


**MEMORANDUM**

To: Timothy Newman  
President, Faculty Senate

From: Darren Dawson   
President

Christine W. Curtis  
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Subject: Response to Faculty Senate Resolution 2021-13 Amendment to Chapter 5 of the  
Faculty Handbook

Date: March 19, 2021

The Faculty Senate Resolution 2021-13 states

The Vice President of Research and Economic Development and the Vice President of Academic Affairs (Provost) will act as Co-Chairs of the Faculty Research Task Force. The Faculty Research Task Force will be comprised of the two Faculty Senate members of the Research Council and three additional members appointed by the Faculty Senate. As a guide, the five Faculty Senate members of the Task Force shall represent at least four different Colleges. The Faculty Research Task Force is expected to meet at least once a semester, and special meetings may be called at the request of any Task Force member. The Task Force is charged with reviewing policies, procedures, and practices regarding faculty involved in funded research.

The proposed amendment to Chapter 5 of the Faculty Handbook was shared with the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development. Dr. Robert Lindquist, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, seriously considered the amendment and stated, “Although I welcome the idea of a task force focused on research within the Faculty Senate, this task force should be championed and led by members of the Faculty Senate.” He does not see any need to amend Chapter 5 of the Faculty Handbook. He further explained, “The Research Council already provides the forum in which the task force can present any findings or suggestions. It might be wise to have a representative from Faculty Senate on the Research Council be designated as the chair of the faculty research task force.” Dr. Lindquist also stated that he is willing to meet with the Faculty Senate to discuss research and answer any questions that the Faculty Senate may have regarding research.

We do not see the need for the Amendment to Chapter 5 of the Faculty Handbook, because the Faculty Senate already has two representatives on the Research Council. Faculty Senate Resolution 2021-13 Amendment to Chapter 5 of the Faculty Handbook is not accepted. We support Dr. Lindquist's suggestion that the Faculty Senate set up a Research Task Force to address the research needs and concerns of the faculty.

Cc: Robert Lindquist, Vice President for Research and Economic Development