

**Meeting of the Villanova University
Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee**

Wednesday, April 22, 2020, 8:30-10:00 a.m., via Zoom

Minutes

Present: Aronté Bennett, Samantha Chapman, Alice Dailey (Chair), Angela DiBenedetto, Melissa Hodges, Erasmus Kersting, James Peyton-Jones, Jennifer Ross, Mark Wilson

Not in Attendance: Sohail Chaudhry (NIA), Margaret Lyons (NIA), Michele Pistone

The committee met via Zoom and conducted the following business:

I. Intellectual Property/Patent Policy

In response to the suggestion from the Provost's office that FRRRC had already approved, in substance, proposed changes to the IP/Patent policy at an earlier date, the Chair reviewed FRRRC records in preparation for today's meeting. Although FRRRC reviewed and approved changes to the Royalty Distributions policy in March 2018, no record of other approvals regarding Intellectual Property were found. After considerable discussion, the committee opts to reiterate the position we arrived at in our meeting of March 25, 2020. In sum, we decline to approve any changes to the IP policy at this time for reasons outlined in the minutes for the March 25 meeting. The Chair will convey this conclusion to the Provost's office, along with our insistence that no changes be made to the IP policy in the Faculty Handbook at this time.

II. Open Issues for incoming FRRRC

The committee compiled the following list of issues to be addressed by the incoming FRRRC:

1. Proposed changes to the IP policy (see minutes from February 20, 2020, and March 25, 2020).
2. Proposal to President/Provost of a database to track faculty availability for service appointments (see minutes from February 20, 2020).
3. RPC has identified the need for an appeal/grievance avenue for decisions made by IRB, IACUC, and other oversight boards, particularly when such decisions result in punitive action by the university. The RPC will propose any relevant changes to the Faculty Handbook to FRRRC.
4. FRRRC should request annual updates to the data on faculty composition presented by Dr. Craig Wheeland (see minutes from November 22, 2019).
5. The faculty Ombudsperson, currently Meg Willoughby, reports jointly to FRRRC and the Provost or designee, currently Craig Wheeland. FRRRC must continue monitoring reports from the Ombudsperson, participating in annual review, and collaborating in any discussions about renewal of contract, increase in hours, or expansion of responsibilities.
6. FRRRC should reach out to the chair of the Lindback Committee, currently Dr. Eduard Cassilas, to get an update on how recommendations made by FRRRC in Fall 2019 are being implemented (see all Fall 2019 minutes). Because of COVID-19, no Lindback Award will be given in Spring 2020. It therefore may take well into Spring 2021 for Dr. Cassilas to have concrete information to share.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.