Chair Chris Burns called the meeting to order at 12:36 pm in 427a Waterman.

1. Approval of the minutes. The minutes of December 6, 2017 were approved as written.

2. Undergraduate Research, Ann Kroll Lerner (Hand out)
   The newly formed Fellowships, Opportunities, & Undergraduate Research Office offers an array of valuable resources for all UVM students promoting mentored research, creative works, and scholarly development. They support on campus activities such as The Student Research Conference where undergraduate research is exhibited. For more information please visit the website at http://www.uvm.edu/ugresearch/, the new Drupal site will be launched today.

   The Office provides.
   - Student engagement
   - Funding

How can the Fellowships, Opportunities, & Undergraduate Research Office better educate faculty on what they do?
Faculty support for Undergraduate research grant opportunities
Clean Energy Funding. Sustainability Fellows could be a good group to help develop programs.
The office gets requests from both students and faculty.
Will work on more ways to engage the students in GSB
More information on fellowships especially to advisors and the Honors College.
Advising software, and how that can be used as a tool.
Time on the Faculty Senate Meeting agenda to get word out to the senators.

Fellowships, Opportunities & Undergraduate Research
2016-2017 Year in Review  2017-2018 Year Ahead
Ann Kroll Lerner

Changes in the last 2 years
- Added new position F2016 –Coordinator –coordinates SRC, communications, primary student advising
- Took over primary responsibility of SRC planning/execution
- Received $100,000 from Clean Energy Fund
- Combined offices with Fellowships Advising and hired new advisor F2017
  - Director’s role: primary face of FOUR to faculty/administration, campus partners (eg., CUPS, OIE, Risk/Safety; Pre-health Committee, CRVT, RSCA) with an eye toward more external commitments (eg., Foundation work, HCOL External Board)
Advising

FY17 Initiatives
- Collaboration w/ Writing Center
  - Grant Writing Tutors (6/3)
  - Continuing in FY18, hope to expand to Fellowships support

FY18 Plan
- Make. One. Office. –“student scholarly development”
  - Better tracking –to follow students through the process and connect them with more opportunities
  - Feedback surveys
  - “HCOL-SOS” initiative

Budget

New Funds and Systems
- FY17 CEF = $100,000
  - Writing proposal for additional annual funds
- 2018 Partnership with Gund Institute = $10,000
- InfoReady Institutional Competitions: launching for undergraduate grants October 2017
- Creating campaign (w/ Foundation) to fund SRC
  - Tie in to Burlington Business Roundtable and other local businesses to sponsor event

FY18 Student Awards
- Base budget = ~$165,000
- Additional donor support: Simon Family Foundation, Brennan, Carl Reidel = ~$45,000
- Additional Campus funds: Humanities Center, Honors College (UROP+Summer), CEF, Gund = ~$60,000
Student Research Conference (SRC)

FAQs:
- 2017 was the 11th annual conference (first coordinated by someone with the job to do so)
- In every year since 2012 we have more than 300 student participants;
- Since 2011 we have had more undergraduates than graduate students;

2017 initiatives
- Four presentation formats (poster, oral, creative, lightening)
- Direct outreach to legislators and local business
- Highlighted: Vermont-based research, FabLab, Design Thinking, Davis Center Student curators
- “Next Steps for your research” – Catamount Innovation Fund, Career Center, Fellowships Office

2018 Initiatives
- Engagement with local business
- Emphasizing student professional development throughout year leading up to SRC (partnership w/ Career Center)
- SeaGrant

Fellowships by the numbers

AY18
- ~74 applicants
- ~47 nominees
- ~2 finalists
- ? winners

AY14
- 61 applicants
- 48 nominees
• 20 finalists
• 12 winners

New info: FOUR@uvm.edu

The RSCA is being asked to be the advisory board for the Fellowships, Opportunities, & Undergraduate Research Office. In the past they have done targeted approaches, using the RSCA as an advisory board would make this a more wide spread approach. The Fellowships, Opportunities, & Undergraduate Research Office is also asking for RSCA members to serve on Fellowships, Opportunities, & Undergraduate Research Office student review committees. The Student Research Conference committee is one of the committees that could benefit from RSCA involvement.

3. Old Business. There was no old business discussed.


   a. Richard Galbraith. Research infrastructure
   b. Brian Prindle. SPA
   c. GUND Institute
   d. Jim Vigoreaux. Open Access Training spring workshop
   e. Burack Lectures
   f. PSC Operating and Voting Procedures. RSCA new member guide
   g. More crossover between faculty senate committees and faculty senators

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57pm

The next meeting of the RSCA is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2018 from 12:30 – 2:00 in 427a Waterman.