University Research Council  
March 20, 2012  
(Approved April 17, 2012)

PRESENT: Edelma Huntley, Holly Hirst, Pollyanne Frantz, Charna Howson, Julie Taubman, Joseph Cazier, Bill Bauldry, Denise Martz, David Dickinson, Les Bolt, Lynn Gregory, Ray Miller, Amy Roberts, Christine Leist, Karla Rusch, Anne Fanatico, Amauri Serrano, Scott Collier,

EXCUSED: Susan Staub, Susan McCracken, Eva Gonzales

ABSENT: Alan Utter

• Edelma Huntley calls the meeting to order.

MINUTES: Motion to approve minutes from the February 21, 2012 meeting (Ray Miller). Second (Denise Martz). No opposition. Motion passes.

OLD BUSINESS – REVIEW CRITERIA

• Review panels are strongly encouraged to use the review rubric for the spring review cycle so the Council has a uniform review method moving forward.
• Review panels will report specific changes they would like made to the rubric during the April meeting.
  o Specifically, what does not apply to each review panel and can be removed?

EXTERNAL FUNDING UPDATE – CHARNA HOWSON

• Awards are down 53% from last year and approximately 8% between January and February.
  o Bulk of deficit between FY 11-12 is because of lack of AFI and ARRA funding.
• Majority of awards are between $1,000 and $25,000.
• Faculty may be hesitant to pursue larger federal grants because fear of rejection.
• Larger grant may be team efforts?
  o As a body, the URC should encourage interdisciplinary research.
  o Interdisciplinary research requires a track record.
• Important for ASU to become more strategic about what grant to apply for and also know who to contact early in the grant process.
  o Federal agencies are targeting “workforce development”
• Ensure young investigators are aware of funding opportunities and how to pursue them.

RESEARCH & CREATIVE ACTIVITY AT APPALACHIAN: THE ROLE OF THE URC

• Provost is looking to the URC to help define “research”.

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• Also consider that not all research is fundable and how do we support this type of research?
• Refer to the faculty handbook description of URC.
  o Is it an accurate reflection of what the Council actually does?
• Hope to schedule and plan the August URC retreat to include Dr. Gonzalez.

URC ASULEARN SITE

• Spring 2012 proposals are available on AsULearn site.
  o Provide Jessica with feedback throughout and following the review cycle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Holly Hirst – GRAM application deadline is April 1. Please help spread the word.
  o GRAM awards benefit both the faculty member and the graduate student.
  o Holly will likely call for URC members (who are not reviewing spring proposals) to help screen applications.
• Lynn Gregory – draft URC grant writing statement:
  o Draft statement will be posted on the AsULearn site and discussion forums (for each paragraph) will be created for members to provide feedback.
  o Council will vote on the statement during the April meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN
Graduate Council & URC / March 2012
Report from Dr. Pollyanne Frantz, GRS Director

Initiatives:

- Doctoral student Chrissy Tillery is interning in GRS this semester. She is available on most Tuesday and Thursday afternoons to assist faculty, staff and graduate students with experimental design, statistical analysis, and program evaluation and assessment.
- Amy Love is the new Staff Senate representative for the Cratis D. Williams Graduate School and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

Events:

- “Securing Grants to Support Scholarship” workshop co-hosted by the Hubbard Center with Frantz and Love presenting (Jan. 27 / 8 participants)
- “First Fridays: Music Therapy” featuring Dr. Cathy McKinney, Hayes School of Music (Feb. 3 / 10)
- “Finding and Evaluating Funding Opportunities” workshops for Graduate Research Associate Mentoring graduate students (Love) (Feb. 22 & 24 / 9 participants)
- “Open House Meeting for Research Committees” (Feb. 27)
- Reich College of Education Professional Development Drive Thru Expo (Feb. 17).

Other Activities:

- Faculty consultations/meetings:
  - Frantz: 11
  - Love: 4
- Limited submission internal competitions conducted:
  - RGK Foundation (currently open)
  - National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grants (currently open)
- “Proposal Development Workshop for Faculty” featuring Lucy Deckard of Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC (UNC Charlotte / Frantz attended).
Upcoming Events:

For a complete listing of events, see http://www.orsp.appstate.edu/events/index.html.

- “First Fridays: Exercise and Cardiovascular Health” featuring Dr. Scott Collier (HLES) and graduate research assistant Chelsea Curry (Mar. 2)
- “GRC FY12 Budget Overview: Comprehensive Look at Federal Spending for Research and Sponsored Programs” (Mar. 8)
- “New Faculty and Researcher workshop” (Mar. 9)
- “The Institute of Education Sciences: Funding Opportunities and Research Designs” (Mar. 22)
- “Making Progress on Your Research Agenda” co-sponsored by Hubbard Programs for Faculty Excellence” (Mar. 27)
- “First Fridays: Medical Speech Pathology” featuring Dr. Heather Clark, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (April 6)
- “Research Café: Compassion Comes to the Table” featuring Dr. Christopher Osmond, Department of Leadership and Educational Studies (April 3)
- National Endowment for the Humanities Regional Grant Application workshop (April 5)
- North Carolina Biotechnology Center Grant Proposal Writing workshop (May 17)
- Faculty Learning Community: Grant Proposal Writing (summer TBA).
Upcoming Presentations / Events

- RP Staff will visit Dr. Waryold’s class to discuss the IRB
- Julie Taubman, Export Controls, 3/28, 2:00-2:50
- Julie Taubman, Responsible Conduct of Research for CHE 3000, 4/6

Items of Note

- Following a meeting with Registrar Andrea Wawrzusin, RP staff will revise the exempt IRB application to address FERPA issues in educational research that involves accessing educational records.
- Julie Taubman will work with Dr. Tony Carey to draft a policy on external requests to recruit participants for human subject research at Appalachian.
- The IP Council met in February to discuss an IP disclosure.
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) policy is being reviewed by General Counsel

Past Events

- Robin Tyndall held a “Navigating the IRB” workshop on 2/14 with the Hubbard Center (9 faculty and graduate students attended)
- Robin Tyndall visited Dr. Keefe’s class on 1/30 and Dr. Yang’s class on 2/2 to discuss the IRB review process. Julie Taubman visited Dr. Lillian’s class on 2/23 to discuss the IRB.
- Julie Taubman visited the Biology faculty departmental meeting on 1/24 to discuss the IBC and IACUC processes.