

Council on Research Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2010
Life Sciences Research Building, Conference Room 1143
9:30 am – 11:30 am

Members present: Berhane Araia, James Castracane, Richard Cunningham, Kirsten Davison, James Dias, Elizabeth Gaffney, Daniel Goodwin, Daniel Keyser, Elaine Lasda-Bergman, David Lewis, Dale Morse, and Robert Nakamura.

Members absent: Robert L. Brainard and Hamilton Lankford

Also attending: Adrienne Bonilla, Antigone McKenna, Theresa Walker, and Robert Webster

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Council on Research Chair, James Castracane, at 9:35 am.

Approval of May 3, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved via e-mail June 28, 2010

COR Subcommittee Membership

Jim Castracane opened the floor for volunteers to either chair or serve as a member of the subcommittees. Council on Research volunteers were as follows:

Benevolent Award Review David Lewis, Geography & Planning, **Chair**

Members:

Richard Cunningham, Biological Science
Elaine Lasda-Bergman, Asst Dean of CAS
Additional members needed

Conference/Journal Support Elizabeth Gaffney, Asst. Dean of CAS, **Chair**

Members:

Daniel Keyser, Atmospheric & Environmental Science
This subcommittee is final, no other members needed.

FRAP-A Review Kirsten Davison, Biomedical Science, **Chair**

Members:

Richard Cunningham, Biological Science
Daniel Goodwin, Art
Elizabeth Gaffney, Asst. Dean, CAS
Additional members needed

Centers, Institutes & Specialized
Research Laboratories Robert Nakamura, Political Science, **Chair**

Members needed

Excellence in Research &
Creative Activities

James Castracane will contact Hamilton Lankford about chairing this subcommittee **(ACTION ITEM)**

Proposed membership

Guthrie Birkhead, Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Sanjay Goel, Information Technology Mgmt
Scott Tenenbaum, Nanoscale Science & Engineering
Daniel Goodwin, Art
Bonnie Steinbock, Philosophy

Conflict of Interest

David Lewis, Geography & Planning, **Chair**

Standing members:

Adrienne Bonilla, Regulatory Research Compliance
Peter Gonczlik, Technology Transfer
Robert Webster, Office for Sponsored Programs
Steve Beditz, Human Resource Management
John Reilly, Legal Counsel

Researchers Liaison

Berhane Araia, Africana Studies, **Chair**
Co-chair needed

Standing members:

Tracey Williams, Sponsored Funds Management
Paula Kaloyeros, Sponsored Funds Financial Mgmt
Robert Webster, Sponsored Funds Program
Adrienne Bonilla, Regulatory Research Compliance
Dawn Marie Helin, Institutional Services (Purchasing)
Kevin Wilcox, University Controller

Other Members:

Elizabeth Gaffney, Asst. Dean, CAS
Robert Nakamura, Political Science

IRB Policy Review

Not an active subcommittee, issues forwarded on an as need basis from the Director of Regulatory Research Compliance.

Adrienne Bonilla motioned to change the name of the IRB Policy Review subcommittee to *Research Compliance Policy Review*. This is more reflective of the broad scope of the subcommittee. *Council voted unanimously to change the name.*

Old Business

Outstanding COR issues from 2009-10 -

1. **Review of Funding Possibilities for Research Conducted by Professor Emeriti.**

This issue was raised at the May meeting of the Council on Research after it was determined that there was surplus funding in FRAP B. Members briefly discussed other

alternatives for utilizing funds, e.g., provide assistance for postdoc fellows, provide startup funds for junior faculty, subsidize senior faculty research and more importantly, encourage the Deans to fully utilize available FRAP B funds. However, it was decided not to change the FRAP B and revisit this issue if the need for funding arises again.

Several questions were raised regarding the status of the indirect cost return proposed policy change and what happens to the indirect cost that comes to the campus. David Lewis reminded the membership that these questions are raised each year but have not been satisfactorily answered. James Castracane noted that a proposed policy of ICR distribution is awaiting implementation. Janice will forward a copy of the proposal to COR members **(ACTION ITEM)**

James Dias briefly explained the process by which the Research Foundation determines the assessment (RF constructs a budget, the budget determines the model for all campus, and RF backs into the assessment). UAlbany's assessment is 3% of the total sponsored funds both direct and indirect. He also explained that the Research Foundation uses the assessment to assist campuses with things such as taking a leadership role in strategic plans; investigating software tools, administering central leadership for purchasing, payroll, legal expenses, etc. A more recent example of assistance from RF is in Technology Transfer. RF served all smaller campuses by paying attorneys centrally for intellectual property expenses. They are now de-centralizing so part of the cost will be paid by the other campuses.

2. ***Review UAlbany's guidelines for Excellence in Research Awards to align with SUNY Chancellor's Award procedures.*** James Castracane opened the floor for comments and reactions to the proposed changes to UAlbany's Excellence in Research Award (sent to membership prior to the meeting). Janice noted that in further aligning with the Chancellor's award, the proposed name for UAlbany's award changes from Excellence in Research Award to Excellence in Research and Creative Activities Award.

In reference to the call for nominations from the Vice President for Research to department chairs of prior years recipients of UAlbany's excellence award, Kirsten Davison commented that we should make sure we are not excluding viable candidates. For example, are distinguished professors who have not received the UAlbany excellence in research award eligible for the Chancellor's award?

Dale Morse referenced the Chancellor Award guidelines "Individuals holding Distinguished Faculty Rank - Distinguished Librarian, Distinguished Professor, Distinguished Service Professor and Distinguished Teaching Professor – may not be nominated for an Excellence Award in the category for which Distinguished Faculty Rank was conferred (e.g., a Distinguished Teaching Professor may not be nominated for the Excellence in Teaching Award)."

Announcements

James Dias announced the Atmospheric Science Research Center, Criminal Justice and Life Science Research symposia.

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am
Submitted by Janice E. Bogan