

Faculty Senate Research Policy Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2014

3:00 p.m. to 4:05 p.m.

- Members Present:** Dan Barkley, Walter Gerstle (Chair), David Hanson, Mary Anne Newhall, Cathy Huaqing Qi, Tom Turner, Blair Wolf
- Members Absent:** Tobias Fischer (excused), Kimberly Jane, Holly Jacobson (excused), Behnam Mousavi, Mahmoud Taha (excused)
- Ex-Officio Present:** Michael Dougher, Michele Huff
- Ex-Officio Absent:** Elizabeth Kuuttila (excused), Richard Larson
- Guests Present:** Susanne Anderson-Riedel, Research Allocations Committee Chair, Barbara West, OVPR, Eri Hoshi, STC
- Minutes:** Candyce Torres, Office of the Secretary

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved
2. **Introductions:** Those present introduced themselves
3. **Approval of minutes of the March 26, 2014 meeting:** Approved without change
4. RAC Report- RAC Chair, Susanne Anderson-Riedel

The RAC Chair provided a summary of the RAC activities for FY13/14. Susanne Anderson Riedel indicated that Fall 2013 had 44 grant applications with a request to fund \$352,488. Out of the 44 applications 15 grant applications were funded at a total of \$107,342. During Spring 2014 there were also 44 grant applications with a request to fund \$350,964. Out of the 44 grant applications, 13 grant applications were funded at a total of \$95,679. All together \$203,000 was funded for new research this year. The RAC Committee worked diligently to spread the request/funds through the disciplines because the proposals are so fundamentally different depending on which background it is coming from. RAC gives priority to non-tenured faculty but does not exclude tenured faculty. Looking at these statistics two main issues have surfaced from the RAC discussions: request for a larger budget to adequately fund new research on campus. New research that then leads to larger external grants applications. Susanne Anderson-Riedel has requested that OVPR track the RAC as seed money for larger applications. She will have to revisit the name of the contact person she spoke with from OVPR.

Mike Dougher indicated that OVPR is currently evaluating the current electronic proposal submission system, Cayuse and is looking at alternative electronic proposal submissions for UNM to utilize. Wellspring is currently the leading contender. Michele Huff is overseeing this project.

Michele Huff indicated that there is currently no way to reflect Susanne Anderson-Riedel's request to track RAC money as Cayuse does not let you search anything; thereby, preventing this process. However, Michele Huff indicated that Wellspring would be able to accommodate that.

Two additional concerns that Susanne Anderson-Riedel brought before the FS Research Policy Committee were that there are certain programs that keep applying for RAC that do not have much success. Also for the first time the branch campuses were included this year and the faculty was very happy that they had a chance to participate but were not competitive. Susanne Anderson-Riedel was approached by a branch administrator inquiring if there would be a possibility for a workshop to help the faculty understand competitive grant proposals. Susanne Anderson-Riedel requested that there be a possibility to host a workshop to help faculty develop competitive grant proposal here on the main campus and invite faculty branch campuses. Susanne Anderson-Riedel expressed that moving forward RAC will continue to refine and adjust the guidelines. A meeting will take place on May 16th to discuss the RAC funding policy and other agenda items as necessary. Also, she announced that the request to enlarge the committee is currently pending, the charge is drafted, the members would join in Fall 2014, and currently awaits approval by the Faculty Senate.

Action- Mike Dougher indicated that Leslie McFadden from Earth and Planetary Sciences will be developing a process by which branch campuses can get involved in research. He will have Leslie McFadden include workshop for writing proposals and RAC will be included.

5. Annual Research Lecture

The invitation has been drafted, finalized by OVPR, and was sent out via USPS with an RSVP deadline of April 28th.

6. Centers and Institutes Policy Proposals A88, and A91: Hanson/Gerstle

Dr. Gerstle provided an update to the FS Research Policy Committee. He indicated that he worked with Carol Stephens, Office of the University Secretary and went through these policies to put them in good shape to be ready to be in the Faculty handbook. Mike Dougher indicated that these policies from his perspective are fine to send out to the Center and Institute Directors as well as HSC Council.

Action- Send policies: **A88** and **A91** to Center and Institute Directors and HSC Council.

7. F&A Subcommittee Resolution on Policy E60: Gerstle

Dr. Gerstle informed the FS Research Policy Committee that this policy is ready to be sent to Center and Institute Directors and HSC Council.

Action- Send policy **E60** to Center and Institute Directors and HSC Council.

8. Select RPC chair for 2014-2016 term.

Action- David Hanson was elected as the new chair.

9. New Business: No new business.

10. Adjourned: 4:05PM