

Council Concerns

NEWS AND ISSUES FROM THE EMORY UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL

October 2015

Jaffar Khan, Medicine, Chair
Kathryn Yount, Public Health, Past Chair
Kristin Wendland, College, Chair Elect

Angela Amar, Nursing
Kimberly Applegate, Medicine
Henry Bayerle, Oxford
Edmund Becker, Public Health
Lou Ann Brown, Graduate School
Deborah Bruner, Nursing
Tamara Caspary, Medicine
Vincent Cornell, College
Elizabeth Corrie, Theology
Marshall Duke, College
Erica Duncan, Medicine
Christine Dunham, Graduate School
A. James Elliott, Law
Cam Escoffery, Public Health
Jacques Galipeau, Medicine
Jason M. Hockenberry, Public Health
James Hughes, Law
Michelle Lampl, College
David Lynn, College
Kristy Martyn, Nursing
Mimi Newell, Medicine
Elizabeth Pastan, College
Judi Raggi Moore, College
Justin Remais, Public Health
Karen Scheib, Theology
Jason Schneider, Medicine
Patrick Sullivan, Graduate School
Anand Swaminathan, Business
Peter Topping, Business
Frank Wong, Public Health
Holly York, Emeritus

Council Concerns Blog

Text adapted from Kimber Williams and Maria M. Lameiras from the Emory Report. Supported by the Office of the Provost, Council Concerns is published after each meeting of the Emory University Faculty Council. For more information, contact [Ryan LaRocca](#), Graduate Assistant to the University Senate and Faculty Council,

Faculty Counselor Report

At the October Faculty Council meeting, Tamara Caspary reported on her experience as the Faculty Counselor for the Board of Trustees' Investment Committee. Emory University's endowment value reached a record high of almost \$7 billion as of June 30, 2015, earning a 3.6 percent return on investment over the trailing 12 months. Emory Investment Management (EIM), the group that oversees the endowment, continues to maintain a well-diversified portfolio, to invest with best-in-class external partners, and to seek opportunities to add value throughout market cycles. EIM directs the day-to-day operations with four groups: private investments, public investments, buy/sell, and asset management. The investment strategy is research-driven, team-based, and disciplined. Emory's endowment was strengthened by philanthropic gifts totaling \$72 million, representing continued generosity and confidence among donors. Growth was offset by net distributions of \$258 million to support Emory's academic programs and research support. [>>Join the Conversation](#)

Distinguished Faculty Lecturer

Ned Becker, Chair of the Faculty-Peer Mediation Committee, provided update on Emory's Faculty-Peer Mediation process. Faculty peer mediation is a faculty-led, faculty-focused alternative dispute resolution structure and process that is embedded within university-level faculty governance structures. This infrastructure and process seeks to leverage trained faculty neutrals to facilitate voluntary, confidential, informal meditations to help faculty successfully resolve conflicts with other faculty before conflicts escalate. In May, twenty Emory faculty completed the 28 hour peer mediation training course. The course received great feedback from the participants. The next training session is in December. The December course has over 50 applicants, and some applicants are wait-listed for the next May training course. The mediators represent all 9 Emory schools/colleges. [>>Join the Conversation](#)

University Research Committee (URC) Update

The URC chairs provided an overview of the 2015 awards and highlighted changes for the 2016 cycle, first thanking the 60+ faculty volunteers, who read and assessed proposals for their commitment to the peer review process. The chairs also encouraged Faculty Council members to submit nominations for the 2016 Albert E. Levy Scientific Research Awards. The URC awards continue to be short-term, non-renewable grants, capped at the amount specified in each category, available on a competitive basis. Any fees and expenses must fall within that total dollar amount and must be spent within the year of the award. The committee chairs detailed two policy changes for this year's funding cycle: 1) URC applicants may now request funds for student assistance (including graduate students and post-docs), in addition to allowable expenses related directly to the research project submitted; and 2) Interdisciplinary applications with unique potential impact may now present justification for an award in excess of the \$40,000 limit, while indicating if the proposed research project can be completed without additional funds. [>>Join the Conversation](#)

