UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COUNCIL
Minutes for 20 October 2009
Career Development Conference Room/ 387 JET


Absent: Megan Johnson, Jennifer Snodgrass, Leslie Jones, Angela Losardo

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.
   • There were not any introductions that needed to be made.

2. Minutes from 15 September 2009 were approved.

3. Report from Proposal Development—Pollyanne Frantz
   • Workshops have been conducted since the last meeting: Hayes School of Music faculty, “Avenues of Funding,” which was held this morning; this workshop will also be held again in November.
   • Next Tuesday, 27 October, Proposal Development will be hosting a web conference featuring a program officer from the National Endowment for the Arts.
   • On 5 November, Proposal Development will be hosting a web conference featuring Program Officer from the National Institute of Health.

4. Report from Sponsored Programs--Susan McCracken
   • The reports are online: [http://www.orsp.appstate.edu/awards/index.html](http://www.orsp.appstate.edu/awards/index.html)
   • Last year $14.5M of external funds came into the University; already this year at the end of the third month, we had $7.6M.
   • Sponsored Programs is averaging about $2M a month in external projects.
   • Five new PIs have been funded since July.
   • Currently one of our staff, Patricia Cornette, has had the opportunity to travel with a team from ASU to Brazil on an EPA grant. This means that the office is extremely short-staffed for a couple weeks. Please let PIs know that we do not have any flexibility on the five day advance warning.
   • Sponsored Programs has submitted all of federal reporting for the recovery money; that will be public tomorrow, 21 October. Please refer to the federalreporting.gov website; there will also be an article in the Watauga Democrat about funding that has come to ASU.

5. Report from Research Protections—Julie Taubman
   • Research Compliance is now named Research Protections
   • There are two new members on the IRC: Dr. Lucinda Beier, Chair of Department of History and Dr. Tim Ludwig, who has agreed to chair the IRB.
   • In the past six weeks, there were about 85 submissions; 60 were approved. The turn-around time is about 2 weeks. This is because the previous Chair was only doing IRB; the current Chair is a faculty member who does not have release time for this.
   • Improved procedures are being implemented on payments to human subjects.
• Faculty members have sought guidance on when classroom activities needed to be reviewed by the IRB; Research Protections will be posting the PowerPoint information on the website. Julie Taubman agrees to email this information to the URC so members can provide feedback.
• Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC): federally mandated council. NIH administers the program. It will review all research involving selected agents (biohazardous items that are regulated by CDC) and recombinant DNA.

6. Report from Federal Relations—Meredith Whitfield
• Staff from the NC Congressional offices have been invited to campus on 20-21 November. The offices included are Congresswoman Virginia Foxx, Congressman Heath Shuler, Congressman Patrick McHenry, Congressman Howard Coble, Congressman David Prince and Senators Hagan and Burr. The staff will receive tours related to the coming year’s appropriations requests, including the Human Performance Lab, nanotechnology labs, biofuels, and Appalachian’s work with the Blue Ridge Parkway. The staff will also be updated on the viticulture program and a possible future HOPS program.
• Federal Relations now has a webpage: governmentrelations.appstate.edu. Please refer anyone with questions about the process to this website.
• On the website there is a document titled Regulation on Contacts with Covered Federal Officials: http://intranet.northcarolina.edu/docs/legal/policymanual/2008/300.1.7_%5BR%5D_Contacts_with_Federal_Government_Officials.pdf

7. Report from Corporate and Foundation Relations—John Krumrine
• On the 14th, there was a special event on campus: six different companies came as a result of some of the work that Jennifer Snodgrass has been doing. Her pedagogy class created a lot of interest from Microsoft and Dyknow software. They were mainly interested with the courses that have been developed collaboratively between Music and Physics.
• The companies that were on campus were Microsoft, Dyknow, Dell, HP, Lenovo, and Sound Tree
• There was a lot of good feedback. A good thing that came out of it was the exposure to Dyknow software (this software allows one-on-one teaching in a classroom of many). As a result, the Chancellor and a group have been invited to Redman (?) to spend two days with Microsoft. They are coming back the week of 16 November. They are meeting with a smaller group to put together agenda items for the trip to Redman. If there are any ideas, please refer to either John Krumrine or Edelma Huntley.
• If interested in Dyknow and would like to observe a class, contact Jennifer Snodgrass.
• This was an experiment to see if a model could be created to get companies to campus.
• It all started with a research grant that Jennifer Snodgrass got with Microsoft.
• There is potential for a lot of research grants through these relationships, especially with Microsoft.

