All in favor.**