

Faculty Senate Research Programs and Policies Committee**Annual Report: Academic Year 2022-23**

June 5, 2024

Charge

The Research Programs and Policies Committee (RPPC) shall ensure an active faculty role in the formulation and evaluation of research policies. The Committee is charged with promoting faculty research and scholarly activities and advising university administration and the Faculty Senate on research policies. The committee is also called upon to assist in the dissemination of policies and guidelines ensuring implementation is consistent and clearly communicated to the broader university research community.
(Approved by the FSSC April 28, 2015)

Composition

9 Faculty (1 elected by UFS; 7 appointed by FSSC, and 1 ad-hoc members)

Prepared By:

Elected Members:

Ilene Hollin, CPH, 1-9164, ilene.hollin@temple.edu, '25 (Secretary)

Appointed Members:

Rom, Slava, LKSM, 2-9412, slava.rom@temple.edu, '24 (Chair)

Thomas, Elizabeth, College of Public Health, 1-1699, elizabeth.thomas@temple.edu, '24

Stephen Anderson, Tyler, 215-680-2328, stephen.anderson@temple.edu, '24

Munir Mandviwalla, Fox School of Business, 1-5617, munir.mandviwalla@temple.edu, '24

Har-el Yah-el, Engr., yahel@temple.edu, '24

Jason Gallagher, Phar., 2-2573, jason.gallagher@temple.edu, '25

Fauzia Ahmad, COE, 1-3880, fauzia.ahmad@temple.edu, '26

Ad-Hoc Members:

Song, Jinsup, School of Podiatric Medicine, 215-625-5389, j.song@temple.edu

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

RPPC spent considerable time in 2023-2024 clarifying the role of the RPPC and the way it operates under and reports to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. We met with President and Vice-President of FS to discuss different ways of improving the role and function of the RPPC in FS. We had a few meetings with Dr. Josh Gladden, Vice President for Research. Additionally, RPPC members met with Dr. Seema Freer, Director of Research Developments, Mr. Nappi, Associate Vice President for Technology Commercialization and Business Development to discuss collaboration between RPPC and OVPR office.

1. INCREASING OUR REACH ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY

The RPPC has been redefining its mission over the past few years. Its major responsibility, which consisted of managing faculty research initiation awards, was terminated. In AC2023-24, we were in the middle of implementing a process that the RPPC will follow to function. In an agreement with Faculty Senate, RPPC provided monthly meeting minutes to the FSSC and vetted all communications outside the committee through the FSSC. RPPC members met with Dr. Josh Gladden, Vice President for Research. Additionally, RPPC members met with Dr. Seema Freer, Director of Research Developments, Mr. Nappi, Associate Vice President for Technology Commercialization and Business Development, to discuss collaboration between RPPC and OVPR office. RPPC participated in review process of choosing Pew Grant applicant for limited submission on behalf of Temple University.

2. FUTURE PLANS

The RPPC should take active participation with OVPR in revising Temple University research policies to comply with current updates from the US government research policies.

RPPC proposes restructuring of the RPPC in the future.

The stated prime directive of the RPPC is “promoting faculty research and scholarly activities and advising university administration and the Faculty Senate on research policies.” The term “research,” in this case, is usefully ambiguous: various disciplines across the university’s thirteen schools and colleges engage in a remarkably wide array of research types. Each academic discipline defines research differently, with corresponding differences in approach, assessment, and support needs. It is imperative, then, that the RPPC reflects and represents those diverse interests, values, and needs.

Toward that end, the current **RPPC proposes restructuring the committee to be comprised of one representative from each of the university’s eighteen schools and colleges.**

Ideally (though not necessarily), representatives would be chosen by their respective collegial assemblies. For situations where that is not feasible, representatives would be appointed by their deans.

The current system of three-year terms would continue in this new model but would be staggered in three groups to ensure continuity and institutional knowledge.

The committee recommends that these changes be made effective beginning Spring 2025, allowing time in Fall 2024 to work with schools on implementation, including discussion of the RPPC’s potential roles for each school’s unique needs, and appointment of representatives.

3. ELECTED CHAIR AND SECRETARY FOR NEXT ACADEMIC 2024-2025 YEAR ARE:

Chair: Har-el Yah-el, Engr., yahel@temple.edu, '27

Secretary: Ilene Hollin, CPH, 1-9164, ilene.hollin@temple.edu, 25