

**University of Minnesota Duluth
 Research Scholarship & Creative Activities Subcommittee Meeting
 MINUTES 05/10/2024**

Useful links:

[Shared Governance documentation](#)

[RSCA Shared Drive](#)

[Past meeting minutes](#)

Voting Members (mark with x for present)

X	Jessica Hanson	X	Harsh Jain	X	Alex Frie
X	David Beard	X	Alyssa Boardman	X	Brian Barry or Christopher Filstrup
	Wenqing Zhang		Jay Austin		<i>vacant</i>

Non-voting Members (mark with x for present)

	Bekky Vrabel		Sally Bradt	X	Erik Brown
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Other Attendees

X	Josie Peña (Staff Support)		Jill Crawford-Nichols		
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1. [Meeting Link](#)
2. **Approval of [2024-04-26 RSCA Minutes](#)** Harsh motions to approve minutes. David seconds a motion to approve. Six of six voting members approved.
3. **Theme and speaker prioritization for SDL ([Endowed Speakers folder](#))**
 - a. [Endowed Speakers Folder](#). The following speakers have been approved by the Office of the Chancellor and Development.
 - i) [Saleem Alhabash](#)
 - ii) [Melanie Mitchell](#)
 - iii) [Christina Shim](#)
 - iv) [Tinglong Dai](#)

The overall budget for this program is around \$21,000. The goal of the RSCA subcommittee is to keep the honorary(s) cost at around \$15,000.

Harsh speaks of Wenqing's interest in inviting Tinglong Dai. Harsh adds that Tinglong Dai has compelling enthusiasm to come speak at UMD on A.I. topics. Harsh suggests inviting Christina Shim and Tinglong Dai to the team with Melanie Mitchell as a back-up if costs allow.

Alex concurs with Harsh's choice to invite Tinglong Dai, however, he would like to extend an invitation to Saleem instead of Christina.

David questions, "Is...somebody excited that [Christina] is coming?" The audience being interested in the chosen speaker is a persistent criterion of David's vote. Erik agrees with David's criterion and labels it as important.

Jill expresses her point of view by stating she would not want to compromise the quality of the speaker for any reason and asks if interviewing these candidates to make a more thorough decision.

Jessica, Alyssa, and Brian all agree that they trust the subcommittee who recommended these speakers.

Harsh offers the team to take a vote to determine who should be invited to speak at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

The vote ruled in favor of extending an offer to Saleem and Tinglong Dai. This is not a binding vote. Results are subject to change.

The Ballroom has been reserved for 10/29/2024.

b. Update on Contact in Chancellor's office:

- i. Wendy Larrivy: Wendy is transitioning to the UMD Athletics department. Starting July 1st Sara Fitzgerald (sfitzge2@d.umn.edu) is the alternative contact.

c. Website for RSCA

- i. Erik was working on finding a spot to host a website for the RSCA and the work they do. The Community Engagement Office might be a solid location for a webpage. He met with Cheryl Skafte (cskafte@d.umn.edu) to discuss this in further detail. More to come.

4. Ad hoc committee on EVCAA Grants Program Reporting (Jessica, David, Harsh)

- a. [Improvement Recommendation Document](#) Jessica shares that there were a total of five applications with three external reviewers. There was discussion about eliminating some of the criteria that was scored. Of the five applications, only two

stood out as fundable. All applicants were contacted at the end. One of which asked for a debrief.

5. RSCA Faculty Senate representative report out/up (David)

- a. Controversy arose about comments that were made regarding UMD and its budgetary sustainability in comparison to St. Cloud State University's current financial situation. Some would argue the University of Minnesota Duluth's position is not equivalent to St. Cloud's for several reasons.

It was recommended that faculty come with program proposals ready for the first curriculum committee meeting within your college for Fall semester 2024. In contrast, feedback during the Senate meeting for proposal changes to majors was not adequate in detail.

6. 2024-2025 Chair Election/Discussion

- a. Jessica was nominated in the last RSCA meeting on Fri., April 26 to become 2024-25 Chair and she has accepted this nomination.

Harsh asked the group to complete an election in the current meeting, May 10. The vote ruled in favor of Jessica as new Chair.

7. RSCA Happy Hour/Social - May 10, 2024, starting at 1600.

- a. Join us for an end of the 2023-24 school year social hour on Fri., May 10 from 1600 to 1700 at Tavern on the Hill.

8. Next Meeting: To Be Determined

- a. The next RSCA Committee meeting will be scheduled in August 2024.