University Research Council  
Appalachian State University  
October 19, 2010  
(Approved November 16, 2010)


Excused: Scott Collier, Charna Howson, Edelma Huntley, Megan Johnson, Denise Martz, Susan McCracken, Kellie Reed-Ashcraft, Reeves Shulstad

Absent: Joseph Cazier, Kristan Cockerill, Joe Cullen, Amauri Serrano

Dr. Pollyanne Frantz called meeting to order in the absence of Dr. Edelma Huntley.

It was moved (Bauldry) and seconded (Staub) that the minutes of the April 20, 2010 meeting be approved. Motion carried. None opposed; no abstentions.

It was moved (Bauldry) and seconded (Gregory) that the minutes of the September 21, 2010 meeting be approved. Motion carried. None opposed; no abstentions.

Reports/Announcements from Proposal Development

• Dr. Frantz noted that there was good attendance at the new faculty and researcher workshop.
• There are two seats left for the workshop live feed with Bob Porter of the University of Tennessee. There are 16 seats available for the live-stream (view only) from a separate location.
• The “Faculty without borders” workshop will be held November 16 during International Education Week.

Reports/Announcements from Sponsored Programs. Dr. Hirst reported for Charna Howson. Submissions are $25.7M with awards $9.9M. This amount is way ahead of any previous year at this point in time. This also demonstrates the increase in proposals received by the Office of Sponsored Programs.

Dr. Frantz noted that the Funding Express shows award data comparisons over a 30-year period. This chart was used by Dr. Huntley for a presentation to the Board of Trustees. The number of faculty participating in events or submitting requests for funding opportunity searches also continues to increase.

Reports/Announcements from Research Protections – Julie Taubman

• Completed workshops include “Research Protections Overview for Departmental Administrators,” “Introduction to the IRB,” and “Navigating the ‘IRB’ for Faculty.” The “Navigating” workshop was conducted by Robin Tyndall.
• Appalachian’s Radiation Safety Task Force approved Appalachian’s first Radiation Safety plan.
  – Any academic faculty or staff member who wishes to order, purchase, possess or use radioisotopes or x-ray producing machines must obtain a Radiation Use Authorization (RUA). Any research assistant who plans to use radioactivity for a period of time longer than one month under the direction of an ASU faculty or staff member shall obtain an RUA. The Radiation Safety Officer, Dr. Brian Raichle, is responsible for issuing an RUA.
  – Training will be provided online through AsULearn followed by a radiation safety test for approved use.
  – Research assistants working with radioisotopes for a period less than or equal to one month must be trained by their supervisors in relevant radiation protection policies and procedures and be directly supervised (i.e., in the lab) by the faculty or staff holding the RUA.

Reports/Announcements from Graduate Studies – Holly Hirst
• There were six submissions from graduate students for Cratis Williams Research Awards with three receiving awards.
• There were 20 submissions for GSAS for research funding with eight receiving awards.
• The two graduate records positions in the Graduate School are now filled. Training is taking place.
• Twelve low enrollment graduate programs are under review. The review committee will be composed of representatives from each academic college. Recommendations are due to Dr. Huntley in mid-December.

Research Inventory Request from the Sustainability Council – an inventory of sustainability-related research
• A 1987 United Nations report defined sustainable development as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”
• The Sustainability Council, co-chaired by Jed Moody, Director of Sustainability, is a 50-member council of members serving on various subcommittees. Drs. Pine and Gonzales both serve on subcommittees.
• The council is charged with reporting on the University’s sustainable efforts, identifying activities and research being conducted. The Dean’s Council and the Council of Chairs were both approached and asked how best to collect this data.
• Following extended discussion, it was decided that the Sustainability Council must better define what is “sustainable.” It was suggested that the request also include categories and examples like economic, environmental, social development, fiscal responsibility, property management, licensing standards, green marketing, technology, etc. Although the list may be lengthy, URC members felt it was better to be inclusive than exclusive.
• The U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 46.102 Definitions, defines “research as a systematic investigation, including
research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.”

- Dr. Pine thanked the URC for its discussion and will give feedback to the Sustainability Council.
- Digital Measures could be used to capture inventory information.

**Announcements**

- Dr. Gregory will chair a 3-4 person task force to design a rubric for URC proposal review. Dr. Gonzales is one member. Others interested should contact Dr. Huntley.
- The Grantwriter’s Reception will be held on Monday, November 8 at the Chancellor’s House. URC members should have received invitations.
- URC Fall 2010 Proposals. When asked, Cindy Trivette informed the Council there were approximately 35 URC Fall proposals. When questioned about funding, Dr. Hirst noted $50K should be available for Fall. Dr. Huntley will appoint review panels and make proposals available for panel review. Recommendations will be presented at the November meeting.

It was moved (Roberts) that the meeting be adjourned.