

Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 14, 2022

10:00pm-11:30pm – Zoom Meeting

Members Present	Members Unable to Attend	Others Present
Ben Herman, TLAC Bugrahan Yalvac, TLAC Daniel Bowen, EAHR Christine Stanley, EAHR Marc Goodrich, TLAC Sandra Acosta, EPSY Lei Shih Chen, HLKN Zohreh Eslami, EPSY	Hector Rivera, EPSY David Wright, HLKN Tamika Gilreath, HLKN University CPI Representatives	Jeff Liew, CERD Pre Award Jim Izat, CERD Pre Award Ann Savell, CERD Pre Award Jason Foley, CERD Pre Award Clayton Holle, CERD Post Award
Agenda Item	Comments	Recommendations/Actions/Follow-up
I. Review of Meeting Minutes	Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of March 9, 2022 were approved. Minutes will be posted at this link: https://mycehd.tamu.edu/faculty/research-office/council-of-principal-investigators/	Members are reminded that the minutes will be listed on the College CPI website. Visit the website for an electronic copy of the bylaws and the updated list of CPI members.
II. Updates from the Associate Dean of Research	Dr. Jeffrey Liew discussed three areas of concern that came out of the most recent University Research Council meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The centralization of HR and Finance is being monitored to minimize potential impacts on faculty research and productivity. 2. SRS is working on identifying a strategy for departments, colleges, or schools that will have to transfer their accounts to different agencies within the university system to ensure a smooth transition and resolve issues that arise. 3. The university continues to monitor any potential risks in terms of foreign influence in faculty research, as well as how this issue can impact faculty climate. This is an ongoing topic. 	

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III. Updates from CERD Post-Award	<p>Clayton Holle said the new hire Jasmine Alvarado has started this week.</p> <p>Summer payroll is coming up for faculty. If you have a grant your time will be charged to in the summer, start reaching out to his team and they will get you setup for summer payroll.</p> <p>The limitation on the summer salary is a similar rule to last year: up to 95% summer effort can be charged to a grant (not the full three summer months). For special circumstances, pre-approval is needed. Those requests should be submitted by end of April.</p>	
IV. Updates from CERD Pre-Award	<p>Dr. Jim Izat discussed the FY2023 CEHD Catapult Funding Opportunity that was announced via email to all CEHD faculty on 4/13/22.</p> <p>Some small differences from programs in this past include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) This year the program will be peer-reviewed. Dr. Izat will invite some faculty that are not applying to be reviewers. 2) There are two tracks within this competition. 3) APT faculty are eligible to apply, but the deliverable is that it must result in the submission of a federal application. <p>All the details of the program are in the RFP. The CERD team is ready to answer any questions and to assist with proposals.</p>	<p>Dr. Izat will send a follow-up email to the CEHD faculty with clarification on the eligibility criteria for the FY2023 CEHD Catapult program.</p> <p>If you are interested in participating as a Catapult reviewer, please let Dr. Izat know.</p>
V. Updates from University CPI	<p>As no representatives from the University CPI were present, Ann shared the link to the University CPI meeting minutes:</p> <p>https://cpi.tamu.edu/meetings/2021-2022-general-meeting-schedule</p>	<p>All faculty researchers are encouraged to attend the monthly University CPI Meetings.</p>
VI. Update: Research Interest Groups (RIGS)	<p>Dr. Izat stated there have not been any RIG meetings since the last CPI meeting. They will likely resume in the fall. Members of the research office have been actively engaged with leaders of some of the RIGs discussing ways forward and how the office can support them.</p> <p>Three Research Interest Groups have been formed with this initiative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Teacher Education, Practitioners, and Leader - STEM Education <p>Research Interest Groups already in existence in the college:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Literacy Studies - Early Childhood Development 	<p>If you have suggestions on outcomes you would like to see from the Research Interest Groups or if you would like to take a role in these RIGS, please reach out to someone in the CERD office or email cehdpreaward@tamu.edu.</p>

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VII. Updates on Transition to SPH	No updates to report on the transition of Health Education faculty from HLKN to the School of Public Health.	
VIII. Difficulties with IRIS	<p>Dr. Herman detailed frustrations faculty have expressed about the iRIS (Integrated Research Information Systems) portal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The system seems to be inconsistent with its email notifications to approvers, causing delays in approving. - iRIS does not appear as a tool on the SSO menu, increasing the likelihood that tasks can be overlooked. - The system is not intuitive or easily navigable. Uploading is complicated and it is hard to determine if something is fully submitted. - The length of delays in the review process are concerning, particularly when you have projects like an NSF RAPID that need to start right away. <p>Several members commented that other institutions do not have these issues, and TAMU has the resources and should be able to improve this system and process.</p> <p>Dr. Chen serves as an IRB Full Board member and discussed the process for their part of the review. The IRB Full Board Review members meet twice a month year-round, with two members assigned to each IRB review. For new IRB requests, the department head has to provide approval. The IRB board is short on faculty to volunteer for this position.</p> <p>Dr. Liew mentioned will relay concerns to the VPR's office.</p> <p>Dr. Herman will create a survey to send to faculty and PhD students to gather complete information about the issues being encountered. The CPI members will promote participation in their departments to get sufficient survey responses.</p>	<p>Dr. Herman will create a survey to send to faculty and PhD students to gather complete information about the issues being encountered. The CPI members will promote participation in their departments to get sufficient survey responses.</p> <p>iRIS FAQs can be found here: https://vpr.tamu.edu/research-compliance-and-biosafety/iris-portal/iris-frequently-asked-questions/</p>
IX. Acknowledgment of Faculty with Terms ending	<p>Christine Stanley and Lei-Shih Chen.</p> <p>Thank you very much for your service to the college on the CPI.</p>	
X. Other Topics	Dr. Chen brought up the pilot program of Research Impact Talks that are occurring starting next week, in which different faculty will	If you have suggestions on CEHD faculty who can serve as a speaker for

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	<p>present on topics related to research. The goal is to help mentor junior faculty and build up the research culture in our college.</p> <p>Dr. Stanley recommends that faculty development sessions be hosted, organized around each department. This should include a research program with multiple sources of funding opportunities, starting off with small opportunities, too, so people can work their way up. Many faculty are not aware of the opportunities available or the work they are in engaged in does not get the attention of mainstream funding agencies. Dr. Liew agreed and said the CERD office is developing workshops to support and develop early career and new faculty. The pros and cons of the prevalence of meetings having moved to zoom was discussed. Both methods could be tried.</p> <p>Dr. Acosta stated that, as the next chair, she will continue with what Dr. Lei Shih Chen has started and will continue to work on ideas over the summer.</p> <p>Dr. Stanley pointed out that new and early career faculty are often unsure how to reach out or how to collaborate and need guidance from senior faculty on how to navigate that. This particularly applies to the faculty that were hired during the pandemic or just came out of a PhD program and are going up for third year review soon. Pre-Tenure faculty are only given x amount of time to prove themselves, and one area is in research. They need help in this area. Dr. Chen pointed out that junior faculty can include a section on how Covid impacted their tenure promotion in the appendix of their package. Additionally, HLKN funds multiple cooperative projects each year to increase equality and inclusion, pairing junior or minority faculty with senior faculty to get mentorship in their research, teaching, or service. The mentor and the mentee each receive \$500 in PD funds.</p> <p>Everyone thanked Dr. Ben Herman for his service as CPI chair.</p>	<p>these talks, please email lancechen@tamu.edu.</p>