

# **Academic Senate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Committee Fall 2013 Quarterly Report**

During the Fall 2013 quarter, the committee had a total of three meetings, scheduled every other week for about 90 minutes. One meeting was cancelled due to time conflicts and cancellations by several members.

This report briefly describes the issues discussed in the meetings.

## **Resolutions Submitted**

- None

## **Charges from the Senate Chair and Executive Committee**

Since there were several new members starting in the Fall quarter, we briefly reviewed the charges and focus of the committee for the academic year:

- TSM Interpretation: What does it mean, and what are the implications for Cal Poly?
- TSM Information Collection: What information do we have, and what can we gather? Who will do the gathering, and what will be done with the collected information?
- TSM Support: How can we enable and encourage faculty to subscribe to the TSM, and to engage in relevant activities?

## **Related activities**

The committee received a number of updates on related activities across the campus, some of which coincided with our focus areas above, and resulted in longer discussions.

- Dean E. Wendt, Interim Dean of Research, briefed the committee on recent developments from his office. One significant issue was a proposal for using available space in Building 52 for research-oriented purposes. His proposal is to create two categories of research space: One that is available for funded research projects, and allocated competitively. The other category is space permanently allocated to colleges, for use determined by the respective deans. Dean also presented a proposal to restructure the use of funds generated from Indirect Costs. Possibly by merging these funds with similar ones, he proposes the creation of a funding pool that provides benefits to researchers with funded proposals, essentially returning part of the indirect costs generated by proposals to the proposers. The committee discussed benefits and drawbacks of such a scheme, and overall is in support of the proposal.
- Al Liddicoat gave an update on the current status of the search for a Vice President, Research and Economic Development. This position is currently held by Bradford Anderson. A search is in progress, with internal committee work to be completed in the Fall quarter, and on-campus candidate interviews anticipated for the Winter quarter.
- Franz Kurfess gave brief updates on some activities from the Faculty Advisory Committee on Technology and the ITS "Emerging Technologies" task force. One possibly relevant activity is the identification of the next generation of communication and collaboration services to support the teaching, learning and business needs of the Cal Poly community. This may be a future agenda item, but was not discussed much during the current period.
- In preparation for a discussion of policy revisions for Centers and Institutes, a set of documents will be distributed to committee members for review.

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## **Franz Kurfess**

*Chair, Academic Senate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities Committee*