Senate Research Committee Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2018 3:00 PM
365 Edgewood Avenue Building

Attendees: Margo Brinton, Andrew Butler, Laura Burtle, Lisa Marie Casanova, Geert de Vries, Andrew Gewirtz, Dennis Gilbride, Glenn Harrison, Julia Hilliard, Shuguang Hong, Archana Iyer, Nadine Kabengi, Candace Kemp, Tony Lemieux, Stacey Mitchell, Anne Murphy, Martin Norgaard, Remus Osan, Ashli Owen-Smith, Maggie Renken, Don Reitzes, Ed Rigdon, Sally Robertson, Maryann Romski, Erin Ruel, Rose A. Sevcik (Chair), Susan Snyder, Kelly Stout, Kris Varjas, Gangli Wang, James Weyhenmeyer, and Brett Wong

Absentees: Elena Del Rio Parra, Nikolaus Dietz, Dabney Dixon, Jacob English, Sabrina Freeney, Jan Ivery, Shannon Renee-Self, Bill Robinson, Vjollca Sadiraj, Jelena Subotic, Jack Williams, and Yusen Xia

Minutes: Rose Baldwin

1. The March 19, 2018 minutes were approved.

2. Senate approved to nominate Dr. Rose Sevcik as Chair for the new year.

3. Dr. Romski provided a status report on the progress related to the faculty infrastructure working group. Presently, they are sorting through issues correlated to the infrastructure of the grant administration (pre and post), as it is highly essential to move the administration forward as we seek to continue to grow the research portfolio. The three critical areas to be reviewed are to ascertain Georgia State’s peer and aspirational institutions in the present time, the fiscal management on the indirect cost (i.e., hold harmless formula), and training and support for research personnel. The Huron benchmark study 2005 on Georgia State offers some guidance though it is more than 13 years old. On that premise, the Huron group extended an exceptional offer to supply a complimentary report regarding our research administration that will include basic comparative metrics on other research universities. Dr. Romski asked Dr. Stout when this report may be provided to us, and Dr. Stout replied that Dr. Weyhenmeyer has received the report and was currently examining the data. She also indicated that the Huron report consisted of a large list on research universities across the country. Dr. Weyhenmeyer emphasized the importance of reaching a desirable list of comparable institutions, given GSU’s unique profile. Chair Sevcik suggested that the working group continue their assessment through the summer semester to finalize the proposed peer institutions.

Dr. Kabengi made a suggestion for the working group to offer a survey to gain faculty’s feedback about the grant administration. Dr. Romski responded this particular effort may be proposed under the training and development piece.

4. Dr. Weyhenmeyer delivered an update on the federal congressional budget for the current fiscal quarter; he elaborated upon those government agencies (i.e., NIH and NSF) who will foresee monetary increases while other federal agencies may see little increases or none at all to their budgets.

5. Dr. Butler reminded the research committee that minority research supplement grants are another funding option for university researchers, and relatively easy to secure external grant funds.

6. Chair Sevcik announced that the Senate Research Subcommittee on Internal Grants will be convening later this week to finalize rankings on the grant applications received from the annual competition for the Research Initiation and Scholar Support grant mechanisms.

7. Dr. Murphy inquired about the anticipated date to broadcast the newly modified animal per diem rate agreement. Dr. Weyhenmeyer replied that an announcement will be broadcast via the listserv
as soon as the agreement is approved. He reiterated that a three percent annual charge year-over-
year will be assessed on all species (*nonhuman primates to rodents*) for competitive renewals and
the noncompetitive grant renewals will not be affected (at all) by this new rate plan.

8. Dr. Norgaard requested an update on the software called Academic Analytics. Dr. Weyhenmeyer
answered that Academic Analytics (Faculty Insight) will soon be launched from the provost’s
office, and the software should provide valuable insight on possible intramural and extramural
collaborators while synchronously proposing compatible funding mechanisms.

9. Dr. Weyhenmeyer announced Georgia State University Research Magazine will be distributed *at
large* to the research community in the coming weeks; this new magazine is slated to be published
semiannually.

The next meeting will be held on August 20, 2018 at 3:00 PM in Room 365 of the 58 Edgewood
Avenue Building.