

Resolution Regarding Reinstatement of Faculty Purchasing Card Privileges

On Behalf of the Faculty of Ohio University

Second Reading

December 14th, 2020

Whereas faculty sustain the University's primary mission of the generation & transmission of knowledge, and

Whereas faculty are key revenue generators for the institution through their teaching and research activities, and

Whereas faculty across the institution bring in millions of dollars in grants and awards of various types which, by obligation explicit or implied, must be spent efficiently, without unnecessary delay, and in some cases urgently, and

Whereas the privilege/purpose of having a purchasing card (Pcard) is for convenience as well as to pay for items/services in unexpected or urgent situations that naturally and unavoidably arise, and

Whereas using a Pcard is a particularly natural, convenient, and widely accepted method of payment for specific types of goods and services, and

Whereas the normal procurement channels, while necessary, take a lot more time, weeks in the case of needing to add a new vendor to the university purchasing system, and

Whereas many standard and unfettered Pcard privileges have been taken away from faculty, creating unnecessary delays, complications, and roadblocks, and

Whereas many faculty have been told that pre-approval is now required for ALL Pcard purchases, and

Whereas many faculty have been forbidden to use their Pcards to purchase software even if they have ALL the necessary pre-approvals, and

Whereas many faculty have been given a short 10 business day window to substantiate transactions or else have their Pcard suspended and possibly canceled,

Be it resolved that faculty shall have their Pcard privileges immediately reinstated for essential university business purposes, as detailed below, when charged to those accounts under the direct control of a faculty member, including external grant funds, Research Incentive funds, and other funds previously granted to the faculty member for these purposes, and

Be it resolved that faculty Pcard privileges for spending on these funds shall not be diminished or revoked in the future, and

Be it resolved that faculty shall have the right to use their Pcard *without* pre-approval to pay for the following items: professional society memberships, conference registrations, airline tickets (unless a university travel agent is required to be used), train tickets, and other necessary business travel tickets, hotel rooms, airport parking, and taxi, and

Be it resolved that faculty shall have the right to use their Pcard *without* pre-approval to purchase essential scholarship/research-related items quickly which cannot wait for the normal procurement channels including laboratory supplies, computer hardware supplies, poster printing, and photocopying, and

Be it resolved that faculty shall have the right to use their Pcard *without* pre-approval to pay for expenses associated with hosting visitors at the university (e.g., paying for meals) that fall within established guidelines and spending limits for such visits, and

Be it resolved that faculty shall have the right to use their Pcard *after obtaining* pre-approval to pay for software, books, and online books, and

Be it resolved that faculty shall be given an additional 2-week grace period beyond the normal 2 weeks, during which their Pcard shall neither be suspended nor cancelled.

Faculty Signatures

Gang Chen, Physics and Astronomy

Jixin Chen, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Katherine Cimatu, Chemistry and Biochemistry

David Drabold, Physics and Astronomy

Charlotte Elster, Physics and Astronomy

Peter Harrington, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Kenneth Hicks, Physics and Astronomy

Wojciech Jadwisienczak, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Savas Kaya, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

John Kopchick, Biomedical Sciences

Martin Kordesch, Physics and Astronomy

Loren Lybarger, Classics and World Religions

Eric Masson, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Charles Morgan, Sociology and Anthropology

Daniel Phillips, Physics and Astronomy

Madappa Prakash, Physics and Astronomy

Hee-Jong Seo, Physics and Astronomy

Allan Showalter, Environmental and Plant Biology

Arthur R. Smith, Physics and Astronomy

Anthony Stender, Chemistry and Biochemistry

Sergio Ulloa, Physics and Astronomy