

## **Research and Creative Activity Committee Chair Report**

Report of February 7, 2023, by Erik Lehnhoff

The committee met on February 7, 2023 with 8 members present. VPR Cifuentes and Jianjun Zhu from the University Research Council attended as guests.

VPR Cifuentes gave a presentation about the Technology Enhancement Fund, which is a bill sponsored by NM Senator Bill Soules. This would provide \$20M which could be used as matching funds for proposals, particularly for infrastructure. More information will be available soon on the RCIS website (<https://research.nmsu.edu/>).

After the VPR Cifuentes left the meeting, the committee discussed Research Institutes and Centers. The issues were four things the VPR would like policy to cover for Centers / Institutes: 1. Creation. 2. Funding. 3. Evaluation / oversight. 4. Sunsetting.

We decided to gather information on how some of our peer institutions managed Centers / Institutes and started a Teams folder in the RCA Teams SharePoint site with information.