

**Council of Principal Investigators and Research Administrators**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**September 16, 2021, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm**  
**WEBEX**

**MINUTES**

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**Attendees:** Mark Besonen, Trent Thigpen, Jordan Greer, Erin Hill, Gina Concannon, Judd Curtis, Daniel Newmire, Tianxing Chu, Michael Starek, Joseph Mollick, Faye Bruun, Celil Ekici, Gina Glanc, Ruby Mehrubeoglu, Aaron Baxter, Alexa Hight, Heather DeGrande, Nandi Daru, Mike Wetz, Patricia Spaniol-Mathews, Patrick Crowley, Devon Steffan, Feiqin Xie, Deanna Crites, Xinping Hu, Kyoung Eun (Kelly) Lee, Jennifer Epley-Sanders

**Absent:** Jeffrey Turner, Carmen Osier

**Alternates:**

**Guests:** Gina Concannon- Interim Director OSRA, TAMU-CC

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Quorum present

1. **Guest Speaker:** Gina Concannon, Interim Director OSRA, TAMU-CC. 20-minute presentation with 10-minute Q/A
  - Gina has 20 years experience in research administration.
  - She has been with OSRA for one month and will do double duty and continue her position with CBI as well.
  - Gina gave an overview of the current OSRA structure and staff.
  - OSRA will be providing training and Gina asked CPIRA for topics of interest.
  - Discussion about the importance of the OSRA website to be updated.
  - Discussion about collaborative awards/proposals and the support OSRA can provide to PI's.
2. **Meeting called to order by Mike at 11:32 am.**
3. **Approve Meeting Agenda.**
  - **MOTION: All in favor.**
4. **Approve August 2021 Meeting Minutes**
  - **MOTION: All in favor.**
5. **Alternates/Guests introduced.**
  - None
6. **New CPIRA Representatives Term Expire 8/2024**
  - Jennifer Epley COLA
  - Patrick Crowley COB
  - Joseph Mollick COB
  - Deanna Crites CBI
  - Xingpin Hu HRI
  - Devan Steffan CBI
  - Feiquin Xie S&E

- Kyoung Eun (Kelly) CONHS

**7. CPIRA Representatives-Terms Extended (Term Expires 8/2024)**

- Dr. Joseph S. Mollick, COB
- Dr. Jeffrey Turner, COSE
- Carmen Osier, HRI/RA
- Nandi Daru, CLA/RA

**8. CPIRA Representatives Finishing Term of PI's No Longer at TAMUCC (Term Expires 8/2022)**

- Dr. Feiqin Xie (Dugan Um), COSE
- Dr. Xiping Hu (Judson Curtis), HRI

**9. Ex-Officio Faculty Senate Update(s)**

- Discussion about the budget analysis committee and how it may relate to research.
- CPIRA and Senate working on a joint COVID Impact(s) survey.
- P&T policy is being reviewed and Mike S. is on the review committee.

**10. Ad-hoc Scholarly Librarian Update(s)**

- OA applications are being accepted.
- Funds will be available on a first come first serve basis.
- Library will offer workshops starting this Fall 2021. Information will be sent out after the meeting.

**11. CPIRA Committee Updates**

I. Research Administration Development & Training

- Daniel Newmire is the new Chair.
- Carmen O. is staying on the committee.
- Research Week is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2022.

II. Facilities

- Jeffrey is attending monthly facility meetings with Dawson.
- Jeffrey asked for more CPIRA Reps to join this committee from different colleges.
- Patricia M. is also on the committee.
- Patricia gave an update on the new Title 5 grant.
  - 38K is for facilities in STEM learning areas to upgrade rooms/labs.
  - FY 22 Title 5 money will be available on 10/01/2021.

III. Operations & Communications for Sponsored Projects

- Trent asked for more members to serve on committee.
- Xingping volunteered to serve on this committee.

IV. Graduate Recruitment & Retention

- In-depth discussion about TA's and overloads.
- Committee wants to revisit tuition stipend support for graduate students.

V. Bylaws, Elections, Rules, & Procedures

- New CONHS member Kyoung Eun (Kelly) Lee.

VI. Roles and Responsibilities

- Deanna is the new Chair.
- Committee is still waiting on R&R Matrix and OSRA Handbook from R&I to review changes.

## 12. Other Business

- I. R&I Updates
  - I. R&I Staff
    - IACUC & IBC Coordinator
      - John Scarpa is the new hire.
    - Export Control:
      - No update.
    - Post Award Positions:
      - Search in ongoing.
    - CCCR Director:
      - Search failed.
    - Grants & Contract Analyst
      - New R&I position that will be posted soon.
    - AVP for Research
      - Colleen Fitzgerald left TAMU-CC for a VP position.
      - Position will open soon.
  - II. Strategic Plan Review
    - CPIRA was asked to provide comments on the plan by 10/1/2021.
    - EC is currently reviewing the plan.
- II. TAMU CC Rules Review
  - Mike sent the two rules that are being proposed to Council for comment. Please see the email for details.
- III. Compliance
  - Discussion of current compliance issues impacting researchers.
  - Mark sent a letter to Rebecca with PI concerns.
  - In-depth discussion about compliance concerns that have reached the breaking point.
  - PI's and a few CPIRA members are setting up an in-person meeting with Compliance.
- IV. Impact of COVID-19 Survey
  - Survey for faculty and staff is being worked on by CPIRA and jointly with Faculty-Senate.
  - Gina gave an update on the survey and tentatively will be finished by the end of semester.
- V. Scientific Diving Safety & Maintenance
  - Ad hoc committee has met three times to review the diving safety fee changes.
  - A report was drafted but has not been released.
  - No major updates.
- VI. Intellectual Property
  - R&I is aware of the IP issues and challenges on campus.
  - **This item was tabled.**
- VII. TA Workload
  - **Tabled.**
- I. **Adjourn: 12:30 pm.**
  - **MOTION: All in favor.**