
Absent: Megan Johnson, Cindy McGaha, Jennifer Snodgrass, Steve Hageman

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Introductions

2. Minutes from 21 April 2009 were approved.

3. Report from Proposal Development Team—Pollyanne Frantz
   - RDOs: David Dickinson, Ed Brewer, Bill Bauldry, plus Jennifer Cecile and Proposal Development Team traveled to Kannapolis in August.
   - Fall events have begun. See the following website for more details:
     - http://www.orsp.appstate.edu/events/index.html

4. Report from Sponsored Programs—Susan McCracken
   - Submissions and awards reported
     - Submissions are up $6M because of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
     - Awards were up $225,000; $5.5M external funding was recorded by 30 August, mostly stimulus funding; $269,000 was received to fund projects from previous year submissions and/or earmarks.
     - For more detailed reports, please see
       - Analysis of Submissions and Awards for 2009-2010
       - Year to Date Comparison by Department and College, 2008-09 vs. 2009-10
     - The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has been redoing the website to make it more user friendly; the Council was asked to provide feedback on http://www.orsp.appstate.edu

5. Report from Research Compliance—Julie Taubman
   - An Institutional Biosafety Committee is being established to review recombinant DNA research projects for compliance with the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules.
   - Beginning in January, there will be an RCR training requirement for students and post-docs participating on NSF grants and it is anticipated that the requirement
will be adopted by other federal funding agencies; currently RCR education is minimal and only required for graduate assistants who are classified as research assistants.

6. Report from Federal Relations—Meredith Whitfield
   • FY2009 Appropriations: should know from SBA about viticulture earmark by 10/1
   • FY2010: We have an earmark on the Senate side for Rural Health Clinic Equipment. Appropriations bills are still not complete; however more information is forthcoming.
   • FY2011: There are eight (8) projects in draft form (Meredith Whitfield can provide a detailed list).
     o More drafts will be coming in over the next few weeks.
     o Whitfield, Baumhover, and Huntley will be meeting to discuss which requests will be moving forward within the next month.
   • Federal Relations is working on a new website; in the future, please refer faculty with questions or with fundable ideas to that site (www.federalrelations.appstate.edu) for information.

7. Report from Corporate and Foundation Relations--John Krumrine
   • Corporate and Foundation Relations is relatively new to ASU; John Krumrine will assist the Graduate School and Research and Sponsored Programs to develop relationships with industry.
   • One purpose of this office is to build relationships with corporations and foundations and expand gifts that are already being received. Please let other faculty members know this.
   • For gifts over $25K, the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations, is starting to require faculty members to receive clearance from the chair and dean. Development Officers should also be contacted.

8. Report from the Graduate School—Holly Hirst
   • Admission and enrollment statistics
     o This year, the Graduate School admitted the most students ever: over 900 confirmed their attendance for summer and fall semesters, and enrollment in the fall semester has topped 2000 (on and off campus combined).
   • Grant opportunities
     o The first round of submissions for the GSAS Research and Travel Grants and the Cratis D. Williams Research Grant are due this week.
     o The NSF has released the ARRA-funded RFP for funding to support Professional Science Master’s programs. The funding is for student support for programs that are already admitting students; Appalachian only has one small program but hopes to be able to submit a competitive proposal based on some new programs almost ready to seek approval.
9. Report and Announcements from the Dean—Edelma Huntley

- Several other grant opportunities are under discussion this year:
  - EU/Atlantis FIPSE grant to fund an international master’s program with two universities in Europe; the focus would be nanotechnology.
  - McNair grant designed to encourage under-represented groups to enroll in doctoral programs
  - IGERT (Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship) Program, which has been opened up to master’s students this year
- The office is assisting with several reporting projects involving accountability.
  - BAIN Report: The purpose of this report is to ensure institutional efficiency by reviewing different aspects of the university.
  - UNC Tomorrow Phase II—the UNC innovation project
- The dean distributed a report showing External Funding per faculty FTE for the UNC System.
- Budget updates:
  - Graduate enrollment growth helped the university survive budget cuts this past year.
  - It is predicted that enrollment growth will help again this year.

10. Discussion on the URC Grant Process

- URC policy on funding was discussed:
  - Funds may not be used for faculty salary. QUESTION: What about paying student stipends? There is no documentation indicating that students cannot be funded. The Council agreed that faculty members can ask for funding for student stipends.
  - The phrase “appropriate use of funds” should be used rather than “limitations.”
  - QUESTION: Faculty frequently ask for extensions. What should be the maximum allowable extension? For what reasons? Questions from members: What are the circumstances? Who is responsible for making the decision, the Chair of the URC or create an Appeals Committee? In general, can the URC make the award period longer than a year?
  - Eligibility—who can be funded? The URC did not reach a decision on eligibility.
- URC Proposal format and review process was discussed:
  - The purpose of URC funding needs to be clearly stated in the guidelines.
  - Three disciplinary panels (STEM, Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences—including Education and Business) will review the proposals and make recommendations to the full Council.
  - PIs can receive a URC grant only twice after which they must seek external funding in order to be eligible for further URC funding.
  - The CRO will work on the language for the policy on funding and eligibility and will send it out in an email. The CRO will also do a mock-up of the URC application and send it out in an email.
11. Other Points of Discussion
   • If funding becomes available in the future, the larger Research Development Award may be available to faculty members again. The URC would be responsible for the review of this award as well.

12. Adjournment
   • Meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.