Senate Research Committee Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2019; 3:00 PM
365 Edgewood Avenue Building

Attendees: Margo Brinton, Laura Burtle, Daniel Crimmins, Michael Eriksen, Sabrina Freeney, Qian Gu, Xiaochun He, Maria Johnson, Nadine Kabengi, Candace Kemp, Tony Lemieux, Elizabeth Lim, Songqi Liu, Sara Munoz, Anne Murphy, Martin Norgaard, Jerry Rackliffe, Maggie Renken, Ed Rigdon, Maryann Romski, Vjollca Sadiraj, Rose A. Sevcik (Chair), Kelly Stout, Jelena Subotic, Julie Washington, and Jack Williams

Absentees: Charlie Benson, Zhipeng Cai, Dabney Dixon, Andrew Gewirtz, Glenn Harrison, Jan Ivery, Mariana Montiel, Sally Robertson, Bill Robinson, Kris Varjas, Desiree Wanders, and Aleksandr Zelikovskiy

Minutes: Rose Baldwin

1. The September 16, 2019 minutes were approved.

2. Dr. Stout provided the following update and announcements:
   – FY20 Dissertation Program received a total of 34 applications for the annual competition (27-COAS, 3-AYSPS, 2-RCB, 1-SPH, and 1-CEHD). She also iterated the importance for faculty members to share the news of the annual dissertation competition at the beginning of the fall semester, as the grant aids the students to finish their doctoral programs.
   – FY21 Call for Proposals for the Research Initiation and Scholarly Support Grant Programs are presently open and due in mid-January.
   – GSU is a participating institution in the Shared Core Alliance, a research facilities agreement between Georgia Research Alliance and University System of Georgia that provides researchers access to high-tech research core facilities at all institutions at the internal employee rate.

   Dr. Kabengi inquired on the likelihood of internal grant funds that could be made available for master students. Dr. Stout replied there is no available funds at this time though the academic programs may be a good place for them to inquiry. Chair Sevcik was favorable of the proposal of master programs with theses requirement and intends to discuss it at the next internal grant meeting.

3. Dr. Jerry Rackliffe provided an informative presentation on the proposed FY2021 university budget. There will be commitments made in major budgetary areas such as the university merit pool (employees), Next Gen program, police initiative, and faculty’s promotion pool. There is also a commitment to other areas including cybersecurity and gender-salary study plan and adjustment. In addition, there is a commitment to provide around $3 million to cover previously unbudgeted research commitments that were uncovered since the spring. This will leave nothing more to allocate towards research initiatives for this year. Dr. Rackliffe welcomes the committee members to submit their recommendations for the next fiscal year’s budget prior by January for consideration.

4. Dr. Eriksen provided an update that the final Huron report is still being tweaked and there are discussions about a distribution plan for the report.

5. Dr. Eriksen announced GSU research magazine is in print and there are plans to distribute it broadly in the coming weeks. Dr. Eriksen said there is a lot of progress to be made in branding our accomplishments, and the university president wants us to publicize the way the research awards are impactful (versus getting the awards only). More on this in the future.

6. There was discussion among the research members about advertising research work through social media, for example, Twitter. Dr. Stout mentioned she will talk with Ms. Jennifer Marquez.
of the possibility to put together a social media workshop. Dr. Eriksen suggested to invite her to one of the committee meetings.

7. Dr. Kabengi requested more discussion on increasing graduate assistantships and tuition waivers. Dr. Rackliffe replied that is the college’s decision to determine the levels. Chair Sevcik stated that Dr. Armistead will be attending the next meeting, and the stipends and tuitions will be included in the meeting agenda.

The next meeting will be held on November 18, 2019 at 3:00 PM in Room 365 of the 58 Edgewood Avenue Building.