

November 17, 2021
CRC Meeting 11

Present: Professor Aguasaco, Director Baptiste-Sexton, President Boudreau, Dean Couzis, Executive Assistant Diop, Chief Librarian Domínguez, Associate Dean Foster, Dean Gutman, Associate Professor Higney, Chair Kretzschmar, Provost Liss, Dean Miller, Vice President Mozeleski, Dean Perkins, Dean Rich, Chair Silber, CRC Chair Tinajero, Associate Dean Wesson

Chief Librarian Daisy Domínguez shared a presentation on research resources available to faculty at the library. Specifically, professor Domínguez addressed concerns about open-source journals and the complexities of navigating the costs of open-source journals. A copy of the presentation was shared.

President Boudreau addressed concerns from previous CRC meetings about the mandate of the group and shared the history of the formation of the CRC and his vision for the future.

- In 2017, the Faculty Senate re-examined the governance plan, and identified the need for a campus-wide research committee.
- As a dean, President Boudreau and Provost Liss found that deans were often responsible for research, and that there was a need to incorporate deans and faculty, who had an understanding of research on the ground, to help put grant submissions forward.
- At the time there was also dissatisfaction with the way research and grants were being administered, with grants not being well-allocated.
- The Dean of Research from John Jay was consulted who advised that the position should be filled by someone who came from the faculty and understood the needs of researchers.
- President Boudreau clarified that the CRC was not formed by the Faculty Senate, but rather by the President's office in response to a document received from the Faculty Senate.
- Originally, the CRC was meant to replace the position of Associate Dean for Research, however, the committee often focused too much on rules and regulations and not enough on grants.
 - Based on advice from the outgoing CRC Chair Ghose, the position of Associate Dean for Research was re-instituted.
- The goal of the CRC was to increase attainment of research and larger grants that require input from across different disciplines, as recently grants from agencies like the NSF have required interdisciplinary components.
- The committee was not originally intended to have a voting function and was not designed as a place for allocating funding, rather for working together to secure and publicize funding opportunities and to connect researchers across disciplines.

Faculty Senate Chair Jeruzalmi added that there was a council before 2017, and that the name of the council came from the Strategic Plan of 2009.

Dean Rich asked what the CRC should do going forward.

President Boudreau shared his vision for the future:

- The CRC only needs to meet on an as-needed basis.
- In terms of workflow, there is an annual cycle of work that needs to happen around the bureaucracy of grant attainment.
- RFPs/grants that bring people together also come through regularly, for which some subset or the whole body of the CRC can be convened
 - Example workflow: Dean Wesson receives an RFP and contacts the CRC Chair to have divisions discuss capacity and interest, and to bring people together who would be interested in forming a submission.
- 2 possible modalities for the CRC:
 - Periodic infrequent meetings about setting long-term policy (i.e., how to allocate IDC), perhaps 1-2 times per semester.
 - Working group for broader interdisciplinary collaboration, attempting to bring people together for research so none are left out of the grant process.

Dean Couzis shared an update on the Green Energy Initiative.

- Dean Couzis introduced the components of the submission focused on decarbonizing the grid including a workforce training program for students, a research component, and an infrastructure component for a state-of-the-art research lab.