



FACULTY SENATE

Research, Scholarship & the Creative Arts Committee

April 9, 2020

12:30-2:00

Microsoft Teams

Present: Kelly Mancini Becker (CESS), Brandon Bensel (Postdoctoral Association), Vicki Brennan (CAS), Mary Cushman (LCOM), Prudence Doherty (LIB), Rachele Gould (RSEN), Erik Monsen (GSB), Dimitry Kremmentsov (CNHS), Stephanie Wooby (SGA)

Absent: Nick Adler (GSS), Thomas Chittenden (Faculty Senate President), Katie Gough (CAS), Britt Holmén (CEMS), Steve Keller (CAL), Vacant (CAS, Fine Arts Rep), Daniel Weiss (LCOM)

Guests: No Guests

Chair Cushman called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm via Microsoft Teams.

- 1. Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of February 2020 were approved as written.
- 2. COVID 19 Pandemic.** With the transition to remote learning and stay at home measures it has become increasingly hard to collaborate across campus. Mary will reach out to the new VP of Research to see how the RSCA can help.

There is currently a lot of COVID 19 research happening on campus. LCOM is gathering this research, it would be helpful if there was a tool to gather this from all units on campus in a central location.
- 3. Burack Lectures.** There were seven Burack Lectures that were scheduled from March 17th to April 22nd that have all been postponed. They will work to reschedule these lectures to a later date. Due to this there will not be a nomination process at this time. The RSCA will review nominations once they are being received again.
- 4. University Distinguished Professors.** The University of Vermont awards up to 10 professors the honor of being a University Distinguished Professor. At this time all ten slots are full and there is no need to review

applications. For more information on University Distinguished Professors visit the UVM website at <https://www.uvm.edu/provost/university-distinguished-professor>.

5. **Academic Freedom:** The RSCA was asked to review a document around social media for United Academics. The RSCA would like more clarification from senate leadership around what is expected. The Faculty Senate Office will work with senate leadership and update the RSCA chair.
6. **FAN Networks.** Kirk Dombrowski is the new VP of Research at UVM. The committee would like to invite him to the May meeting to get an idea what his plans for UVM are. More specifically if he plans on continuing the FAN network. The committee finds FAN to be a valuable resource at UVM and would like to find ways to help promote it. For more information on FAN go to the university website at <https://www.uvm.edu/ovpr/faculty-activity-network-fan>.
7. **New Business**
 - **Faculty Oversight of Institutes and Research Center at UVM.** The Faculty Senate has oversight of curricular affairs on campus. How does the Faculty Senate have input on institutes and centers? The Faculty Senate Office will do some research on this topic and provide feedback for the committee.
 - **Research Agendas that were impacted by COVID 19.** Some research cannot be completed for a variety of reasons including restricted travel and stay at home orders. How can the RSCA help with this stalled research? This also includes the performing arts on campus.
 - **Libraries.** Currently Elsevier is negotiating with the libraries. There are still a lot of unknowns and Dean Geffert will be invited to update the RSCA in the fall.
 - **Post Doc Survey to COVID1-19 Response.** The survey has been approved and sent out. Waiting on responses. Once this data is collected Brandon will share with the RSCA.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

The next meeting of the RSCA will be May 14, 2020.