

Faculty Research Committee Report for 2015-2016

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 the Vice Chancellor for Research.

In the past, the committee focused on a number of agenda items of its own and provided feedback to the Vice Chancellor of Research on pressing issues related to research at the University. 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 addition to other issues such as:

- 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

During the 2015-2016 academic year, the committee served as an advisory panel for the Vice Chancellor for Research. During the course of the year, the committee discussed a proposed campus-wide policy regarding funding from the tobacco industry and provided feedback about changes in OSR's effort reporting certification system.