University Research Council
November 15, 2011
(Approved January 24, 2012)

PRESENT: Edelma Huntley, Pollyanne Frantz, Charna Howson, John Pine, Julie Taubman, Alan Utter, Ged Moody, Lisa Suggs, Bill Bauldry, Denise Martz, Susan Staub, David Dickinson, Les Bolt, Tracy Goodson-Espy, Ray Miller, Scott Collier, Kellie Reed-Ashcraft, Anne Fanatico

EXCUSED: Holly Hirst, Joseph Cazier, Lynn Gregory, Christine Leist, Karla Rusch

ABSENT: Susan McCracken, Amy Roberts, Eva Gonzales, Amauri Serrano

- Dr. Huntley called the meeting to order and introduced Lisa Suggs as a new URC member.

MINUTES: It was moved (Bill Bauldry) and seconded to approve minutes from the October 18, 2011 meeting. Motion passed. No opposition.

FALL 2011 URC AWARDS: There were 23 applications totaling $100,088 which were reviewed for an available in $50,000 funding.

- Award recommendations from the Social Sciences review panel:
  o Dr. Lisa Emery (Psychology) - $4,911 - "Influences of Future Thought in Adult Development"
  o Dr. Terence Milstead (Geography & Planning) - $3,700 - “Resident-Initiated Home Repair and Improvement in Cuba: A Qualitative Study”
  o Dr. Charlie Chen (CIS) - $1,283 - “The Efficacy of Social Technology in Delivering Case Method Instruction”

- Award recommendations from the Arts and Humanities review panel:
  o Mr. Richard Elaver (Technology) - $4,957 - "Modular Organic Building System"
  o Mr. Joseph Bathanti (English) - $2,000 – “Alma Stone Williams”
  o Ms. Jeana Klein (Art) - $2,591 - "Abandoned Houses and Their Invented Narratives: A Series of Mixed Media Artworks”

- Award recommendations from the STEM review panel (Note: Approved by URC November 29th):
  o Dr. Maryam Ahmed (Biology) - $5,000 - “Control of Antiviral Responses in Cancer Cells by Natural Products”
  o Dr. David Morris (HLES) - $4,843 - "Use of Sodium to Increase Fluid Consumption and Improve Exercise Performance in the Heat”
  o Dr. Yu-Ju Wu (Technology) - $3,440 – "Sustainable Development and Color Reproduction Study of Tree-free Paper”

MOTION TO ADJOURN
Initiatives:

- Three Faculty Learning Community: Grant Proposal Writing participants have submitted six proposals (one proposal was successfully funded and five proposals have a status of pending). FLC:GPW faculty participant Dr. Kin-Yan Szeto was selected as the 2011 recipient of the 100 Scholars Award.
- REACH NC expertise portal implementation is still in progress but the Nov. 1 rollout of selected profiles was delayed due to technical problems.

Events:

- October “First Fridays” event featuring Dr. Jana Carp from the Department of Geography and Planning and her involvement with the “Slow Cities” movement (Oct. 7 / 22 participants)
- National Institutes of Health Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) program grant proposal writing workshop and individual consultations with NIEHS program officers (Oct. 10 / 28 participants)
- Finding Funding workshops conducted by Amy Love (Oct. 20 and 24 / 5 participants)
- Research Services Fair (Oct. 21)
- Federal Research Priorities and Budgets for FY12 webinar (Oct. 31- Nov. 2)

Other Activities:

- Amy Love delivered a presentation at the October University Research Council on Department of Defense funding opportunities
- Guidelines were written and competitions were conducted for two internal funding opportunities:
  o Grant Proposal Development Fellowships Program
  o Microgrants Program
- Pollyanne Frantz attended the North Carolina Business Defense Association “Breakfast with a Prime with the University of North Carolina” meeting held on the UNC-Charlotte campus
• Frantz provided requested information on faculty development and capacity building initiatives to faculty members at Western Illinois University
• Faculty consultations:
  o Frantz: 2
  o Love: 6
• Limited submission competitions conducted:
  o American Honda Foundation (5 concept papers submitted / Physics and Astronomy faculty member Dr. Tonya Coffey’s proposal was selected as the one proposal submission allowed)
  o ORAU Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award (currently open)
  o National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation (currently open)

**Upcoming Events:**
For a complete listing of events, see [http://www.orsp.appstate.edu/events/index.html](http://www.orsp.appstate.edu/events/index.html).

