UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 15, 2013
(Approved November 19, 2013)

Present: Bill Anderson (for Cynthia Liutkus-Pierce), William Baker, Rebecca Battista, Pollyanne Frantz, Kim Hall, Charna Howson, Edelma Huntley, Christine Leist, Ged Moody, Karla Rusch, Julie Taubman, Susan Staub, Alan Utter, Betsy Williams, Chris Yang

Excused: Joseph Cazier, Tracy Goodson-Espy, Susan McCracken

Absent: Les Bolt, Randy Gonzalez, John Pine, Jeff Ramsdell, Amy Roberts, Gwen Robbins-Schug, Lisa Suggs

Guest: Scott Collier

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Welcome</th>
<th>Dr. Huntley called the meeting to order.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Minutes</td>
<td>It was moved (Hall), seconded (Leist), and unanimously accepted that the minutes of the September 17 meeting be approved.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3 | Announcements | 3 Minute Research Competition on Dec 3 at 5:00 p.m., 137C Attic Window of the Student Union  
- Oct 31 – Graduate students invited to submit abstract – 50 words or less in a nondisciplinary language  
- 3 minutes to explain research project with 1 slide.  
- Winner funded to attend the regional competition in San Antonio, TX in February.  
For additional information: [http://www.graduate.appstate.edu/students/3MR.html](http://www.graduate.appstate.edu/students/3MR.html)  
Note: Dr. Utter is considering instituting this competition at the undergraduate level. |

NEW BUSINESS

|   | URC/REI Grant Proposals | Two applications received and reviewed by 2 faculty and 1 student REI representative. There were 7 review criteria (see guidelines) with a numeric rating template. The reviewers recommend funding:  
- Dr. Chris Badurek (Geography and Planning), “ASU REI! Mobile App: Disseminating information on the use of renewable energy to educate ASU students and reduce carbon footprints,” $2,500  
- Dr. Eric Frauman (HLES), Reducing our carbon footprint: Making biking at ASU educational and sustainable,” $2,675  
Discussion: |

1
• Source of funding: URC and Student Development/REI. Because these proposals lean toward student initiative, members discussed funding proposals solely from Student Development. (Note: URC voted September 2012 to match Student Development funds.)
• With possible review scores of 7-35 (7=best, 35 = worst), proposals had mid-range confidential review rankings.
• Question arose whether the biking proposal would be viewed as competing with local bike businesses. It was noted that the PI served on the campus transportation committee and the bike committee.
• Dr. Huntley called for a motion to approve or table the proposals. Ms. Rusch moved to table discussions until the November meeting. (Note: Email discussion after the meeting resulted in decision to fund proposals.)

| 5 | University Planning and Priorities Council – Dr. Scott Collier | UPPC research subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Collier, is comprised of Cathy Bates, Jill Ehnenn, Charna Howson, Steve Seagle, and Jeff Ramsdell. UPPC work began September 2012. Following the Strategic Planning Survey (Jan-Feb 2013) and feedback on mission, vision and core (June-Sept 2013), 6 strategic directions of research were identified. You are encouraged to attend the Strategic Planning Coffees being held through Nov 2013.

See Outcomes of the Summer Strategic Planning Coffees and Frequently Asked Questions (Attachment 1). Also see Strategic Directions (Attachment 2).

The research committee is seeking feedback. Dr. Huntley will forward the Strategic Directions document to the URC. Send comments/edits to Scott Collier (colliersr) or Edelma Huntley (huntleyed). For more information, visit http://strategicplanning.appstate.edu.

