Proposal to create a Research Council

Background:
Research, scholarship, and creative activities comprise one of the three pillars by which faculty are evaluated. For many of us it is also part of our professional identity as faculty. There are a number of committees on our campus that approve or fund faculty research, including the Human Subjects Committee, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), and the Scholarly and Creative Activity Committee. While the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs manages/disburses a majority of the external grant funds faculty receive, we do not have one institutional space for faculty to review, provide guidance for, or be consulted on policies related to research.

We propose to add a Research Council to the Faculty Assembly so that shared governance can inform research policies.

Purpose:
The Research Council will review and recommend policies and procedures relating to moral and ethical concerns of research and other matters involving support and furtherance of research within the University.

The Research Council may also provide consultation on:

- Scholarship of teaching and learning
- Grant buyout policies
- Facilitate transparency in policies

The full proposed bylaws language is on the next page.
ARTICLE XXI

[Note: This will be article 21, and will imply renumbering and changes to Article 12]

Section 1. Membership
a. The Faculty Assembly shall elect seven voting faculty members with staggered three-year terms. Three shall be elected from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, one from each of the following three groups: (1) Humanities, (2) Social and Behavioral Sciences, and (3) Natural Sciences, Computer Science and Mathematics. One shall be elected from the School of Education. One shall be elected from the School of Business. One shall be elected from the School of Communication, Media and the Arts. One shall be elected from the Library.

b. Ex-officio voting members shall include:
   a. The chair of the Scholarly and Creative Activity Committee (SCAC)
   b. The chair of the Human Subjects Committee
   c. The chair of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
   d. The chair of the Interdisciplinary Studies and Activities Center (IPAC)

c. Ex-officio non-voting members shall include:
   a. The Provost or designee
   b. The Associate Provost for Research Development

Section 2. Functions
a. The Research Council will review and recommend policies and procedures relating to moral and ethical concerns of research and other matters involving institutional support and furtherance of research within the University.

b. The Research Council will create policies for all SCAC research funding awards, including faculty and student research funding.

c. The Research Council will be the decision-making body for President’s and Provost’s Awards for Scholarly and Creative Activities and Provost Mentorship Award
b. The Research Council may also provide consultation on: the scholarship of teaching and learning; grant buyout policies; facilitate the transparency in policies

c. A representative of the Research Council shall sit on the Academic Planning Committee of the Assembly Executive Board.

d. One member of the Research Council must report the activities of the council at every meeting of the Faculty Assembly.