8. Report from the Graduate School—Holly Hirst
• The LOI for the PSM proposal was submitted to the NSF. The full proposal (requesting support for 6-8 PSM students each year for three years) is due to NSF on 20 November.
• The GRAM research assistant funding was received in full by the graduate school, so the twenty faculty who were awarded GRAM funding have the following for their graduate assistants: $9,000 in assistantship salary for 09-10 and $1,000 for the student’s research and professional development costs.
• The Graduate School is accepting nominations for the Zigli and Domer Research Awards, and the Lawrence Professional Development award (open to any graduate student at ASU). The Dean
has committed to finding funding for Zigli and Domer, neither of which have earned enough funds to award from the endowment this year.

• The Graduate School has established the Cratis D. Williams Society, which will admit 6-20 graduating graduate students each year who show true excellence in their academic endeavors. These students will be recognized at the Spring Student Awards Reception and will receive a medallion to wear at commencement.

9. Report and Announcements from the Dean—Edelma Huntley

• The handout provided, “Innovate, Collaborate, Accelerate: The UNC Vision for Innovation and Technology Development is an FYI; it is an initiative that the University has embarked upon by mandate of the General Administration. It is UNC Tomorrow, Phase II.

• ASU has been asked to find interesting ways of connecting what the University is good at with its service region and its community. What do we do well, and how does that connect with the future of NC?

• ASU has also been asked to find three or four pilot departments or programs that meet certain criteria.

• The GA is looking for the universities to be able to tell their stories appropriately.

• Once the handout has been read, please provide the CRO feedback; bring drafts of those ideas to URC meetings.

• We are starting to receive URC applications.
  o The handout that was distributed shows the review panels who are the faculty on the URC. Applicants have been asked to identify which review panel they think should look at their proposal. If a review panel receives a proposal they think should belong to another panel, the panel should refer the proposal to the appropriate place.
  o There is $50,000 available.
  o Those who are not on review panels should read generally, but it is not necessary to rank the proposals. When the panels bring their recommendation to the full committee, all other committee members should have a general understanding of the proposal.
  o Panels should rank the top six proposals (see handout). These recommendations will come to the full committee as the panel reports.
  o This is a test run; if it doesn’t work, then we will rework it.

10. Research Institutes (1)—John Turner, Director of the Institute for Health and Human Services

• A report was given on the origins of the Institute
  o In 2004, the University was given permission to establish a center or an institute. The Institute was actually established in 2005.
  o The structure of the Institute can be found in the brochure that was distributed. There are three divisions: Community Outreach, Clinical Services, and Research. The mission is to provide opportunities for research, clinical services and outreach to serve faculty, students, and the region.
  - Be Active, 5 year grant has become part of the Institute
• Counsel for Faculty and Staff and Health Promotions when the Hubbard Center was reconfigured
• Appalachian Family Innovation (AFI) was inherited this past year, which has been a part of the university for over 25 years. It is a child welfare organization that provides services in adoption, foster care, pre-adoption services, healthy families program that is an early intervention that has been funded by Duke Endowment. Unfortunately, the revenue sources have been problematic in the past couple years; hopefully, there will be some stability in the future for AFI. AFI has brought in almost $40M over the years.
  o The funding comes from Academic Affairs. From time to time, salaries will come out of grants and contracts.
  o University Hall is the facility for the Institute; there was an open house in March.
  o A description of each division and its accomplishments was discussed in detail.
• Lisa Curtin reports on Research
  o Dr. Curtin has been working with AFI to increase their competitiveness for federal funding.
  o The basic mission through the research division is to promote interdisciplinary research on campus and to support faculty, staff, and students in their health and human services research.
    ▪ Housing a satellite at HLES human performance lab, hopefully that will help with access to community participants
    ▪ Working with faculty in the Psychology Department, has subcontract with NC State for an NIH grant
    ▪ Discussions with Corporate and Foundation Relations and the EEE Institute on environmental health collaborations in hopes of increasing potential external funding.
    ▪ There is a group considering applying for an NIH grant
    ▪ Have grant through the health and wellness trust fund to promote tobacco cessation on campus to try to target the students.
  o The Institute can manage grants on a case by case basis and make a decision about offering space.
    ▪ Most funding comes through the Department of Health and Human Services.

