

Annual Report 2021  
Faculty Senate Research Subcommittee Report  
Lance A. Liotta MD PhD

The topics of current emphasis for the Faculty Senate Research Subcommittee are three fold for the next **Fall semester**: We request to open the discussion for three topics:

1. Develop a welcoming communication channel for the Senate regarding Faculty research issues with Dr. **Andre Marshall, who has been named Vice President for Research, Innovation and Economic Development** and President of the George Mason University Research Foundation, effective July 1.
2. Formally consider the proposal by Aurali Dade **to consolidate the Faculty Senate Research Subcommittee with the Faculty Advisory Board** for Policy Development (Note 1).
3. Maintaining Mason's R1 "very high research" designation ( Mason is one of 120 institutions with this designation): **How should the faculty senate advise the Mason Leadership and new Vice President for Research on sustaining R1?**(Note 2)

Over the current semester the research committee Chair has been interfacing with Julie Zobel, the Assistant Vice President, Safety, Emergency and Enterprise Risk Management, to oversee and insure the medical accuracy and rigor of the Mason student, faculty, and athlete COVID-19 surveillance testing program, and the transition to anti-COVID-19 antibody testing post vaccine, under full CAP/CLIA medical diagnostic certification CAP:7223012/CLIA:49D2002076 .

Notes:

Note 1. The Proposal by Aurali Dade is to consolidate the Faculty Senate Research Subcommittee with the Faculty Advisory Board for Policy Development ("*The Advisory Board serves as a vehicle for faculty to provide guidance and input into policies related to research at George Mason University. The Vice President for Research appoints the Faculty Advisory Board for Policy Development*".)

The Faculty Advisory Board for Policy Development was officially chartered in 2013. The board serves as a vehicle for faculty to provide guidance and input into policies related to research at George Mason University.

The Vice President for Research appoints the Faculty Advisory Board for Policy Development.

Note 2. By earning the "very high research" (or **R1**) designation, **Mason**—the largest public research university in Virginia—is among an elite group of 120 institutions known for performing at the highest research level in terms of research productivity and impact. How can the faculty, working through their respective Deans, participate in advising the university leadership to proactively sustain the R1 designation? What categories of the education programs, research productivity, infrastructural development, hiring and recruitment activity, outside funding, etc. are crucial for R1 success? How can this be proactively built into educational, staffing, and infrastructural development?