Appreciation was expressed to Dr. Collier for chairing this committee and for giving URC the opportunity to provide input. |

| 6 | Brainstorming Sessions | Assisting faculty with proposal writing – postponed until November meeting |

| 7 | URC Fall 2013 Proposals | Oct 21 – proposals due Monday
Oct 23 – ready for review in AsULearn
Nov 11 -- Review panels submit recommendations |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>2013 NC Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium</strong>&lt;br&gt;Oct 23 – Abstracts due by 5 pm&lt;br&gt;Nov 16 – event at UNC Charlotte&lt;br&gt;For more information, visit <a href="http://osr.appstate.edu">http://osr.appstate.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><strong>National sustainability conference in higher education conference</strong>&lt;br&gt;31 presented from ASU. Attending were 15 students, 10 faculty, the Provost, and CFO. Mr. Moody expressed appreciation to the Office of Student Research for sponsoring this event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>Motion to Adjourn</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Kim Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attachments:**
- Grants Resources & Services Report (Attachment 3)
- Research Protections Report (Attachment 4)
- Sponsored Programs Report (Attachment 5)
Strategic Planning at Appalachian: Creating Sustainable Communities
Strategic Planning Coffee
Summer 2013

Outcomes of the Conversation
Participants will:
- gain familiarity with the strategic planning process at Appalachian
- understand how they can be involved in the process and provide feedback
- know the next steps in the process and how to access information through the website

The input from these conversations will be summarized and placed on the Strategic Planning website for review by the campus community.

Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to stay involved by providing feedback to the different parts of the plan.

Timeline for Seeking Input

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UPPC Work Begins</td>
<td>September 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic Planning Survey</td>
<td>January-February 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feedback Regarding Mission, Vision, Core Values</td>
<td>June-September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic Planning Coffees</td>
<td>June-November 2013</td>
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<td>Web Portal for Comments</td>
<td>October-November 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>Fly BOT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>December</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Why develop a strategic plan?**
   The strategic plan for any organization is the road map into the future. For Appalachian, it allows us to understand where we are and determine where we want to be in the future. The plan outlines effective strategies for realizing this vision. It is important the plan have broad support and that resources follow planning. Many institutions create elaborate plans that eventually simply sit on a shelf. The plan must be dynamic and responsive. In short, it must be a living document. Appalachian has a long history of successful strategic planning. This process has allowed the campus to grow in very important ways while maintaining the transformational educational experience which is a core value of the institution.

2. **How successful was the 2008-2012 plan** ([http://irap.appstate.edu/planning/2008-strategic-plan](http://irap.appstate.edu/planning/2008-strategic-plan))? The plan had 59 metrics. More than half of the metrics (55%) were either met or had significant progress. It is important to note that the plan was rolled out just prior to the economic downturn which significantly impacted funding to fully realize the plan’s objectives.

   Specific progress is provided below:
   - 19 (32%) were met.
   - 13 (22%) are ongoing activities. This means there is no endpoint to the activities cited in the Strategic Plan, but progress was made.
   - 14 (24%) were not met. These areas were targeted by the campus, but the desired outcomes were not reached.
   - 9 (15%) are not yet targeted. They remain important issues for the campus but formal implementation was not initiated. Most of these were not targeted because of budget reductions.
   - 4 (7%) were not priorities for the campus. We did not target and have no plans to target.

3. **What are the current strategic challenges for the higher education?**
   Hanna (2003) outlined eleven strategic challenges for higher education. Although first identified in 2003, these challenges remain today.

| Challenges                                               | \begin{tabular}{|c|}
  \hline
  Removing boundaries \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Establishing Interdisciplinary Programs \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Redesigning & Personalizing Student Support Services \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Investing in Technologically Competent Faculty \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Building Strategic Alliances with Others \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Transforming Bureaucracy, Culture & Assumptions \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  \hline
  Supporting Entrepreneurial Efforts & Technology \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Emphasizing Connected & Lifelong Learning \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Measuring Program Quality \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Incorporating Learning Technologies into Strategic Thinking \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  Achieving Institutional Advantage \\[\vspace{0.5em}\]
  \hline
\end{tabular} |
4. **Are there changes at the level of the UNC system or through the General Assembly that will impact Appalachian's plan? What about federal impacts?**

The 2008-2012 Plan, *Reach Greater Heights*, was developed in response to the UNC Strategic Plan, *UNC Tomorrow*. The campus carefully reviewed the system plan and developed its plan to target the same priorities.

