

Council on Research
Report to the University Senate
Wednesday April 13 2022
Brian Rose, CoR Chair 2021-22

- The Council on Research met on 3/30/2022.
- We welcomed incoming members Michael Lesnick (CAS/Mathematics & Statistics) and Matthew Roche (CECH) *expecting Senate confirmation at today's meeting*
- We had an open discussion on possible follow-up actions relating to our earlier “meet and greet” with VPRED Kesh.
- Three policy issues that CoR is currently working on:
 - Distribution of Indirect Cost Return
 - On 2/5/2020, this body (University Senate) passed a resolution originating from CoR regarding revisions to the distribution of ICR funds from grants.
 - This resolution calls for 5% of ICR to go directly to PIs to be spent on research costs that contribute to their future research efforts.
 - This change was to be implemented “as soon as possible”
 - The COVID-19 pandemic and budget crisis quickly swept this issue aside
 - CoR has brought this to the attention of VPRED Kesh, and will be seeking conversations with the administration about moving forward
 - FRAP (Faculty Research Award Program):
 - CoR drafted and approved recommendations for improvements to FRAP during 2020-21 academic year (while FRAP was on pause due to budget limitations)
 - With the change in leadership, we decided to wait and present these recommendations once the new VRPED had a chance to settle in.
 - We outlined the recommendations to Kesh on 2/16/2022 and will be forwarding a revised version to Kesh this spring.
 - ERCA (Excellence in Research and Creative Activities award):
 - CoR oversees the review process for ERCA (by Senate charter)
 - There are some unresolved procedural questions regarding how to ensure the review committee has sufficient rank, breadth, and confidentiality to carry out the review.
 - Some confusion has ensued between CoR, Academic Affairs, and VPRED
 - CoR hopes to clarify new procedures well in advance of next year's award cycle. We have called a meeting between CoR, Academic Affairs, and the office of VPRED to advance this.