2017-2018 University Research Advisory Committee Report

Chair: Michael Summers
Committee members: Claudio Cioffi, Bijan Jabbari, Amy Hutchison, Kim Sheridan, Gerald Hanweck, Christiann L Esposito-Smythers (ex-officio)

Mike Summers who had been elected as the chair of the University Research Advisory Committee in the previous year for (2016-2017) convened a meeting on October, 2017 to recap our progress during the previous year and to set goals for the 2017-2018 academic year. During this meeting we discussed the make-up of the committee and agreed that the committee would benefit from having June Tangney continue as an ex-officio member. There was also a discussion of term limits, as which time the committee decided to have all members continue on the committee since everyone had completed less than a year of service. It was determined that Mike would discuss these decisions with Keith Renshaw.

Updates from the Summer (2017) included Mike’s work with J.J. Davis to ensure that graduate students with fellowships funded by the National Science Foundation would be eligible to receive health insurance through George Mason. Mike reported that an informal agreement was established regarding how to remedy the situation.

In new business, the committee determined that it would be useful to have data from peer institutions regarding how funds received as indirect costs from grants are managed and spent.

After the committee’s first meeting, Mike resigned as chair of the committee for medical reasons. The committee has not elected a new chair and has not met since that time.