

BFC Research Affairs Committee
Meeting on November 10, 2023

Attendees

Lana Spendl
Karen Rogers
Ben Kravitz
Seth Freedman
Kaylie Porter Hash
Ashley Clark
Cindy Hmelo-Silver
Dan Tracey
Wen Qi
Brea Perry (joined 11:15)
Jillian Kinzie (joined 11:20)

We began with an update about the Kinsey Institute.

Indirect Cost Return

There was a suggestion to use the 10% returned to the PI as an incentive for recruiting. There were also concerns about units on campus being used to subsidize new departments or new major initiatives.

The Provost has authorized Brea and Carrie to write incentive programs that deal with how UA moves and manages money. Some of these things will have to go through BFC, for example standards of distribution of effort. All programs will be vetted with BFC committees, center directors, deans, etc.

Brea is highly motivated to come up with good policies because she'll have to live with these policies.

Specifics:

- There will be waivers to save up money for equipment or field studies to get around balance limits.
- We need a friendly bridge funding policy.
- Can we act sooner, buying people time to write their next grant so they don't run out of money?
- This needs to be worked out: If we're incentivizing people to spend their money, does the school actually have the money?

Animal facilities

Generators for psychology and optometry will be in place in April 2025 (delay due to issues getting materials). According to AAALAC, we are on the road to compliance, but our systems are picking up excursions before Facilities is.

Space

- Consulting firm (ECG) has a much better space survey, meaning they are working with better data.
- ECG is meeting with three faculty groups, 8-10 faculty each – animal users, makers, measurers.
- Brea feels good about the input that they're going to get.
- Report due back this semester.
- Med school did use them for animal research and were happy with the result.
- They will do a site visit.

Hires under OVPR

- There will be an AVP for core facilities reporting to Brea – internal candidates.
- Strong preference for someone who has been a center director and in the bench sciences because that's where many of the gaps are (e.g., space), complementary expertise to Brea.