

## **2021-2022 Annual Report for the Research and Consulting Committee.**

The Research and Consulting Committee consists of 8 voting members and 1 non-voting members. The voting members include:

Agriculture, Food Systems and Natural Resources: Luis del Rio Mendoza

Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences: Nicholas Bauroth (committee chair)

Business: Jeff Chen

Engineering: Long Jiang

Health Professions: Sanku Malik

Human Sciences and Education: Kyle Hackney

Science and Mathematics: Kendra Greenlee

Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies: Keerthi Nawarathna

The non-voting member is Sheri Anderson with Research and Creative Activity.

The Committee met or communicated as a whole every month or two throughout the year.

The Committee's focus this past year was on issues related to foreign influences, grants, and research. Specifically, the Committee spent time in discussion with the NDSU Office of Research and Creative Activity regarding ways to standardize and make transparent the process through which researchers declare potential foreign influences. This was not an attempt to come up with new policies related to foreign influences. Instead, the Committee sought to help clarify the process of declaring possible affiliations with foreign entities.

The Committee held two Zoom meetings in spring with representatives of the various Colleges regarding faculty concerns regarding the matter of foreign influences. This provided lively discussion as well as a better sense of what is wanted and what should be avoided.

Finally, the Committee engaged with the Conflict of Interest Committee regarding ways of tracking potential issues with foreign influences. The Conflict of Interest Committee would likely be the starting point in any revised process.