

BOARD OF REGENTS
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

RECOMMENDATION

MONTHLY REPORT
FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Faculty Affairs Committee Agenda for September 20, 2011 be received and placed on file and the Minutes of the April 14, 2011 meeting be received and placed on file.

STAFF SUMMARY

The topic for the September 20, 2011 Faculty Affairs Committee meeting is a discussion on Academic Advising.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The proposed action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.

University Executive Officer

August 30, 2011
Date

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Board of Regents

Faculty Affairs Committee

September 20, 2011

1:00 – 1:45 p.m.

205 Welch Hall

AGENDA

Regular Agenda

Section 13 Monthly Report and Minutes (*Regent Parker, Chair*)

Status Report

Discussion: “Academic Advising”

Eastern Michigan University UG Student Probation, Retention, and Graduation Rates

Full-time IPEDS FTIAC Cohorts Probation Rates

	First Fall			First Winter			2nd Fall		
	Cohort	Probation	Rate	Return	Probation	Rate	Return	Probation	Rate
Fall 2008	2167	645	29.8%	1924	497	25.8%	1552	266	17.1%
Fall 2009	2196	458	20.9%	2027	357	17.6%	1679	218	13.0%
Fall 2010	1955	405	20.7%	1814	341	18.8%			

All Undergraduate Students Probation Rates

TERM	Enrollment	Probation	Rate	TERM	Enrollment	Probation	Rate
Fall 2008	17283	1918	11.1%	Winter 2009	16161	1493	9.24%
Fall 2009	17780	1732	9.7%	Winter 2010	16911	1407	8.32%
Fall 2010	18554	1732	9.3%	Winter 2011	17520	1419	8.10%

FTIAC Cohort First Year Retention Rates

	2005 cohort	2006 cohort	2007 cohort	2008 cohort	2009 cohort
FTIAC retention (Fall to Fall)	74.05%	70.77%	71.05%	71.62%	76.46%

FTIAC Cohort 4 and 6-year graduation rate

Fall term, FTIAC	2000 cohort	2001 cohort	2002 cohort	2003 cohort	2004 cohort	2005 cohort	2006 cohort
4 yr graduation rate	12.27%	10.53%	10.50%	11.90%	12.28%	12.91%	12.15%
6 yr graduation rate	39.90%	38.84%	35.68%	39.73%	37.70%	NA	NA

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF REGENTS

FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 14, 2011
1:00-1:45 p.m.
205 Welch Hall

Attendees (seated at tables): H. Aristar Dry, J. Bishop, B. Bond, M. Bretting, T. Brewer, C. Charter, E. Contis, M. Evett, Provost and Executive Vice President Kay, S. Moeller, Regent Parker (Chair), M. Rahman, K. Saules, D. Selman, Regent Sidlik, W. Tornquist.

Guests (as signed in):, A. Alvarez, D. Beagen, E. Buggs, J. Carbone, D. deLaski-Smith, A. Dow, C. Emal, J. Feldkamp, L. Findley, S. Francoeur, S. Kersey Otto, P. Leighton, A. Meyer, D. Mielke, M. Nair, H. Neff, R. Nord, S. Pratt, A. Rainville, S. Reslan, D. Ritzenhein, P. Rufe, K. Rusiniak, H. Sachdev, J. Scott, C. Shell, L. Shetron-Rama, R. Sipe, J. Texter, J. Vande Bosch, T. Venner, B. Warren, S. Wellinski, D. Winder

Regent Parker opened the meeting at 1:00 pm and asked the participants seated at the table to introduce themselves. Regent Parker also introduced EMU's newest regent, Beth Fitzsimmons.

Reports distributed to members were; Response from Administration following Special Conference on Research, and Grants and Contracts FY2011 Progress Report (April 14, 2011).

Discussion: "Faculty Research"

Provost Kay began the meeting by introducing the discussion topic and its origin. The three questions posed by Dr. Kay for the discussion were:

- What are the research accomplishments of the faculty?
- What are the challenges, both externally and internally, of research?
- What are the opportunities for future sponsored research?

Dr. Kay invited Wade Tornquist to begin the discussion. Dr. Tornquist gave several examples of successful research projects at Eastern Michigan.

