

Faculty Research Committee Report for 2014-2015

Presented at 11/13/15 Faculty Council Meeting

Members: Wendy Brewster (Medicine), Alice Ammerman (Public Health), Thomas Casey (Arts & Sciences), Gregory Copenhaver (Arts & Sciences), Gary Cuddeback (Social Work), Oswaldo Estrada (Arts & Sciences), Jose Martinez-Garcia (Medicine), Mamarama Seck (Arts & Sciences), and Stacey Daughters (Arts & Sciences)

Background: (a) The Faculty Committee on Research consists of nine members appointed by the Chancellor; and (b) the committee advises the Chancellor, other officers of administration, and the Faculty Council on matters of University policy and its implementation that have significant impact upon research.

Mission: Our broad mission is to contribute to and support the research mission of the University. We are advisory to Barbara Entwisle, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor of Research. Prior suggestions over the past several years have included instituting bridge funding for faculty between grants, creating in-house sabbaticals to foster interdisciplinary exchange, and proposing mechanisms to formalize in-house grant panels.

In the past, the committee focused on a number of agenda items of its own and provided feedback to Dr. Entwisle on pressing issues related to research at the University. The committee discussed the following issues:

- Developing programs to provide bridge funding for faculty between grants
- Expanding seed money for research
- Working collaboratively across campus regarding resource sharing
- Putting together diverse research groups, incentivizing collaboration across campus, incentivizing networking and the development of groups like CFAR (Center for AIDS Research)
- Growing UNC-CH's portfolio of industrial grants
- Increasing opportunities for junior faculty development
- Enhancing recruitment and retention efforts
- Enhancing UNC-CH internal and external communication about research

This year, rather than take on a separate agenda, the committee's primary function will be to serve as an advisory panel for Dr. Entwisle, Vice Chancellor for Research. In particular, the committee will work with Dr. Entwisle and with Robin Cyr, Associate Vice Chancellor of Research and Director of the Office of Sponsored Research, on issues related to Dr. Entwisle's transition from her role as Vice Chancellor for Research and on OSR transformation issues.