**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP**

Date: March 14th 2018

Present: Nirupa Matthan, Brent Cochran, Roman Schumann, Virginia Chomitz (vis webex), Rob Jacob, Mitch McVey.

Regrets: Roger Tobin

Invited Speakers: Paul Bergen, Director of Educational Technologies and Learning Spaces

Jimmy Crott, Strategic Initiatives Advisor, OVPR

**AGENDA ITEMS**

1. **Overview of the Faculty Information System (FIS) by Paul**

Paul provided an overview of FIS. It has been rolled out at Engineering. Briefly, this project was implemented to create a central record of all faculty at the University and provide a scholarly networking platform to potentially help Tufts faculty connect with each other.

Key pieces include:

***Core Data:*** This is tied to PeopleSoft and collects hiring and appointment records for faculty at all Tufts schools whether or not those faculty are paid by the university.

***Scholarly Activity:*** To capture faculty research, teaching and service a database will be created within each school using software called Symplectic Elements. Symplectic aggregates grants activity from the Tufts Research Administration System and teaching information from the Student Information System. Elements automatically inputs and checks for new publications on a regular basis. Library Science students from Simmons’s college are helping with this process

***Annual Activity Reporting:*** Schools may elect to use Elements to support their annual faculty activity reporting process. Elements can be customized to meet each schools need.

***Faculty Profiles and Scholarly Networking:*** Faculty profiles from Elements will be fed to a searchable public profile platform. This part should be finalized by late spring at which point he offered to provide another update.

Issues for consideration brought up by committee members:

* Inviting faculty from the humanities to offer input on FIS, since their needs might be very different from science based faculty
* To encourage cross- campus collaboration, it addition to the faculty search tool, consider including area of expertise, equipment, methodology etc.

1. **Brief overview of the Strategic Planning Initiatives by Jimmy-Postponed**

Due to another AV mix up, room locations at both the Boston and Medford campus had to be changed. The meeting started nearly 30 minutes late, so Jimmy did not have an opportunity to provide the overview of OVPR’s strategic planning initiatives. He also had to leave early for another meeting.

Action Items:

Invite Jimmy Crott to another R&S committee meeting

Work with TSS (Andy Colbert) to fix and prevent AV mix-ups