In 2013, the General Administration rolled out the new plan for the UNC System. This plan, *Our future, Our Time* ([https://www.northcarolina.edu/strategic_direction/Overview.htm](https://www.northcarolina.edu/strategic_direction/Overview.htm)), will again inform the plan for Appalachian State. Changes in the General Assembly will continue to impact the campus. The commitment to funding higher education seems to be on the decline. There is an increased demand for accountability and effectiveness along with performance funding for state agencies.

At the state and federal levels, there is a tightening of student loan policies and availability, as well as pressures on Pell Grants. We see increased scrutiny of the costs of higher education with emphasis on decreasing student debt, particularly related to earning potential for graduates.

5. **What is the University Planning & Priorities Council (UPPC)?**

The UPPC was charged in September 2012 and has been meeting to develop a process that will result in a new Strategic Plan for the university. Additionally, this standing council will be responsible for evaluating progress on the plan. The UPPC will:

- Identify potential priorities for the campus to protect and enhance the Academic Core;
- Revise the university-wide strategic plan;
- Recommend criteria, principles and processes for resource allocation in support of the strategic plan;
- Monitor success in achieving intended outcomes, and recommending changes to the Strategic Plan as needed following annual review;
- Review mission, vision and value statements. These statements should be reviewed at least every three years;
- Periodically review progress on past and future plans;
- Review data from IRAP and identify areas in need of resources to meet the goals of the Strategic Plans;
- Identify strategies to ensure that the campus maintains ongoing focus on the plan; and,
- Identify ways to integrate our planning efforts with assessment and budgeting processes.

6. **How did the UPPC approach the planning process?**

Our process has been one of appreciative inquiry – a process that involves discovering institutional strengths through creative conversations that focus on what people within the organization are doing well and on how they are achieving excellence (Hanna, 2003). We create a transformational experience for our students, and it is important that we understand this "value added" experience. What is it? How is it defined? How is it measured? The answers to these questions are important to the UPPC and will ultimately frame the goals of the new strategic plan.

At the start of the strategic planning process, the UPPC agreed to the following principles (Sanagahan, 2012):

- We are committed to making the meaningful engagement of institutional stakeholders the heart of the strategic planning process
- We are committed to transparency
- We will actively seek an external perspective
- We are committed to dealing with the tough issues within our institution.

7. **What process was followed?**

The UPPC began its first meeting looking at the current vision and values of the institution to determine our strengths. We looked closely at external influences and threats. As described below, we administered a survey for stakeholders to share opinions about who we are, what we do, and our impact as a university, and the results of the survey have helped guide UPPC’s thinking. Later in the process, UPPC members self-selected a working group and team members were selected for each group. Areas of strength for the topic were identified and innovative ideas to further strengths and threats within the topic were identified. The Working Groups are in the process of developing 3 to 5 strategies for possible inclusion in the plan.

8. **What Working groups have been formed?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate Education</th>
<th>Graduate Education</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Sustainability</td>
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<td>Globalization</td>
<td>Work-Life Balance</td>
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<td>Outreach &amp; Engagement</td>
<td>Resources</td>
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<td>Diversity</td>
<td>Technology &amp; E-Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Life</td>
<td>Accountability &amp; Efficiency</td>
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9. **What did the Working Groups do?**

Working Groups were asked to work with appropriate stakeholders to identify "what if" opportunities for their assigned topics as Appalachian State University shapes its vision for the next five years. The sub-committee goals were to: a) spend time identifying "best practice" research on the topic and sharing articles and ideas from other universities; b) brainstorm opportunities in the area, using members' expertise and experience; c) identify key groups and constituents on campus who are specialists in the topic and who could provide feedback to the sub-committee to help shape their work; and, d) develop and present recommendations to the UPPC.

