

University Research Council
June 5, 2025
4:00 – 5:00 pm, 334 Bascom

MINUTES

Attending: *Council Members (voting):* John Berry, Lisa Cooper, Alfonso Del Rio, Simon Gilroy, Mike Graham, Justin Hougham (on-line), Florence Hsia (on-line), B. Venkat Mani, Adel Talaat, Paul Wilson (on-line), *Council Member (ex officio, voting):* William Karpus. *Council Members (ex officio, non-voting):* Lonnie Berger, Cindy Czajkowski, Dorota Grejner-Brzezinska, Mark Rickenbach, Petra Schroeder, Amy Wendt. *VCR Office:* Kathleen Ruby, *Guests:* Julie Scharm
Absent: Lauren Bishop, Rama Maganti, Nadine Connor, Kurt McMillen

1. Welcome and Introductions

- a. Dorota gave a brief personal introduction, as this was her first official meeting. She also spoke about her vision for campus research; and gave an overview on current federal disruptions and campus-level responses.

2. Institute on Aging 5-year Center Review (Lonnie Berger)

- a. Lonnie provided an overview of the review.
- b. URC unanimously voted to approve the review. Mike Graham abstained from voting due to his official membership starting on July 1.

3. OVCR Strategic Planning Process (Dorota Brzezinska)

- a. Discussed the recent hire of Urban Impact Advisors, consultants to help with the upcoming strategic planning efforts beginning this summer.
- b. Lewis-Burke was also mentioned as the research arm for the university.

4. Review of FY25 WARF-Funded Initiatives (Cindy Czajkowski)

- a. Provided a summary of key initiatives supported by WARF in FY25 and a preview of upcoming initiatives/directions.

5. Discussion: Research Continuation Initiative (Concept)

- a. A proposal for a new WARF-funded initiative to support researchers impacted by federal funding disruptions
- b. Asked the council for their input in regards to gaps in current campus bridge funding, as well as priorities and principles to ensure continuity and resilience in research