• “Footprints on the Sands of Time: Helping PUI Faculty Make Their Mark” presentation at the 53rd annual meeting of the National Council of University Research Administrators (November 8, 2011 / Washington, DC)
• Faculty without Borders (November 15, 2011)
• November “First Fridays” featuring April Flanders from the Department of Art (Nov. 11)
• National Science Foundation Grant Proposal Writing webinar (TBA)
• North Carolina Biotechnology Center Grant Proposal Writing workshop (TBA)
Items of Note

- Year-to-date award information through the end of October is available on the Web at http://www.orsp.appstate.edu/awards. A summary follows:
  - 80 proposals requesting $35,773,195. Proposal submissions are down in number by 27%, while dollars requested are up 31%. The large increase in dollars requested can be attributed to one large proposal that was not funded. OSP has worked with numerous PIs this fall who, after considerable investment of effort, have decided to postpone or forego submission altogether. Postponements are fine if they lead to continued work and more competitive applications as all federal sponsors are reporting lower success rates relative to decreased funding and large increases in the applicant pool. The fallout appears to be a trend toward even more limited submission programs.
  - 96 awards totaling $4,220,565 reflect a 13% decrease in the number awards and a 62% decrease in the dollars received compared to October FY2011. Note these figures reflect the absence of new American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars and the first term with no Appalachian Family Innovations (AFI) submissions and awards.

- Workshop Activity
  - 4 AGrants training remain – 1 each month for November and December for both faculty and administrators. Recent administrator attendance has been low.
  - Attendance at the Brown Bag discussion sessions has been low but productive.
  - Topical workshop presentations have been well received.
  - OSP staff participated in the fall New Faculty Workshop and in the Belk Library's Research Fair.
  - The Grants Resources and Services office and Sponsored Programs successfully hosted an NIH workshop attended by researchers throughout the region.
  - Sponsored Programs is working with the Hubbard Center to develop two more workshops for the spring.
  - See www.orsp.appstate.edu/events for the full list of remaining FY2012 offerings.

- The three ORSP directors met with the physics department.

- The director of OSP visited the new farm in Ashe county to see the facilities and discuss a subaward on a project funded by the USDA
AGrants/RAMSeS
- Sponsored programs is working with Special Funds Accounting to establish processes and procedures for routing request that a University unit assume financial risk (Assumption of Risk) prior to full execution of an award or prior to receipt of continuation funds for multiyear projects.

Required Federal Reports (ARRA & FFATA) –
- 3 ARRA reports were submitted for the October quarterly report
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting must be completed on a monthly basis. An outgrowth of the ARRA funding, these reports will be with us for a long time. Recent federal discussions indicate that the reports or reporting structures are likely to change again in the near future. OSP will monitor and report.

Collaborations between OSP and a number of campus units (OSP, ORP, General Counsel) continues to move forward toward the develop Standard Operating Procedures and documentation for:
- Nondisclosure and Confidentiality Agreements
- Material Transfer Agreements
- Data Transfer and Management Agreements

Charlotte Smith, Assistant Director in OSP, has formed a committee of faculty, staff, and representatives from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) and Special Funds Accounting to review and revise the ORSP Web presence prior to the beginning of the next fiscal year.

The Director of OSP, in her role as President, continues to work with the North Carolina Society of Research Administrators in planning the annual meeting for 2012 in Durham.

NEW Business
Past Events
● Town Hall on the Advanced Notice of Proposed Rule Making (10/20, 6 participants)

Items of Note
● The IRB continues to work on developing guidance/FAQs on:
  ○ investigator expertise for blood draws in a non-clinical setting
  ○ determining when an activity meets the definition of human subject research
  ○ appropriate provisions for maintaining confidentiality of research data

Upcoming Events
● Julie Taubman, Oscar Knight, and Amy Love will facilitate a Hubbard Center Workshop on “Research Data Security and Data Sharing” on 11/7 at 12:00-1:30