Meeting Synopsis:

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the minutes from March 11th, 2015
3. Update on new human subjects records retention requirements - Barbara Benson and Christine Taylor
4. Next steps on open access repository
5. Request from SEC to investigate effects of ABB on interdisciplinary research
6. Meet with Donald Chi (possible new FCR member) proposal for campus wide return of % of indirects to investigators.
7. Facilitating investigators be in compliance with all regulations in place
8. Good of the order
9. Adjourn

______________________________________________________________________________

1) Call to order

Rosenfeld called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2) Approval of the minutes from March 11th, 2015

The minutes from March 11th, 2015 were approved as written.

3) Update on new human subjects records retention requirements - Barbara Benson and Christine Taylor

The guests were not present in the council meeting; the item will be tabled until the next meeting in which the guests are in attendance.

4) Next steps on open access repository

Rosenfeld noted the Faculty Senate approved the FCR’s Class C resolution on Open Access in their most recent meeting. He explained as the resolution is non-binding on administration, there is question of how to continue the initiative of bolstering use of open access at the UW. Lidstrom (president’s designee) noted any funding questions associated with open access would likely go to the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting (SCPB). A member explained that not all cost factors have been taken into account for improving the UW’s open access repository (one component of the passed resolution), but it is likely that the Interim Provost Jerry Baldasty may conduct a full cost analysis for the
proposed project. Rosenfeld noted he is very interested in keeping the initiative at the forefront of the FCR’s agenda in the next academic year.

Rosenfeld explained IPMAC (Intellectual Property Management Advisory Committee) has held numerous public listening sessions on several IP related topics for gathering university input - as the committee is considering revisions to EO 36, the executive order which defines the university’s IP policy. He mentioned that there are concerns over the legality of a university-wide open access policy, and that Sean O’Connor (chair, IPMAC) is one of the main voices of caution on this topic, as copyright law is his area of legal expertise. A member mentioned that IPMAC used to include a subcommittee on open access, which was recently disbanded.

5) Request from SEC to investigate effects of ABB on interdisciplinary research

Rosenfeld explained the SCPB has asked the FCR to investigate the impacts of Activity-Based Budgeting (ABB) on research at the UW. An ABB taskforce has designated three or four major areas of concern relating to ABB, and one of these is “impact on educational interdisciplinary research.” Rosenfeld noted he is not certain how to initially proceed in addressing the questions while simultaneously hearing from a large swathe of faculty for input.

Lidstrom explained there is currently a document which shows “guidelines for collaboration,” which was drafted when ABB was put in place; these are posted on the UW Office of Research website. She also noted that the Office of Research is working on contacting all eligible PIs at the UW, to survey them about their practices for sharing grant funds. Lidstrom noted that sharing practices of indirects varies among units.

After discussion, the council found that broadcasting a survey to UW faculty, seeking feedback on Activity-Based-Budgeting’s effects on their ability to conduct, and be incentivized by collaborative research, might be one of the best options for beginning the investigation. Lidstrom also suggested meeting with the executive committees of research-heavy units, and posing similar questions to those groups that would be included in the survey.

Rosenfeld noted he likes the idea of a survey, as even a small return of data will be useful. He noted he would like the council to bring something back to the SCPB, to give that body an idea of what was found after survey results have been gleaned.

6) Meet with Donald Chi (possible new FCR member) proposal for campus wide return of % of indirects to investigators.

Rosenfeld welcomed Donald Chi (Associate Professor, Oral Health Sciences) as a guest in the council meeting. He noted Chi has been invited because he is a prospective new member to the council, and because he has a background in the discussion of return of indirect costs to PIs to occur in the meeting.

The council held prolonged discussion on the current practices for receiving of indirect costs (grant money spent to support research efforts - money spent on buildings that house research, interest debt,
equipment, maintenance, libraries, and administration) returns, and where the returns are credited – whether that be the research housing unit, an array of units, the university at-large, or an alternative location.

There was a suggested model for instituting a university-wide policy wherein a percentage of all indirects come back to Principal Investigators, for incentivizing further research, especially on behalf of junior faculty. The council discussed this topic in great detail, with a general consensus that this could be implemented only if money was made deductible elsewhere. Lidstrom noted that a service would have to be retired to free up funds for supporting this design. She noted that the new HR payroll system is implementable by way of a tax to all academic and administrative units, and that this will already put a thumb on those unit’s budgets.

Rosenfeld noted the campus-wide indirect returns model may provide an incentive for young investigators, who are having trouble sustaining funding for their research. He explained big labs continue to get funded because they generally boast high productivity. There was some discussion of if research faculty could think of something that they would be willing to give up monetarily - to pave the way for funding a new indirects return model. Members noted that funds have to come from somewhere else, and something will have to go unfunded.

Chi explained that his department has sustained losses of a couple of the center grants in recent years, which he noted might take decades to build back up again. He noted he is interested in investigating what other universities are doing to incentivize research, as he feels the UW is a little behind in this discussion. He explained the UW is losing ground in some key research areas, and issues need to be addressed.

7) Facilitating investigators be in compliance with all regulations in place

Rosenfeld noted the council should consider strategies for reaching out to PIs in helping them with grant proposals – especially relating to compliance with all university, state, and federal regulations. He noted he believes the resources are available for understanding the current regulations, but a plan is needed for dissemination to a larger amount university-wide PIs. Lidstrom suggested an agenda item for a future FCR meeting wherein Joe Giffels (Associate Vice Provost for Research Compliance) would attend and present on current regulations for conducting research, to begin this initiative.

Rosenfeld noted he will invite Joe Giffels and Jim Kresl to attend the first meeting of the fall.

8) Good of the order

Donald Chi noted he would like to confirm his interest in joining the FCR as a faculty member representative. Chi’s appointment to the council will be reviewed and voted on by the Senate Executive Committee and Faculty Senate, as is proper procedure for every faculty member council appointment.

9) Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Minutes by Joey Burgess, jmbg@uw.edu, council support analyst

Present:  Faculty: Gina-Anne Levow, Benjamin Marwick, Michael Rosenfeld (chair), Daniel Vogt
Ex-Officio reps: Diana Louden, Tom Gebert
President’s designee: Mary Lidstrom

Absent:  Faculty: Cecilia Aragon, Mark Haselkorn, Todd Scheuer, Tueng Shen, Juliet Shields, John Slattery
Ex-Officio reps: Steve Carlin