

**RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAAC)**  
**1 p.m. on Monday, October 3, 2022**  
**via Zoom**

**Present:**

Jeremy Alajajian	Hector Henry	Carl Mahler
Darlene Booker	Elaine Jacobs	Angelica Martins
Michael Braham	Caroline Kennedy	Laura Moody
Vikki Cherwon	Rachel Ladenheim	Peter Szanton
Jacob Falkiewicz	Stacy Leotta	Mary Welsh
Stafford Farmer	Sherry Loyd	

**Absent:**

Juandra Burris	Laverne Ellerbe	April Schenck
Valerie Crickard	Jordan Rizzo	

The meeting started at 1:02 PM

**Meeting Opening:**

- I. Approval of meeting minutes for 08/01/22 RAAC meeting

Hector Henry moved that the minutes of the August 1, 2022 meeting be accepted as submitted. The motion was seconded by Laura Moody and passed without opposition.

II. Welcome Mr. Michael Braham, Niner Research System Administrator, Office of Research Services  
Mr. Braham was introduced to the Committee as the Niner Research System Administrator; he will be housed in the Office of Research Services. In addition, it was announced that Jordan Rizzo, Academic & Business Services Coordinator at the Belk College of Business has taken the place of Stephanie Sanchez-Esparragoza, who has left the University. Ms. Rizzo was not able to attend this meeting as she was out of the country.

**New Business:**

- III. GCA transition

It was announced that Valerie Crickard would continue working at the University through the following Friday but would then leave to take a position at the UNC System Office. Darlene Booker will serve as the Interim Director of GCA while the University searches for a permanent replacement for Ms. Crickard. The System Office has agreed to allow Ms. Crickard to provide support for UNC Charlotte through November 23, 2022.

- IV. ORS Overview/Updates

Interim Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development Carl Mahler is working with Peter Szanton to develop Memorandums of Understanding with the College of Health and Human Services and with the College of Engineering to integrate research administration services for those colleges into ORS, with the hopes that this integration will be completed by the start of calendar year 2023. Natasha Walton join ORS as the Associate Director of Contracts and Award Management on October 17, 2023.

- V. Niner Research Updates

Mr. Szanton reported that he and Mr. Braham are establishing a process to receive and prioritize requests for changes to Niner Research. Mr. Braham will send out a Google Sheet for requests to update Niner Research and

form a management committee that will review and prioritize these requests and determine whether the changes will affect other aspects of Niner Research. Mr. Szanton noted that some changes can be done “on the fly” but others will need to wait for downtime on the system. Requests can still be made by email as well as by filling in the Google sheet.

Jeremy Alajajian asked for Mr. Szanton to establish a training program similar to the Grants and Contracts Certificate program that was formerly run by Ellen Zavala. Mr. Szanton replied that the certificate program is being revamped this fall, with various aspects of that program (such as how to hire people using research funding) being presented independently. Mr. Szanton expects the certificate program to be re-started in the Spring.

The meeting ended at 1:15.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carl P. B. Mahler, II