10. **How has the UPPC sought input into the plan?**

A survey about the strategic direction for Appalachian sought input from students, faculty, staff, members of campus leadership, boards, parents, alumni and the community. There were a total of 1436 respondents. Information about the results of the survey may be found at [http://strategicplanning.appstate.edu/documents-reports/stakeholder-survey-february-2013](http://strategicplanning.appstate.edu/documents-reports/stakeholder-survey-february-2013). The UPPC heard from many stakeholders but we want to hear from others. Individuals are encouraged to visit the Strategic Planning Website to
provide input on various aspects of the plan (http://strategicplanning.appstate.edu/sp-files; http://strategicplanning.appstate.edu/contact.

11. Why is sustainability the theme for the new strategic plan?
Sustainability has long been a part of the Appalachian State culture. It is demonstrated daily in curricular and co-curricular initiatives. Evidence of this value may be found in the self-imposed fee students developed to fund sustainability initiatives. From the solar panels in front of Raley Hall to the wind turbine rising above the campus, our students, faculty and staff believe we must embrace sustainability to protect the Earth and its people.

The UPPC developed the following Statement on Sustainability which broadens the definition beyond energy, environment and economics. Sustainability at Appalachian State University is not a trend, it is a tradition. We are active stewards of our State's interconnected financial, cultural and natural resources. Through engaged scholarship, we balance critical, creative and global thinking in a living laboratory.

12. Why were the mission, vision, essential characteristics and core assets revised?
SACSCOC has a standard related to mission review. Standard 2.5 requires a systematic review of the institutional mission. The last mission review occurred in 2007-2008 during the planning process for Reach Greater Heights. The institution has been directed to submit its mission to the UNC General Administration for system-wide review in September 2013.

13. What is the timeline for the Strategic Planning process?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hold Campus &amp; Community Meetings</td>
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<td>Draft Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seek Feedback &amp; Input</td>
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<td>Seek Approval from BOT</td>
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14. Who are the members of the UPPC?
Cathy Bates, Associate Vice Chancellor & CIO – Information Technology Services
Susan Davies, Associate Vice Chancellor – Enrollment Management
Doris Bazzini, Program Director – Department of Psychology
Scott Collier, Associate Professor – Department of Health, Leisure and Exercise Science
Georgie Donovan, Associate Dean – Library
Matt Dull, Director of Administrative Support Services – Student Development
Jill Ehrenn, Professor – Department of English (Faculty Senate Representative)
April Flanders, Associate Professor – Department of Art
Hank Forman, Associate Vice Chancellor – Communications & Cultural Affairs
David Freeman, Assistant Director - Student Involvement & Leadership (Staff Senate Representative)
Lori Gonzalez, Provost – Office of Academic Affairs
Tammy Kowalczyk, Associate Professor – Department of Accounting
Donna Little, Associate Professor – Department of English
Greg Lovina, Vice Chancellor – Business Affairs
Clark Maddux, Director – Service Learning
Mike Mayfield, Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education – Academic Affairs
Kelly McBride, Lead Librarian for Information Literacy – Library
Susan McCracken, Director – External Affairs & Community Relations
Ged Moody, Director – Office of Sustainability
Chris Osmond, Assistant Professor – Department of Leadership & Educational Studies (Senate Campus Planning Committee)
Susan Pettijohn, Vice Chancellor – Advancement
Jeff Ramsdell, Professor – Department of Technology & Environmental Design
Georgia Rhodes, Professor – Department of English, Director – Writing Across the Curriculum
John Secrest, Undergraduate Student
Bobby Sharp, Director – Institutional Research, Assessment & Planning
Neva Specht, Associate Dean – College of Arts & Sciences
Jesse Taylor, Professor – Department of Philosophy & Religion
Glenda Treadaway, Dean – College of Fine & Applied Arts
Cindy Wallace, Vice Chancellor – Student Development
Amanda Werts, Research Associate – College of Education
Brenda White-Wright, Member – Appalachian State University Board of Trustees
Doug Wilson, Graduate Student – Department of Technology & Environmental Design

References
Sanaghan, P. (June 2102) Strategic Planning: 5 tough question, 5 proven answers. Academic Impressions.

