

**Appendix A**  
**Five-Year Annual Review**  
**Research Council**

Faculty Senate Committee on Committees  
March 20, 2009

Interviewed Alan Herlihy, Research Council Chair 2008—2009  
Submitted by Margaret Mellinger, OSU Libraries

This review of the Research Council is submitted in accordance with the duties of the OSU Faculty Senate Committee on Committees to review each Faculty Senate committee at five-year intervals using the following criteria established by the Faculty Senate:

1. Do the Standing Rules clearly reflect the function & composition of this committee?
2. Have the committee's actions/function, as reported in the annual reports and based on consultation with the current chair and committee, been consistent with their Standing Rules?
3. Do the annual reports provide a memory of the issues this committee addressed, their activities and any outcomes?
4. What has been the role/benefit of the student members?
5. What connection is there to the University's strategic plan?
6. To what extent does the committee add value to the university and/or faculty governance?
7. If the chair believes the committee does not add value, please explain and address the question as to whether the committee should continue to exist.
8. Does this committee's work enhance OSU's commitment to diversity? If so, how?

The Committee on Committees reports that:

1. The Standing Rules of the Research Council, last revised in May, 2008 clearly reflect the function and composition of this committee.
2. The Research Council's actions as reported in available annual reports and in consultation with the current chair are consistent with the Standing Rules.
3. The committee has regularly submitted annual reports, which are available on the Faculty Senate web site for the committee. The annual reports from the past five years include a listing of the members of the Research Council, a summary of the research proposals reviewed each year, and a summary of any reviews of Centers, Institutes and Programs (CIPS). Annual reports also cover the additional issues faced by the group. One of the issues addressed in the past five years was how to increase the efficiency of the Research Council. Alternate members of the committee now participate fully in the work of reviewing, effectively increasing the

number of reviewers. Additionally, in 2007, the Research Council implemented new policies for both GRF and RERF reviews and instituted procedures for conducting reviews that streamline the work of the committee.

4. There are no student members on this committee.

5. The University's Strategic Plan is not used as an explicit criterion for evaluating and prioritizing GRF and RERF proposals. However, reviewers consider it positive when proposals make effective connections to the strategic plan.

6. This committee adds value to university and faculty governance by supporting the reasonable internal allocation of research funds at this institution. The Research Council also strengthens potential NSF proposals by filtering and offering input on NSF pre-proposals.

7. N/A

8. Research Council's work enhances OSU's commitment to diversity by providing a non-discriminatory, merit-based process for reviewing research proposals.