Research Communications Council Minutes
February 9, 2018

Instead of a guest speaker, February’s meeting featured a special tour of the University’s Rare Book and Manuscript Library, one of the largest special collections in the U.S. The group viewed the Library’s millionth volume selections, including a book printed by Benjamin Franklin and an illustrated manuscript by H.G. Wells. Special thanks to Heather Murphy for arranging the tour.

Updates from the OVCRR
Campus Strategic Planning
- Campus strategic planning is ongoing. Strategic 150 should be finalized in September and will establish goals and focus areas for the next five years.

Cancer Center
- Work at the Cancer Center is under way, and the OVCRR is becoming more deeply involved in communications efforts.

Concluding Research Sesquicentennial Event
- Illinois 150: The 21st Century University and Research for the Public Good, the concluding research event of the University’s sesquicentennial, will gather Illinois faculty, staff, and distinguished guests on April 10 – 12 to address the following topics:
  - Death by Policing: Race, State Violence, and the Possibility of Justice
  - Humanities and Public Life
  - Revolutionizing Brain Plasticity Through Advanced Science, Engineering, and Medicine
  - Technocultural Futurisms: Code, Hack, Move
  - Uniting Infection Biology for One Health

Research Integrity Officer
- Chris Lehmann is the new Research Integrity Officer for the OVCRR. In this role, Chris serves as the intake official for research misconduct allegations and promoting training in the responsible conduct of research for the campus.

Research Report
- The OVCRR has published the annual research report. Contact Tyler Wolpert if your unit needs copies.

Transgenic Mouse Facility
- The Transgenic Mouse Facility is now a part of the Division of Animal Resources. This lab offers mutant mouse model production services to investigators for their research projects. Contact Fuming Pan for more information.
Updates from the Group

Advancement at Illinois

• Advancement is making headway on strategic goals and is seeing momentum on the development front.
• Encouraging institutes to do signature, public facing events, like PRI’s Ancient Cahokia Future Visions Conference.
• Planning is underway for a mid-June event Minneapolis that highlights the Illinois–Mayo alliance.

Beckman Institute

• Illinois faculty members are bringing scholarship to films at Science on Screen, a film series running every Monday between February 12th and March 12th at The Art Theater in Champaign. Find promotional materials here.
• The Beckman Institute will host a free Science Communication Workshop April 17-19 for undergrad and grad students and postdocs to help improve communication about research. The workshop features Sandra Tsing Loh, host of the NPR podcast The Loh Down on Science.

Carle Illinois College of College of Medicine

• The College of Medicine is actively recruiting students for their inaugural class, and they recently had a Chicago Tribune story that units may want to help promote.
• Kara Sauder is a new Digital Media Specialist on their team.

College of Engineering

• Engineering Open House will be on March 9-10. It’s an annual student-led event featuring two days of exciting exhibits and captivating competitions that showcase the talent and ingenuity of engineering students at the University of Illinois.

College of Media

• Dan Balz, Chief Correspondent with the Washington Post will be coming to campus for a speaking event. More information to come.
• Heather Tucker is leaving campus, but she may continue working remotely for some time.

Graduate College

• Winners will be announced soon for this year’s Graduate Image of Research contest and a reception for them will be in April.

IGB

• IGB will host Pollen Power, a week-long summer day camp for girls interested in biological sciences, on July 23 through July 27th.
IHSI

- IHSI is launching Health Disparities, a new seminar series that works closely with faculty, administration, and community partners to identify, expand, and support new research and community-based initiatives to reduce health disparities. The first session on February 20 will be about addressing food insecurity through community engagement.

iSEE

- The CABBI Launch was February 1-2.
- iSEE will launch a Campus as a Living Lab Seed Grant Program soon that will tie researchers to campus sustainability programs or sites with the outcome being a $1M plus proposals going out to a major granting agency.
- The first Critical Conversation is set for May 3-4 at University Place in Chicago.
- iSEE will promote a suite of four lectures including Bill McKibben, an American environmentalist, author, and journalist who has written extensively on the impact of global warming. Details forthcoming.
- Congress 2018 will be in October and is on sustainable cities. More details to come.
- The institute is working to coalesce the Global Climate Change Scholars and corresponding website within the iSEE website.
- iSEE will be hiring a new communications specialist soon and likely another one later this year to accommodate the growing needs of ISEE and CABBI.

LAS

- Stephanie Hilger edited a book that links science and humanities and bridges the gap between medicine and literature.

NCSA

- The NCSA Faculty Fellowship deadline is February 18.
- Proposal submission for the Spring 2018 Blue Waters round of allocations is due March 15.

News Bureau

- Web services is migrating everything to Amazon Web Services.
- Media trainings are available for the spring and summer semesters. Groups typically consist of 20-25 participants and facilitators will travel to units.

Office of Corporate Relations

- OCR is working to new reports that recognize corporate partners, their impact on campus, and what more we can accomplish together. Contact Rashmi Tenneti for more information.
- They’re also restructuring their regular newsletter communications to be more of a knowledge share resource.
Office of the Chief Info Officer

- Dana Mancuso is the new Manager of Media Info and Communications.
- Tech Services is making progress with a research IT portal.

Research Park

- The Agriculture Technology Innovation Summit is on February 28 at the I-Hotel.
- Monsanto has opened a new innovation center in Research Park.
- A Technology Innovation Start-Up Showcase is being planned in collaboration with Northwestern and the University of Illinois at Chicago for September 27 at the Big Ten Center in Rosemont. Details to come.

School of Information Sciences

- The iSchool is working on a new website.
- The Smithsonian featured English and Information Sciences Professor Ted Underwood in an article about the representation of women in Victorian novels compared to modern ones.

University Library

- The Image of Research Reception will take place on April 4, 2018, from 4-6pm in the Main Library.
- The Library faculty and academic professionals will present their research at the 3rd Annual Library Research Showcase on April 10 (details forthcoming).