

Call to Order
Co-Chair M. Galilee-Belfer called the meeting to order at 8:19 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of October 19, 2016
The minutes of October 19, 2016 were approved.

Updates
Provost Comrie updated the Committee concerning the upcoming November 18, 2016 ABOR meeting here at UA. There will be brief opening remarks followed by presentations by Provost Comrie, Melissa Vito, Gregg Goldman and Kim Espy. ABOR has provided two templates through which UA metrics and descriptions will be presented.

Provost Comrie and J. Florian met with the Heads Up group to address issues around RCM administrative fund allocations. The Provost noted that the (former) RCM Steering Committee will become the RCM Oversight Committee, and will address structural and other issues as we move forward. J. Florian advised that the RCM website has data by college available to any users interested in seeing activities that produce RCM dollars.

Provost Comrie is preparing to name the members of the Honors College Dean Search Committee, and has appointed Elliott Cheu from the College of Science as the Interim Dean. Cheu is developing a plan that will be used to engage the campus community and donors alike. Discussion followed about the Honors Vision and expanded support system. K. Urquidez shared issues that have been identified in the admissions process that impact the way the Honors College is viewed and which suggest that a stronger Honors College experience would benefit recruitment and admissions.
Members asked about ABORs review regarding University of Arizona Health Sciences, and were told that ABOR released a press statement on October 26, 2016.

Members asked if there were issues with ASU partnering with the Mayo Clinic in Phoenix. While there may be implications for the UA’s College of Medicine in Phoenix, the ASU piece itself is not an issue, as degrees earned would be through Mayo as opposed to ASU.

Discussion: Kim Espy-Office of Research, Discovery & Innovation
Senior Vice President for Research Kim Espy shared a PowerPoint presentation that is being prepared for the upcoming ABOR meeting and presentation on November 18. She shared an overview of the Never Settle strategies that are being used to grow research and development. In order to accelerate innovation, Espy outlined three key strategies: Promote core strengths, Collaborate with others to increase global impact, and Improve institutional infrastructure. Espy showed which federal agencies currently contribute what percentage of the available UA funds, and where areas of growth could be identified. Hundreds of faculty were involved in planning sessions to develop a vision for growth.

A number of cross-cutting research institute centers were listed, including museums and the ConfluenCenter for Creative Inquiry.

Espy talked about the many innovative investments that have been made across campus and the community. She discussed the numbers and amounts of Research & Development Proposals from FY13 to the present and how those figures translate into Research & Development Awards by count and dollars. She said that the number of unique principal investigators for FY16 has increased by 59 people.

Espy talked about Total Research & Development Expenditures, which are a primary focus for ABOR. The UA exceeded the FY15 ABOR target. She went on to show the impact that research & development has on the Arizona economy, highlighting the recent Osiris REx launch.

A SPBAC member raised a question regarding changes in research fund allocations from ORDI-supported Centers and Institutes to the ORDI central office for distribution, including concerns she had heard around lack of faculty consultation as part of these changes. Espy explained that there have been no changes in fund allocations, and what has changed is that administrative processes and mechanisms for seed funding are now university wide in order to widen the availability and transparency of internal funding, as well as to address the concerns expressed on faculty exit surveys regarding a lack of research support. Espy commented further that faculty still are on the panels that prioritize and recommend funding.

Espy ended her presentation by outlining the course for new investments through Global Research Alliances; Arts, Culture and Heritage; and Interdisciplinary Philanthropy.
Members discussed the risk of missed opportunities for existing and potential funding for social science and the humanities (very broadly speaking) because the primary emphasis of ORDI seems to be on research dollars, and awards in non-STEM fields are typically not of the same magnitude as those in STEM fields. However, the large net impact that more modest awards can have on scholarship and translational research in these fields suggests that broader campus conversations should still be had, and that structures for sharing and assessing support, demand, and strategies across and between units on campus be considered.

Members briefly discussed the impact of UA receiving a full Hispanic Serving Institute (HSI) status designation (UA is already designated as Emerging) and what is still needed to receive HSI designation. This could impact the awarding of specific grants to the UA, though most of these grants would not be through ORDI.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Future Meetings
November 2, 2016  8:15 am – 9:50 am Old Main Boardroom
November 16, 2016  8:15 am – 9:50 am Old Main Boardroom
December 7, 2016  8:15 am – 9:50 am Old Main Boardroom
December 21, 2016  CANCELLED