**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP (CRS)**

Date: January 9, 2019

Senators Present: Mitch McVey, Rob Jacob, Roger Tobin, and Brent Cochran

Regrets: Nirupa Matthan, Jette Knudsen, Misha Eliasziw, Gillian Beamer

Ad hoc member: Debra Berlanstein

**Minutes**

Mitch reviewed the recommendations that the committee discussed at the last meeting regarding the OVPR RBF Recommended Action document.

The committee spent the bulk of the meeting discussing the “Do Now” items from the docoument that were not discussed in December. The following points were raised:

1. The committee agreed that a review of the Tufts Collaborates program is prudent. We wondered how OVPR will measure ‘impact’ of previous and future Tufts Collaborates proposals. The criteria for ‘impactful’ projects, including the amount of time following completion of the project during which impact will be measured, should be explicit.
2. There was general consensus that the creation and distribution of monthly research digest might be better located in Communications, not in OVPR. There was also a desire for a mechanism to advertise important research seminars/performances/speeches across the multiple campuses, but the committee realized that the implementation of such a mechanism is difficult.
3. In addition to thinking about ways to value research that does not come with federal F&A, the committee noted that an additional focus should be on infrastructure to find and apply for non-federal funding sources. Some mechanisms already exist and can be highlighted (e.g. the Pivot funding alert that comes from Community of Science). The committee still needs input from non-science faculty regarding this issue. Mitch has reached out to the SMFA Faculty Senate representative to identify interested individuals.
4. The committee supports the creation of new, informal ways for faculty from different campuses to interact and engage in intellectual exchanges both within schools and across schools (e.g. dinners). There was agreement that these may be better attended if they are coordinated by the Provost’s office.

*Action items:*

Nirupa will compile the committee responses from the December and January meetings, circulate within the committee, and send the document to Simin.

Debra will find out more about room reservation policies for faculty at the various Tufts libraries.

Jette will reach out to the Fletcher school academic dean regarding their overhead policy for visiting faculty.