

RAC Meeting Minutes

2014-10-16

Present: Orion Lawlor, Kris Hundertmark, Georgina Gibson, Jon Dehn, Andrew McDonnell

Guests: Debu Misra, Peter Webley

Actions:

Currently, research faculty can encounter difficulty at the campuswide committee level:

- Research faculty are only about 10% of faculty headcount (though growing), but bring in 50% of the research dollars.
- Faculty with a joint academic/research appointment currently get reviews from both their academic unit dean and their research unit director, but the peer review committee is from the academic unit only. The ad-hoc Joint Appointment Committee is examining this process.
- Faculty with non-teaching appointments get criticized for not teaching enough.
- Sabbatical leave for research faculty?

GI has unit criteria, although they have not been updated recently. IARC is currently in the process of updating their unit criteria. Jon and Georgina volunteered to work on updating the blue book.

GI will provide 41% of a researcher's salary, using overhead from their and other grants. After several years of not meeting this standard, faculty have been cut. IARC is having some difficulty this year supporting people at this level.

Grant indirect cost recovery (ICR) is an opportunity to reinvest incoming research money back into encouraging more research. In 2011 the [ICR Distribution Review Committee](#) listed the current distribution of these \$28M dollars per year, which goes to a number of places on campus. A task for the committee is to determine how the ICR is being used to improve UAF research: this request needs to arrive via channels, specifically the VCR's office.

Post-award grant support: QMENU is an easier to understand PI-friendly interface to Banner for expenditures, even showing paycheck-by-paycheck charges, although it's retrospective only. Sufficiently large grants elsewhere have a "project manager" in charge of reporting, proactive budgeting and accounting, and HR; leaving the PI to do science and publication. This is a challenge for attracting faculty, and encouraging faculty to be more productive on grants.