For more detailed information, please visit the Strategic Planning Website (http://strategicplanning.appstate.edu).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRATEGIC ACTIONS (Some might call these outcomes—ways to see that your priority is put into operation—should not be overly specific.)</th>
<th>POSSIBLE APPROACHES (if you have specific ideas about how the action can be carried out, include here. This is optional but helpful information)</th>
<th>PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING SURE STRATEGIC ACTION HAPPENS (This is where the buck stops list person, unit, or groups of people/units that need to get your actions completed)</th>
<th>ACCOUNTABILITY/ASSESSMENT MEASURES (Include a way to know if the strategic action is taking place and is fulfilling the priorities of the strategic plan)</th>
<th>RESOURCES (Divided between the “what” and the “how much.” The more specific the information the easier it will be for the resource committee)</th>
<th>INVESTMENT</th>
<th>INVESTMENT VALUE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. To ease the load on ORSP, we will develop positions within each college that will be the first line for faculty support. This makes discipline specific support possible and makes it easier for faculty to get grant work started and carried through to submission.</td>
<td>• Develop a position within each college (Director of Research) that is tasked with grant implementation including areas of budgeting, writing and post-award. Create discipline-specific support services such as statisticians, professional writers/editors, and a clearinghouse for RFP’s.</td>
<td>Academic Affairs/Office of Sponsored Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Expand IT in support of research collaborations and partnerships. Work with Compliance to develop University-wide HIPPA and Data security to enhance compliance resources.</td>
<td>• Expand Reach NC for all faculty involved in research and creative endeavors. • Create and manage data management plans necessary for research and often mandated by federal funding agencies. • Build the secure environments necessary for</td>
<td>Academic Affairs/VPR</td>
<td>Deans/VPR</td>
<td>Information Technology Services</td>
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</table>
5. Expand departmental cluster hires while providing resources to the current Centers on campus such as IEEE and IHEH.

6. Expand time, space, and internal funding for research.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research and often mandated by federal funding agencies.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Create a compliance council for dissemination of information to abide by export control and proprietary property issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F Vet cluster hire proposals through new Center and a committee of interdisciplinary faculty. Actual hires would be made by the academic department (or could be made using the Diversity Fellows model).</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deans</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Academic Affairs</th>
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| • Support departmental efforts to develop differential workload policies that provide adequate redistribution of time for research. |
| • Provide adequate, well-equipped space for existing and future scholarly activity, beginning with a research specific facilities improvement/expansion plan. |
| • Increase allocation of startup funds, travel/dissemination funding, and funding for non-faculty |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Affairs/Deans</th>
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<tr>
<th>Academic Affairs/Business Affairs</th>
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• Provide funding from empty faculty lines and other sources that do not compromise regular route of tenure-track hiring.

• Provide funding from empty faculty lines and other sources that do not compromise existing funding to colleges.
7. Increase advancement efforts to obtain external giving dedicated to research.

