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**College of Engineering and Computing**

**Faculty Council Meeting**

**December 14, 2022**

**11:30 am – 1:00 pm**

 **Committee members in attendance (Zoom)**: Markondeyaraj Pulugurtha (BME, Secretary), Albert Gan (CEE, Former Chair), Xia Jin (CEE), Mohammad Rahman (ECE), Vladimir Pozdin (ECE), Lufan Wang (Moss), Norman Munroe (Chair, MME), Ibrahim Tansel (MME), Leonardo Bobadilla (KFSCIS, Vice Chair), Wallied Orabi (Moss), Trina Fletcher (SUCCEED), Zachary Danziger (BME), Janki Bhimani (SCIS); Stephen Secules (SUCCEED)

1. The Council Chair briefly summarized the meeting he had with the Department Chairs.
2. New faculty need lab space. Council members felt that clustering and sharing lab space is not a long-term solution. The new lab space construction started and columns are being erected. Building will be completed by May 2024. Also, the Dean/Associate Dean highlighted how they have been addressing the fund-raising issue for the next phase of the building.
3. Chair submitted responses about post-tenure review. In summary, Council felt that it gives more power to governor and non-research entities. The council members expressed that it may be driven by a different agenda rather than improving the research significance and performance. The members are still concerned about who is evaluating the performance and what criteria. The council need to ask the BOG about the criteria. Discipline-specific criteria need to be created. The current status says it has been stopped by the Florida Court. Attracting new faculty will be difficult with this new process. Some members expressed that it seems to be a part of the Stop W.O.K.E agenda.
4. Limited administrative and TA support has been a key concern. Administrative procedures in FIU are slow although the extremely talented and hard-working FIU staff are stretched between too many items. Faculty should suggest an approximate turn-around time for critical document filing such as disclosures and travel reimbursements.

Pre-award: Overall, ORED seems to be understaffed. ORED responds a few days before the deadline and doesn’t see the urgency.

Post-award: Actions such as budget modifications often take a long time. Faculty needs to act on such things sooner. ORED usually notifies faculty a few months in advance. Further correspondence with the sponsor also delays the whole process. Graduate students need to be alerted and sensitized such that they complete the FCOI forms at the earliest. Paperwork to generate subcontracts to other partners take long time, typically several months.

Invention disclosures: Invention disclosures are not followed up even after 12 Months. This needs to be improved. Usually, faculty has to reach out multiple times. Industry files Provisionals within a month while provisional with FIU takes several months. Council is concerned that only one person is in charge of this and it is extremely difficult to handle disclosures from all the faculty.

A council volunteer sent the following draft about the timeline for the disclosure process so they can sensitize ORED.

“We would like to request more information on the timeline of our patent filing process. If a faculty member has a PhD student graduating soon and student’s thesis may have potential invention disclosure to make, or a conference publication coming up and the research paper may have some novel ideas, then what is the timeline that the faculty needs to respect and connect with the ORED team, to ensure timely processing of the invention disclosure and the patent provisional? What are the stages and range of time period that each takes after the provisional is approved until patent is finalized? The above will greatly help our new faculties to plan in advance and also encourage them to file more technology disclosures.”

1. Other subcommittee status: T&P, Awards, IT, Budget Committees need to meet soon.
2. Council need to follow-up on the responses from the “Administration Evaluation and Survey” that was conducted in Spring 2022