

University Research Council

Annual Report

2015-16

I. PURPOSE & CHARGE

The purpose of the University Research Council (URC) shall be to serve as an advisory body to the Vice President for Research on matters pertaining to the development of research and creative activities at The University of Southern Mississippi. To this end, the Council is responsible for recommending to the Vice President for Research, policies and procedures which will enhance the ability of The University of Southern Mississippi to realize its potential for distinction in research, creative, and scholarly activities.

II. Members for 2015-16

FACULTY MEMBERS

Jorge Brown, University Libraries (jorge.brown@usm.edu) 2015-18 (2nd term)

Janie Butts, CoN (janie.butts@usm.edu) 2015-18

Brian Collins, CoB (brian.collins@usm.edu) 2015-18

Carol Connell, CoH (carol.connell@usm.edu) 2013-16

Melanie Gilmore, CoN (melanie.gilmore@usm.edu) 2015-18

Trent Gould, CoH (trent.gould@usm.edu) 2014-17 (2nd term)

Max Grivno, Faculty Senate Representative (max.grivno@usm.edu) 2015-16

Michael Madson, CoEP (michael.madson@usm.edu) 2015-18

Chad Miller, CoB (chad.miller@usm.edu) 2015-18

Andy Reese, CoST (andy.reese@usm.edu) 2015-18

Douglas Rust, CoAL (douglas.rust@usm.edu) 2013-16

Jake Schaefer, CoST (jake.schaefer@usm.edu) 2015-18

Joyce Shaw, University Libraries (joyce.shaw@usm.edu) 2015-18 (2nd term)

Steven Venette, CoAL (steven.venette@usm.edu) 2014-17

Teresa Welsh, CoEP, (teresa.welsh@usm.edu), Chair 2013-16

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Sam Bruton, ORI (samuel.bruton@usm.edu)

Gordon Cannon, VPR (gordon.cannon@usm.edu)

Jennifer Downey, Rep. for Dr. Cannon (jennifer.downey@usm.edu)

Marcia Landen, ORA (marcia.landen@usm.edu)

Syd Conner, ORA (syd.conner@usm.edu)

Shelia Johnson, ORA (shelia.johnson@usm.edu)

III. Activities

University Research Awards Day (Chair Joyce Shaw)

URA Day was held on November 13, 2015, at the Thad Cochran Center. Dr. Brian Collins introduced the 2015 Innovation Awards winners who gave presentations about their work. Dr. Chad Miller chaired the poster session and provided participants with a handout of poster presenters and abstracts. Dr. Melanie Gilmore chaired the displays, which were composed of information tables lining the hallway to the presentation rooms. URC Chair Dr. Teresa Welsh welcomed the URAD awards luncheon attendees and introduced Provost Steve Moser and VPR Dr. Gordon Cannon who presented the awards. URAD 2015 was very well attended and covered by WDAM; the PR was published by KCBD, WTVM, and KAIT8.

University Research Innovation Awards for 2015-16

Innovation Awards (Chair Mr. Jorge Brown)

- Robert Lochhead, College of Science and Technology (Lifetime Achievement)
- Sergei Nazarenko, College of Science and Technology (Basic Research)
- Fengwei Bai, College of Science and Technology (Applied Research)
- Meredith Early, College of Arts and Letters (Creative Activities)
- Glenmore Shearer and Mohamed Elasri, College of Science and Technology (Academic Partnership)
- Sarah Morgan, College of Science and Technology (Multidisciplinary)
- Brooks Able, College of Science and Technology (Graduate Student)
- Lisa Jones, University Libraries (Research Advocate)

Nomination for the 2016-17 awards was extended until fall 2016 and the date of the University Research Awards Day moved to spring 2017.

URC webpages

Mr. Syd Connor updated the URC webpages with images from URAD and links to URC documents. <http://www.usm.edu/research/university-research-council>

URC Meetings

The URC met the last Monday during the fall semester in August, September, and October and during the spring semester in February, March, and April.

URC Review of Internal Grants

In the March 28th meeting, Jennifer Downey, on behalf of Dr. Gordon Cannon, asked the URC if they would be willing to review internal grant applications and make recommendations to Dr. Cannon. The URC voted to approve and Dr. Steven Venette agreed to chair this initiative and to distribute grant applications for URC members to review and rate. Thirteen "Proposal Development Grants" were submitted and reviewed by URC members.

URC By-Laws

A vote to accept the following revisions to Section 4 Eligibility and Qualifications was unanimous.

The pool of candidates for election (or appointment) within each division shall have the following minimum qualifications.

- a. Minimum qualifications for membership
 - i. A minimum of three years of service at USM with rank of Associate or Professor (in exceptional cases, the Dean of the division may request that this requirement be waived);
 - ii. An earned terminal degree
 - iii. No qualifying designations: visiting, clinical, or adjunct

- b. Preferred qualifications for membership
 - i. Experience in directing research, graduate students, and/or technical staff
 - ii. Experience with funded sponsored program or research as a director, principal investigator, co-director, or co-principal investigator

URC Chair

The Chair of the URC for 2016-17 is Dr. Brian Collins, Professor in the College of Business.

Respectfully submitted:

Dr. Teresa S. Welsh, Director and Professor
School of Library and Information Science
Chair, University Research Council, 2015-16