

Senate Research Committee (SRC)
September 14, 2020
Minutes of the Meeting

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on the senate, the administration, or the Board of Regents.

[**In these minutes:** University Senate Overview; Covid-19 Update; MN-GEMS Update; Research Openness Requests]

PRESENT: Julie Olson (chair), M. Saleem Bhat, Krista Brackman, Chris Cramer, Gregory Cuomo, John Freeman, Kelsie Full, Sumanth Gopinath, Ole Gram, Leslie Kennedy, Diana Karwan, Tucker LeBien, Katsumi Matsumoto, Dianne Neumark-Sztainer, Nicole Pilman, Jayanthi Sasisekaran, Shashi Shekhar, Susannah Smith, Kathleen Vohs, Carston Wagner, Tamara Walsky, Abdi Warfa, Pamela Webb

REGRETS: Tasoulla Hadjiyanni, Nelson Rhodus

ABSENT: Lisa Johnston, Daniel Heemstra, David Roberts

GUESTS: April Coon, associate director, Sponsored Projects Administration; Graham Candler, chair, SRC Research Openness Subcommittee

OTHERS ATTENDING: Bri, Keeney, Boyd Kuhmer

Chair Julie Olson welcomed the committee and the members introduced themselves.

1. University Senate Overview

Bobbie Erichsen, senate associate, University Senate Office, provided an overview of University Senate Governance, and how the Senate Research Committee fits into that structure.

2. COVID-19 Update

Chris Cramer, vice president of research, introduced himself and welcomed new members. He then provided the following updates:

- The University is facilitating roughly 80% of the research activity that was being conducted pre-pandemic. Researchers are largely back on campus, but labs have been de-densified, which has impacted research output. Human participant research is slowly reinstating as the University becomes more comfortable with control and safety measures.
- The federal government gave the University authority to continue to pay researchers that were unable to work through late June 2020. The Office of Management and Budget has issued authority to continue to pay people in this way, as long as all other funding options have been exhausted.

- Core facilities have accumulated roughly 6-7 million dollars in deficits during the shutdown of University operations. There is current legislation pending to grant federal dollars to address these costs.

3. MN-GEMS Update

April Coon, associate director, Sponsored Projects Administration, thanked members for their [letter of support for the MN-GEMS project](#) on March 19, 2019, and provided members with a [MN-GEMS Status Update](#). Coon told members that the project will be presented to the Board of Regents on October 9, 2020 for funding approval.

4. Research Openness Requests Introduction/ SRC Responsibilities

In advance of committee reviews of the current research openness requests, Pamela Webb, association vice president, Sponsored Projects Administration, reviewed the [Board of Regents Policy: Openness in Research](#) with members. She also explained that the committee has been asked to review a number of exceptions, which the committee will vote on, and then the vote and recommendation will be passed onto Vice President Chris Cramer for a final decision on the requests.

5. Current Research Openness Requests

Graham Candler, chair, SRC Research Openness Subcommittee, presented four exception proposals. The committee voted to approve three proposals.

With no further business, Olson adjourned the meeting.

Bobbie Erichsen
University Senate Office