11. Research Institutes (2)—John Pine, Director of the Research Institute for the Environment, Energy, and Economics
• This center was established last November.
  o It includes the center for Debarment of Policy and Analysis, which was also established 8 November 2008.
  o The Research Institute also includes the Energy Center, which was established in 2001; Todd Cherry is currently the Interim Director of the Energy Center. Another offer has been made for a Director; however, this person still has not accepted the position.
• The third factor is the environment. The environmental program will be lead by Howie Neufeld in Biology. He will also have assistance from another faculty member. Their salaries will be supported by Academic Affairs.

• Though it is a research institute, there is community outreach and engagement, and there have been efforts to collaborate with others on campus.

• Because there is not a budget, Dr. Pine has been forced to look carefully in finding resources and people to collaborate with. Not having a budget makes you appreciate the rich resources in environment, energy, and economics.

• What is the connection?

  o They are very interdependent. The key is the relationships between our economy, environment, and energy policy. They are not accidental.

  o The centers will have clusters of faculty working in programs. Todd Cherry has formed five clusters.
    ▪ One deals with environment and energy policy.
    ▪ They have existing projects with Federal and State agencies.
    ▪ The Economic Development has an initiative.
    ▪ Survey Research
    ▪ Experimental Economics

  o The Energy Center also has clusters of faculty.
    ▪ Energy efficiency for buildings, commercial and residential buildings
    ▪ Renewable energy, wind or solar
    ▪ Biofuels
    ▪ Policy

  o There are six full time staff within the Energy Center and eight part time staff. They are working on Economic Policy or Economic Development.

• The Environmental component will emerge as Dr. Nuefeld forms it. There are existing clusters in water resources on campus.

  o Appalair symbolizes the true interdisciplinary nature of this group. There are people from Geology, Geography, Chemistry, Biology, Computer Science, and Physics. They receive funding from federal agencies.

  o There will be more environmental management in the future as opposed to as much environmental monitoring as is seen now.

  o There will be more Student engagement.

12. Export Controls—Julie Taubman

• The Graduate School has created an Export Control Management Plan, which has been approved. The Chancellor will send out an email explaining what it is.

  o Export Controls may require a license; however, there are ways to get a license exception.

  o Exports cover items, technology, and software. They are not limited to leaving the country. You can have a deemed export to a foreign person in the United States.
There are exclusions to export controls. Software and technology do not need to be licensed: This includes educational information that is given in a class and registered in the course catalog and fundamental research that takes place on campus. Fundamental research exclusions do not exist if there are any restrictions on publication or foreign participation. There may be issues if there is proprietary information involved.

- Why is there increased attention on Export Controls?
  - 9/11 contributes to increased attention.
  - Sponsored Research has greater restrictions on technology
  - The Inspector General has mandated this.

- The areas of concern for Export Controls
  - Engineering, space, sciences, computer science
  - Anything with encryption
  - Any activities with sanctioned countries
  - Cuba
  - Laptops: personal vs. ASU-owned are briefly discussed
  - The question is raised about students who are going overseas or an international student. If what they are being exposed to is part of a class that is in the bulletin, it is OK. What about a student working on their thesis who is working with operating systems? It would come under the fundamental research exclusion because it would be basic research that is taking place. If the faculty member is teaching them how to take apart and refurbish and put back together something that is protected, then that is an issue. This could be construed as training a foreign national in the construction of a potential weapon.
  - There are several variables involved in export controls.
  - The Export Control Management plan has been approved and Research Protections will help with screening.
  - It is difficult to comply and there may be changes, but people need to be aware that there are penalties involved.
  - Please continue to talk to faculty about Export Controls.

13. Meeting adjourned at 5:30.