8. Build a structure for cost allocation that includes a permanent "administrative service charge" whereby auxiliary units (especially receipt-generating units) return a percentage of their non-state supported revenue to cover their operating costs. Such monies would (i) relieve financial pressure on monies that could then be used for academic/research purposes; and (ii) be directly rechanneled to academic/research uses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Personnel</th>
<th>Advancement/Academic Affairs</th>
<th>Business Affairs</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUBCOMMITTEE NAME</td>
<td>SD 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>In support of its primary mission of educating students, Appalachian State University realizes the value of scholarship in teaching and will expand its efforts to include both undergraduate and graduate students in research efforts of all disciplines.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<p>| STRATEGIC ACTIONS (Some might call these outcomes—ways to see that your priority is put into operation—should not be overly specific.) | POSSIBLE APPROACHES (If you have specific ideas about how the action can be carried out, include here. This is optional but helpful information) | PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING SURE STRATEGIC ACTION HAPPENS (This is where the buck stops list person, unit, or groups of people/units that need to get your actions completed) | ACCOUNTABILITY/ASSESSMENT MEASURES (Include a way to know if the strategic action is taking place and is fulfilling the priorities of the strategic plan) | RESOURCES (Divided between the “what” and the “how much.” The more specific the information the easier it will be for the resource committee) | INVESTMENT | INVESTMENT VALUE |
|------------------|------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------|----------------|
|                  |      |                                 |                                 |                                 |                                 |        |                |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Provide competitive research salaries and tuition assistance for graduate and undergraduate students. Double the GRAM Program numbers.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Expand efforts of Office of Student Research and ORSP to provide a clearinghouse for students with a desire for research.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Increase number of Summer Research Assistantships</td>
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<td>4. Increase student attendance and follow-up for research events.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Explore the possibility of State Appropriations for tuition assistance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate School/Susan McCrackens office/VPR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Create QR codes for interested students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colleges/Departments/ORSP/OSR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Most faculty complete research in the Summer so this is best time for student involvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>OSR/VPR</td>
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<tr>
<td>New donor funds specifically for student research. Administrative service charge. External funding, student funding, student program fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUBCOMMITTEE NAME</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Increase the infrastructure on existing Institutes of Research and Creative endeavors</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Academic departments collaborate with ITS to create a interdisciplinary research clearinghouse and toolbox for all faculty. Increase efforts to roll-out Reach NC to all Departments</td>
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<tr>
<td>STRATEGIC ACTIONS</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Increase visibility and recognition of research at Appalachian.</td>
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<td>2. Advertise research resources internally and externally.</td>
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(SD 4) The role North Carolina citizens play in the global ecosystem and society, and will continue to expand its efforts to make visible the research efforts of all disciplines, locally and globally.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Enhance speakers series to feature Appalachian faculty research.</th>
<th>Add a “Learn about faculty/stUDENT scholarship event to Appalachian Summer Festival.”</th>
<th>Academic Affairs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 4. Encourage faculty networking at all levels. | • Enhance participation in reading groups, discussion boards, and other professional development opportunities, whether regional, national or international.  
• Enhance participation in and organizational activities for regional, national and international organizations and conferences.  
• Enhance regional, national, and international research collaborations. | |
| 5. Develop and implement educational programs and policies for faculty and student collaborating in international research | Policies developed for: sensitive data i.e. Export Controls, Intellectual property, student email accounts (Currently Gmail which has servers outside of USA) | VPR/CIO |
Initiatives:

- Additional faculty profiles will be added to the REACH NC expertise database during the next few months with the help of a new Research Publications tool, which harvests faculty members’ publication records from public websites and faculty CVs.
- Appalachian Women Scientists (AWS) Seed Grants and Travel and Dependent Care Grants.
- Frantz and Love have absorbed pre-award program management of the REI/URC and URC grants programs.

Other Activities:

- Faculty consultations/meetings:
  - Frantz: 8
  - Love: 9

- Student consultations/meeting:
  - Frantz: 1
  - Love: 1

- Limited submission funding opportunity faculty review coordination:
  - American Honda Foundation (September 2013)

- GRS Director (Pollyanne Frantz) activities:
  - Frantz has been elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Research Administrators Certification Council, a national organization promoting the concept of voluntary certification by examination for research and sponsored programs administrators.
  - Frantz provided feedback to the University Planning and Priorities Council Research Subcommittee.

For a complete listing of events, see [http://orsp.appstate.edu/events/orsp](http://orsp.appstate.edu/events/orsp)
Frantz is collaborating with UNC colleagues to develop content for the North Carolina Training Consortium, a resource to augment local training programs and materials (July -).

- **GRS Assistant Director (Amy Love) activities:**
  - Love provided feedback to the University Planning and Priorities Council Research Subcommittee.
  - Love presented information about the federal and state research funding outlook for FY2014 to the University Research Council following her attendance at the August 2013 AASCU/Grants Resource Center’s External Funding Conference. [Conference presentations are available in the Grants Resources & Services’ AsuLearn site](http://orsp.appstate.edu/events/orsp).
  - Love is serving as Staff Senate Secretary.

