Section I

Name of Committee: Research and Creative Activities
Submitted by Chairperson: Gregory Stone, Psychology, Associate Professor
Date Submitted: April 19, 2018

Roster:
- Terry Alford, Engineering of Matter, Transport and Energy
- Mary Burleson, Social and Behavioral Sciences
- Deepak Chhabra, Community Resources and Development
- Joseph Comfort, Physics/Emeritus College
- Jon Harrison, Life Sciences
- James Lyons, Earth and Space Exploration
- Marco Mangone, Life Sciences
- Jesenia Pizarro, Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Tom Schildgen, Polytechnic School
- Natalia Wilson, Science of Healthcare Delivery

Overview Narrative:
In its first year as a Senate standing committee, the RCAC has continued ongoing work in two domains of importance in promoting and enhancing research at Arizona State University: 1) improving the research computing resources available to our research community; and 2) increasing ASU’s support for open access publishing practices. To the first end, Brandon Mikkelson and Barnaby Wasson gave a presentation to the committee on the current state of research computing at ASU. We then engaged in an extensive discussion on ways we can work together to optimize usage of those resources.

Section II
Request for consultations reviewed by the committee, their outcomes and RFC will not automatically roll over into the next academic year.

As per RSP-404, OKED submitted two reports to the Classified Research subcommittee of the RCAC (Jon Harrison, Chair)
- During the 2017 calendar year, no classified research projects were initiated and there were no active projects to report on.
- During the calendar year 2017, there were no investigations of misconduct in research to report on.
Section III
Ongoing request for consultations that need to be carried over to the next academic year and their current status.

RFC-111 High Performance Computing follow-up
Outcome: There have been improvements this year in the University's research computing resources. First, significant HPC hours are now available to all Research Faculty. And second, all research computing resources have been consolidated in a new office of Research Computing, which is a unit within OKED. Recommendation: The RCAC has established a collaboration with the office of Research Computing with the goal of improving “customer service.” (i.e., the ease of access to, and utility of, ASU’s computing resources). To this end the RCAC has begun work on a survey of the academic assembly aimed at identifying computing needs. It is recommended that the 2018-19 RCA committee complete and conduct the survey next year.

RFC-147 Explore options for financial support for Open Access Publishing fees
Outcome: last year the University Libraries, with the help of the Senate’s Open Access Task Force, established an open access repository. An open access repository makes the work of ASU’s scholars available for free world wide. Part of the move toward greater open access to scholarship is the rise of journals that charge open access fees. As a result, some universities have established a pool of open access funds for their research communities. Recommendation: We established an Open Access Fees subcommittee (Jim Lyons, Chair). The subcommittee has been in touch with University Libraries, as well as the University of Arizona Libraries, which already have such a program. It is recommended that the 2018-19 RCA committee continue this work, with the goal being to develop a workable model for Open Access Fee support at ASU.

Section IV
Recommendations to the Senate or Final Comments
Thus far, the Research and Creative Activities committee has focused on extensive projects requiring work over multiple years. We started the survey of computing needs project and the open access support project this year. The survey should be completed next year with a report to Research Computing summarizing results and offering recommendations. However, the hope is that the collaboration between the Office of Research Computing and the RCAC will be ongoing. Because the open access support project will culminate in a recommendation requiring University funding, it is hard to anticipate the level of effort that will be needed to develop a workable model.