

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 3, 2016 MEETING

I. Time, Location and Attendance

- 3:30PM, Plaza Room at Administrative Center
- RAC members present: Lawrence Dreyfus, Tony Caruso, Maureen Hannoun, Kathleen Kilway, Mary Walker, Mark Johnson, Paula Monaghan-Nichols, Mark Nichols, Jim Murowchick, Peter Morello, Eric Anderson, Ann Cary, Anil Kumar, Chris Holman, Robert Groene, Jennifer Lundgren, Brenda Dingley, Denis Medeiros, and Leslie Burgess.

II. Introductions

- Members introduced themselves and welcomed new member, Peter Morello, who will represent the Humanities areas of the College of Arts and Sciences.

III. FFE Application Summary

- Dr. Dreyfus explained that the main focus of the meeting will be to discuss a plan for reviewing the 2016 Funding For Excellence Applications. He said members have been emailed invitations to download the applications via UMKC DropBox. This year brought 31 total applicants with 7 subject areas: Education (1), Engineering & Applied Sciences (5), Humanities (3), Life Sciences (6), Natural Sciences (6), Social Sciences (6), Visual & Performing Arts (4). Faculty representing 18 departments from 8 Colleges and Schools applied.
 - A summary of the FFE applications was emailed to members and can be found on the RAC webpage [here](#).

IV. FFE Scoring Matrix

- The scoring matrix was distributed to members, the document updated from the previous year to allow for more commentary and feedback to applicants. Members provided suggestions for updating the document and it was concluded that instead of a 1-5 ranking scale they would adopt the scale used by NIH, which provides 1-9 ranking with definitions for each number, where 1 is exceptional and 9 is poor. Consideration for the budget and timeline were added, along with a question explicitly asking reviewers for the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal.
- Dr. Dreyfus explained that these changes will be made and the updated score sheets will be emailed to members.

V. Assignment of FFE Reviewers

- Dr. Dreyfus said RAC members will be reviewing the applications as a committee and if any subject areas are lacking reviewers then outside faculty will be asked for assistance. It was noted by Paula Monaghan-Nichols that there were resubmissions

amongst applicants and it was concluded that although Dr. Dreyfus will strive to have the same reviewers from last year for those, each should be viewed as a new application with reviewers providing new feedback and analysis.

- It was decided that there will be three reviewers assigned to each application. Dr. Dreyfus said a spreadsheet listing all the applications with name and subject area will be distributed to members to choose which proposals they feel comfortable reviewing, with three levels of review to choose from. He also asked that members note any applicants they may have conflict with reviewing on the sheet.
- Dr. Dreyfus asked that members return the sign-up sheet by Friday, October 7th.

VI. Timetable for Review

- Dr. Dreyfus suggested two review meetings, with an initial 3-hour discussion and a follow up later on. Keeping in line with the current RAC schedule, Dr. Dreyfus said they will aim to schedule them on Monday afternoons.