- **Events:**
  - National Science Foundation’s Graduate Research Fellowship program workshop featuring Dr. Jennifer Cecile, Department of Chemistry (Oct. 1 / 2 participants).

**Upcoming events:**

- First Fridays: “Abandoned Houses & Their Invented Narratives: Recent Mixed Media Quilts” featuring Ms. Jeana Klein, Associate Professor of Art (Oct. 4)
- New Faculty and Researcher Workshop (Oct. 15)
- Developing a New Research Agenda (Oct. 23)
- First Fridays: “Sustainable Water Use” featuring Dr. Kristan Cockerill, Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies (Nov. 1).

*For a complete listing of events, see [http://orsp.appstate.edu/events/orsp](http://orsp.appstate.edu/events/orsp)*
Announcements

- Appalachian approved a revised Export Controls Compliance policy [http://policy.appstate.edu/Export_Controls_Compliance](http://policy.appstate.edu/Export_Controls_Compliance) which simplifies our compliance program.
  - Faculty, staff, and students are responsible for contacting Research Protections to confirm compliance with export control regulations if there is a question of whether an export is subject to regulations or if travel involves a sanctioned country.
  - The revised policy gives the Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs, Dr. Jesse Lutabingwa, responsibility for compliance with the Cuban Assets Control Regulations.

- Some journals are requesting that studies which can be classified as clinical trials are registered in the ClinicalTrials.gov system. Appalachian currently has 6 studies in ClinicalTrials.gov. Julie Taubman serves as the University’s administrator for the system.

- Julie Taubman gave a workshop, Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Part 1, on October 4 to the GRAM students.

Coming Events

- October 11, Julie Taubman gives an RCR workshop to a Chemistry 3000 class
- October 22, IRB meeting
- October 29, Institutional Biosafety Council meeting
- November 1, Robin Tyndall gives RCR Part 2 to GRAM students
Grant and Contract Activity (http://orsp.appstate.edu/about/reports)

- Current Fiscal Year (FY) to date information is available on the Web
  - 50 Submissions (+9%) through September requesting $4.8 (-34%) million, compared to 46 asking for $7.4 million in FY14
  - 52 Awards (-9%) through September totaling $3.3 million (-11%) in contrast with 57 awards for $3.7 million in FY13
  - In addition to submissions and new award processing, Sponsored Programs staff are providing programmatic support for 176 active projects
  - 6 first time applicants have submitted proposals since the FY began

Announcements

- Jo Harris has retired and Sponsored Programs is in the midst of a search for a new part-time temporary employee with a decision anticipated by the end of the week of October 7th. The departments previously managed by Ms. Harris have been picked up by other SP staff.
- Sponsored Programs has been in close contact with recipients of federal funding re the status of individual awards and the federal shutdown. Four projects and one IPA agreement have seen interruption of activity.
- Skype us! Further enhancing service to faculty and staff, SP will provide Skype access to those who are working in the field or who simply prefer this communication medium to the phone. Each grant manager will take turns monitoring a shared Skype line (appstate.grants1). In addition to the generic Skype account, most managers will also set up appointments with PIs using their personal Skype accounts as needed.
- Tell us how we did…. SP has created a survey to collect information about the proposal submission process from PIs as they complete AGrants routing. The final e-mail distributed to PIs one their proposal received the “Proposal Approved” status in AGrants now contains a link to a brief survey. The survey will help SP know what we are doing well and where there are bumps in the road that need additional attention.

Initiatives

- Sponsored Programs will begin contacting PIs this month to solicit Allocation of Credit information from PIs to affect revisions to the monthly report. Department chairs have requested lists of projects on which their faculty are engaged so they can monitor these approvals. Allocations for which forms are not returned will default to 100% credit allocated to the leas PI’s home department. This activity follows discussion with the Provost’s Council, the URC, and the Council of Chairs.
- Sponsored Programs continues to work with General Counsel and the Conflicts of Interest and Commitment Council to automate the annual review process in a manner that facilitates sponsored project activity while remaining responsive to institutional, state and federal policies.