

Faculty Research Committee Report for 2019-2020

Presented at the 03/19/21 Faculty Council Meeting

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Background: The Faculty Research Committee (FRC) consists of nine members appointed by the Chancellor. The Committee advises the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Research, other officers of administration, and the Faculty Council on matters of University policy and their implementation that have significant impact upon research.

Mission: The Committee's broad mission is to contribute to and support the research mission of the University. The FRC is advisory to the Vice Chancellor for Research.

In September of 2019, Joyce Tan, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, and the FRC chair (Cuddeback) met to plan the agenda and a meeting schedule for the academic year. It was decided that the FRC would focus on: (1) feedback on how research related resources are serving research needs (e.g. contracting, team building, compliance, etc.); (2) compliance policy; (3) grant review for OVCR seed funding program; and (4) strategies to promote funding from Defense agencies.

Due to scheduling conflicts, however, the FRC did not convene in the months of September through December.

In January, the FRC met with Vice Chancellor Magnuson and Associate Vice Chancellor Tan. The FRC discussed recent guidelines for providing information about foreign support when applying for federal grants. The FRC provided input on strategies for communicating these guidelines to the university community.

In February, the FRC met with Vice Chancellor Magnuson and Associate Vice Chancellor Tan and continued the discussion regarding foreign influence, and discussed upcoming changes in leadership roles at the OVCR related to compliance. The FRC also reviewed educational materials regarding compliance that were scheduled to be distributed to the university community.

The FRC was not convened in March due to scheduling conflicts.

The FRC met with Vice Chancellor for Research Magnuson and Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Tan in April of 2020. The FRC heard a presentation regarding research registration at Research for Me @ UNC by Emily Olsson and Cassie Myers. In addition, in the context of COVID-19, the FRC discussed issues regarding hazard pay and time-and-a-half for UNC employees and the need for greater policing and support from UNC to help research programs absorb additional costs.

In May 2020, the FRC provided feedback on the OVCR's COVID Research Strategy document.