- Institute for Language Information and Technology (ILIT) – Linguistic and Cyber/Digital Research Infrastructure Research
- Institute for Geospatial Research & Education (IGRE) – land use and population studies helping regional governments and local school districts
- Creative Scientific Inquiry Experience (CSIE)
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- Woodrow Wilson Foundation Grant
- College of Technology Coatings research
- Cross-National Analysis of Islamic Fundamentalism, a multi-national study funded by the Office of Naval Research – research conducted by Mansoor Moadel

Helen Aristar-Dry shared ILIT's mission of disseminating information on languages and linguistics (particularly endangered languages) to linguists and other interested parties and developing cyber/digital research infrastructure. ILIT currently has six National Science Foundation (NSF) or National Funding for the Humanities grants. These grants primarily develop digital tools for researches. ILIT has 26 researchers and 18 are graduate assistants who work year round. Because of the shift to digital research, ILIT devotes much of its time training these graduate assistants in this new collaborative research.

Ellene Contis explained the importance of faculty research as one side, along with teaching, of the same coin. Performing research with undergraduate students provides them with an experiential education. CSIE was established five years ago with an NSF grant. Its goal is to increase students in the sciences and math (STEM) and graduate them. Students in the CSIE/STEM program are more prepared, and the numbers of STEM students and graduates are increasing.

Regent Parker asked how many students completed the program and how they are admitted to the CSIE program. Dr. Contis replied that 400 students over a five year period have participated in the program. She continued explaining that students are recruited during Fast Track and other admission events based on their interest in science and their educational background. Dr. Contis further clarified that once the students are involved in CSIE for two years, the students' success and on-time graduation increases. Dr. Tornquist asked Dr. Contis to follow up on the systemic possibilities of this program. Dr. Contis replied that NSF looks for sustainability of the program as a measure of success. If they see such success, they will continue their investment in our research.

Susan Moeller shared the purpose of the Special Conference on Research, which was to explore possible support for faculty researchers post award. Dr. Moeller asked Dr. Contis what assistance would be beneficial to her program. Dr. Contis shared that originally the students were in smaller classes, but now the students are imbedded in larger sections. The student also attend (and pay extra for) a research seminar. This helps with sustainability, but it also helps the students who are not part of the CSIE program to perform better and become more involved. Dr. Contis continued telling the committee of the faculty support for this interdisciplinary program to develop clever and innovative community projects for the students.

Dr. Kay asked Caryn Charter to discuss the challenges facing researchers at this time. Ms. Charter focused on the external challenges, specifically the elimination of earmarks. EMU has been very successful in obtaining earmark funding for research, but not will face a more competitive grant environment. EMU's success is because of solid proposals, which are centered on community partnerships. The other external challenge is the elimination of stimulus funding. Because the federal agencies don't know their fiscal year 2011 budget, they have been reluctant to make awards or announce new program competitions.

Regent Parker asked Ms. Charter about the differences between federal grant proposals and foundation and/or business grant proposals. Ms. Charter explained that the process is different. She stated that the federal application process involves a 50-page application which will be reviewed by your peers. With foundations it's more about developing relationships. Business and industry is unique based on with whom you're meeting; you would identify the needs of the business/industry, then present appropriately to the selected audience (scientists, executives, etc.).

Dr. Moeller continued with her concerns by explaining that 40% of the grant funding goes to the general fund for the purpose of providing post award support for the faculty researchers but hasn't seen such support. Regent Parker followed up with an inquiry about what other types of pre and post award support is needed.

Dr. Aristar-Dry shared her feelings that she, and most other faculty researchers, like to write their own grants. She continued by explaining that the Office of Research Development (ORD) is very helpful in provides support and guidance with grant proposals. However, ORD does not have the staff to offer post award support. Supporting post award would entail managing the accounts, help with report writing and hiring personnel.

Dr. Evett brought the discussion back to the importance of research and student mentoring. He invited Karen Saules to talk about her mentoring with student researchers. Dr. Saules' work focuses on bariatric patients and addictions. Her community of learners includes researchers at all levels; doctoral, masters,

and undergraduate. Recently she attended a conference with several of her student researchers, including an undergraduate.

Regent Parker directed the conversation to what types of post award support is needed and how to provide such support. She also suggested utilizing Walter Kraft to reach out to business and industry to explain EMU's research opportunities/capabilities.

Some suggestions of research support are:

- Education on how to do outreach to potential sponsors
- Set aside indirect funds for bridge funding a grant tech between active grants, or base funding for a grant tech position to be utilized by a group of faculty researchers
- Funds for a summer Research Assistant program
- Support for junior faculty in the grant process; teaching or mentoring by more experienced faculty members
- Release time for junior faculty members to work with established grant projects as a fellowship program to help them learn the process and gain experience

Regent Parker thanked the contributors and those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robertta Goffeney, Administrative Secretary
Academic Affairs