

**COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND RESEARCH POLICY**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016**

The Committee on External Relations and Research Policy had a busy year. Here are some of the highlights.

Concerning research policy, Provost John Coatsworth, EVP of Research G. Michael Purdy, and others met together with the Research Officers Committee. The discussion focused on the difficulties with effort reporting and the fact that research officers in particular, as well as faculty members, devote time to writing new grants and teaching while nearly all their effort is allocated to other government grants. The Provost and Dr. Purdy acknowledged this problem and agreed that mechanisms need to be in place for other sources to cover these efforts.

Rudina Odeh-Ramadan, Associate Vice President for Research Administration, also met with the committee this year to discuss research funding at Columbia University. Best estimates indicated that total university extramural funding was essentially flat from FY14 to FY15 at approximately \$940,000,000. NIH funding decreased by approximately 10% at the medical center but overall funding was roughly constant with increases in other federal and non-federal grants.

With regard to external relations, Maxine Griffith, Executive Vice President for Government and Community Affairs, and members of that office, updated the committee about numerous university efforts in these areas. Among these were plans for retail space in the new Jerome L. Greene Science Center, efforts of the West Harlem Development Corporation and efforts to improve transportation services in the neighborhood. At the same meeting, Peter Pilling, Director, Intercollegiate Athletics and Physical Education, also spoke to the committee. Topics included the physical condition of Dodge Physical Fitness Center and how better to market Columbia's athletes and programs. He also noted Columbia men's basketball participation in the Collegeinsider.com championship (which they ultimately won).

David M. Stone, Executive Vice President for Communications, updated the committee on Columbia's social media efforts and provided several compelling examples of how the university is making great headway in this area.

In a session that overlapped research and external relations, Orin Herskowitz, Director of Columbia Technology Ventures, and Richard Witten, Senior Managing Director of Columbia Entrepreneurship and Special Advisor to the President, updated the committee on efforts to support

startup companies based on university research and various efforts to encourage entrepreneurship at Columbia.

Sen. Howard J. Worman (Tenured, P&S)  
 Chair, Committee on External Relations and Research Policy

<b>External Relations and Research Policy Committee 2015-2016</b>			
Ten.	David R. Bickers	P&S	sen
Ten.	Jeanine D'Armiento	P&S	sen
Ten.	Zoltan Haiman	A&S/NS	sen
Ten.	Janet Metcalfe	A&S/NS	nonsen
Ten.	Eli M. Noam	BUS	sen
Ten.	Howard Worman, CHAIR	P&S	sen
Ten.	Vacant		
Nonten.	William Duggan	BUS	sen
Nonten.	Alice Heicklen	A&S/NS	sen
Stu.	Nikita Singareddy	CC	nonsen
Stu.	Alexandra Greco	CDM	sen
Stu.	Evan Garnick	CC	nonsen
Libraries	William Vanti	Libraries	nonsen
Research Officers	Vacant		
Research Officers	Sylwia Trzaska	Research Officers - Professional	nonsen
Admin.	Karen E. Jewett	Adm	nonsen
Admin.	Naomi Schrag	Adm	nonsen
Alum.	Gerald Sherwin	Alum.	nonsen
Observer	Francesco Lotti	Nonten., CUMC	nonsen