

Research Policy Committee Minutes
April 18, 2012

Members present: Gerstle (Chair), Neely, Daniel Appeloe (in for Lau), Neely, Mousavi, Manning, S. Lau (virtually), Kuuttila (ex-officio), Cassiano, West, Hanson

Guests: Barkley

- Agenda approved
- Kuuttila announced next Wednesday evening, STC.com is holding the annual Creative Award event. Stephen Hersee—2012 Innovator Fellow Award, is retiring from UNM Spring 212. Forty-four other faculty have patents. Tuesday, late afternoon, Keynote Speaker from Washington, DC, will be giving a talk on the impact on American Invents Acts and the Stanford v. Roche decision.
- Minutes Approved with Changes: **Below to replace Zimmer report in March 21 minutes:**
 - Facilities & Administrative (F&A) Subcommittee Draft Report – Pete Zimmer
 - Subcommittee members: Pete Zimmer, Walter Gerstle, Patrick Manning, Cassiano De Oliveira
 - Zimmer reported that the subcommittee was convened to look at how F&A overhead generated by PIs and units is distributed. The total generation for FY11 for each College/School level (level 3) was presented. Fifty-one % is the nominal on-campus sponsored research rate, but in practice various funding mechanisms carry a wide range of overhead rates.
 - \$6.4 million – research enterprise
 - \$6.2 million – returned directly to schools and centers
 - \$5.7 million – F&A investment
 - \$1 million – debt repayment
 - \$1.5 million – carryover to FY12
 - Subcommittee also asked how F&A is spent in colleges/schools – did not find any inappropriate expenditures. Chairs and deans are spending the money the way they are supposed to.
 - General Discussion: RPC should recommend the OVPR (Julia Fulghum) have a clear formula for allocating F&A. Colleges/schools should also share what the process is. How much F&A researchers get back on their grants. Zimmer responded beginning FY12 and forward, a new policy for 35% back to Level 3. Discussion recommended each dean publish policies on how F&A is managed.
- Annual Research Award Subcommittee Update (Gerstle)
 - Selection was made: Stephanie Forest.
 - The Research Office should make the announcement soon. B. West reported J. Fulghum spoke with S. Forest on yesterday.
- (Gerstle) Zimmer is waiting for information to finalize the report. He has been trying to get the information for a while. B. West reports Zimmer wanted information going back to 2005. She has not had time to gather this data and it will be a huge undertaking to gather it and to make sure it is accurate. She's only been in her position for a few months.

- Task Force (S. Lau virtually from the U of Toronto). He has been working on the document distributed at the meeting (Internal Grants to Foster the External Funding of Research on UNM's Main Campus). S. Lau reports he was asked by W. Gerstle to draft the document. He missed the last meeting and forgot there is a RAC subcommittee of RPC. He is the chair. He asked Richard holder about the grant to find out information and found out someone else is working on this as well. The consensus was to wait until mid-May to finalize the report. W. Gerstle was asked by T. Ross to develop a policy proposal. This is important because there is support from the Provost and both UNM presidents. In February, S. Lau spoke with Marie Lobo, Nursing College and HSC, they run a similar system on North Campus and it runs very well. The full proposal is appended.
 - S. Lau provided an overview of the proposal. The proposal is kind of supplemental to the current system.
 - Two components – Secure external funding; and divide departments together into small groups to (15) to review proposals. Currently they are all sent to the RAC for review/evaluation.
 - General discussion of the proposal. S. Lau is seeking a system with little overhead for RAC. The small groups would be managed by RAC. Proposal evaluation would be done by departments. There was an earlier version of the proposal. S. Lau took some of the intro from that document; the idea of groups and more detail about the implementation is new from him talking with North Campus people.
 - General discussion of the RAC subcommittee management and operations. D. Barkley – proposal is different than what they received at the Senate Operations committee on 04/17/2012. Encouraged S. Lau to send the document to T. Ross. Senate Operations meets again on the 1st Tuesday in May.
 - Discussion of possible uses for grants. P. Manning – UNM can apply for only 2 NEA grants so opportunities for his college are extremely limited. He would like to see other grants remain.
 - Should the stated goal be just external? Discussion on the need for agreement on definition for a department. There was concern expressed for departments of various sized faculty representation on the 15 departments evaluating.
 - Next steps. W. Gerstle proposes we set as a goal, we will have a policy proposal by the end of 05/16/2012 meeting.
 - ACTION ITEM:
 - The proposal should be shared with RAC for their feedback.
 - Richard Herman and Virginia Shipman
 - Discussed when RPC reports back to T. Ross. Previous meeting indicates by the end of the spring semester, bot by final faculty senate meeting. Next full Faculty Senate meeting is Fall 2012. Discussed whether or not we should consult with T. Ross.
 - Agreed on a 2 step approach:
 - Proposal
 - Policy with full details to follow for Faculty Senate vote, clarifying RPC authority on recommending research dollars.
 - Clarified why the request to the OVP office managed research funds from 2005 forward was submitted.
 - Centers and Institutes Report: R. Valdez is not present
 - W. Gerstle has tried to get information from Robert Valdez with no success.
 - ACTION ITEM: W. Gerstle to contact RV again and see if he can meet with the committee.

Comment [TN1]: Not sure if this is what was expressed. I wrote "PEGS" but that's not a real word in this context I don't think!

- T. Neely and Cassiano reported on subcommittee past work. Concern was expressed for the importance of the subcommittee.
- Next meeting: May 16, 2012.