

University Research Council

Annual Report

2014-2015

I. PURPOSE & CHARGE

(Accepted on April 27, 2015)

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 2014-15

FACULTY MEMBERS

Cheri Becker, COB (Cheri.Becker@usm.edu) (8/2013-7/2015)

Jorge Brown, University Libraries (Jorge.Brown@usm.edu) (8/2012 – 7/2015)

Carol Connell, COH (Carol.Connell@usm.edu) (8/2013-7/2016)

Sheila Davis, CON (Sheila.Davis@usm.edu) (8/2013-7/2016)

Trent Gould, COH (Trent.Gould@usm.edu) (8/2014-2017) 2nd term

Bonnie Harbaugh, CON (Bonnie.Harbaugh@usm.edu) (8/2012-7/2015)

Hani Morgan, COEP (Hani.Morgagn@usm.edu) (8/2014-7/2015) one year appointment

Douglas Rust, COAL (Douglas.Rust@usm.edu) (8/2013-7/2016)

Joyce Shaw, University Libraries (Joyce.Shaw@usm.edu) (8/2011-2015 extended) Chair

Steven Venette , COAL (Steven.Venette@usm.edu) (8/2014-7/2017)

Teresa Welsh, COEP, (Teresa.Welsh@usm.edu) (8/2013-7/2016 extended) Vice Chair

Omar Harvey, Faculty Senate Representative, (Omar.Harvey@usm.edu) (8/2014-7/2015)

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Sam Bruton, ORI (Samuel.Bruton@usm.edu)

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

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

Denis Wiesenburg, Provost (denis.wiesenburg@usm.edu)

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

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

III. Activities

University Research Awards Day (Chair Dr. Bonnie Harbaugh)

URA Day was held on November 21, 2014 at the Thad Cochran Center. The 2014 Innovation Awards winners gave presentations about their work. Mr. Jorge Brown chaired the poster session and provided participants with a handout of poster presenters and abstracts. Dr. Teresa Welsh chaired the displays which are composed of information tables lining the hallway to the presentation rooms.

University Research Awards for 2015

Innovation Awards (Chair Dr. Douglas Rust)

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)

These awardees were announced at the Faculty Senate "Faculty Awards Day" held May 1, 2015, and will receive medallions at the 2015 University Research Awards Day scheduled for November 2015.

Review of the policies and procedures for Innovation Awards will be undertaken in 2015-16.

URC webpages

The updates and enhancements to the URC webpages continued during 2014-15. Mr. Syd Conner provided the service. URC members submitted photos from the 2014 URA Day. The outdated "Charter" was replaced with a purpose and charge statement.

<http://www.usm.edu/research/university-research-council>

URC Meetings

The URC met the last Monday during the Fall semester. URA Day chairs held a pre-event planning meeting on November 4th. Members met to review nominations for Innovation Awards on February 10th in lieu of the end of January meeting. The March meeting was cancelled because it conflicted with USM Founders Day. The April 27th meeting was the last meeting for 2015-15.

URC Review of Research Policies and Procedures

During the year, the URC reviewed and provided input on several proposed policies and procedures submitted by the Office of Research Administration and Office of Research Integrity including (1) Animal Facility Emergency Plan, (2) Eligibility Requirements to Serve as a Principal Investigator/Project Director or Co-Principal Investigator/Co-Project Director at the University of Southern Mississippi, and (3) FCIO Disclosure.

URC By-Laws

The By-laws were updated to reflect several important changes including how elections are held (URC elections are part of the unified ballot put forth in the Spring semester), clarification on proxies, attendance, succession to chair, and other procedural matters. The review and discussion of changes were not completed by the end of the academic year; no vote was taken. This matter was tabled and will be discussed in academic year 2015-16.

URC Chair

The Chair of the URC for 2015-2016 is Dr. Teresa Welsh, Professor in the School of Library and Information Science.

Respectfully submitted:

Joyce M. Shaw

Chair

University Research Council, 2013-2015

University Libraries