

REPORT OF FACULTY SENATE RESEARCH COMMITTEE (FSRC)
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
APRIL 12, 2012

The FSRC committee met on March 20 and 27. The main item of discussion was the evolving UTSA objection to the new UT System Conflict of Interest Policy. The current draft of the proposed UTSA replacement for the UT System policy makes important changes, notably eliminating the extension of federally-mandated reporting for NIH grantees to all researchers, while also clarifying and narrowing the definition of 'researcher'.

The FSRC recognizes that further changes are imminent, so we look forward to continuing to participate with the administration at UTSA in the process of moving to a final policy. Hopefully, the end result will be a user-friendly policy that will support (rather than hinder) the undertaking of research projects and other intellectual collaborations.

After considerable discussion the committee felt that the changes made by the Office of the VPR in collaboration with the various stakeholders that provided input (including the Chair of the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate representative to the Research Advisory Council) provided an appreciably improved document. The committee felt that some of the language was still difficult to understand, and they would prefer to have some additional clarification of certain points. However, due to the short time for presentation of the policy to system, the committee wanted to present a resolution to the Senate.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the revisions to HOP 10.04 as submitted to the Faculty Senate Research Committee be accepted with the caveat that additional revisions may be forthcoming as feedback from the System is received and that faculty expect to participate in the ongoing process.