RFOEC Meeting

Date: 9/24/2020
Time: 12:00 pm

Participants: RFOEC, Vice Chancellor for Research

Location: Zoom

Attending: Christine Portfors, Kevin Fiedler, Paul Skilton, Sara Petersen, Bin Yang, Robin Mays, Janet Peters, Kathleen Cowin, Ryan Learn

Agenda Items:

I. Introductions
   a. Roles + Responsibilities for VC for Research
      i. Assist Faculty in Grant Writing
         1. Group Training Sessions/Workshops
         2. Individual Faculty Assistance
      ii. Coordinates systemwide work with Office of Research and The Graduate School
      iii. Large Remit; can focus on priorities that she develops.
      iv. Faculty Support for Research
         1. Mentoring
         2. New Faculty Orientations
         3. Workshops
         4. Promotion Coaching
      v. Point of Contact for Grad Student Questions

II. Graduate students at WSUTC
    a. Discussion of who recruits graduate students
    b. Issues around assignment of RA’s at TC vs Pullman

III. Research
    a. Expanded Definition of research to include non-Tenure line
    b. Concern about priority of research on campus
       i. Implications for attracting TT/Grad students faculty to campus
       ii. Insufficient campus investment in Grad Student support.
       iii. Lab equipment/facilities are insufficient for modern research purposes
    c. Work is being done to establish what F+A resources are coming in/available on campus.
    d. Limitations of Small university with research intensive program.
i. Inability to subsidize research programs with tuition dollars
ii. Question of strategic investment of resources
e. Structural Issues
   i. Budget Model presents issue for tenure-line faculty.
   ii. Service obligations/Leadership are problematic in that they rely on TT faculty.
      1. Could possibly be shifted to Career track faculty
f. Hiring of synergistic/collaborators
g. Choice between Research Intensive vs Comprehensive University
h. Current lack of campus support for promotion

IV. RFO VC for Research Collaboration
   a. Opportunities to Support faculty in Promotion
   b. Mentoring Committee for Assoc

V. COVID Impacts
   a. Working to ensure equity and inclusion and accommodations for faculty expectations
   b. Service/Research balance adjustments for Tenure/Career track faculty.

VI. Continuing efforts to Define + Communicate responsibilities
   a. First point of contact for questions should be home academic directors.