

RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF SENATE
March 16, 2010 3:30 – 5:00

Trades and Technology Room 155

Minutes

Present: Sandy Scarff, Nancy Van Wagoner (minutes), Jim Hu, Ehsan Latif (Chair), , Mohamed Tawhid, Paul Manhas, Julie Drolet, Cheryl Zawaduk, Will Garrett-Petts

Regrets:

1. Call to order
 - a. Ehsan welcomed Will to the Committee
 - b. Ehsan reported that Julie and Mohamed have volunteered to review the proposal for the Centre proposed by Bruce Baugh. One more person is needed. Ehsan will contact potential reviews from outside the RSC and determine their willingness to serve. The SRC will then approve the review committee through an email vote—agreed.
2. Adoption of Agenda Jim moved/Sandy Seconded, Approved
3. Approval of Minutes: Julie moved/Mohamed seconded, Approved
4. Report of AVP- Research and Graduate Studies
 - a. Main focus for March: Year end financials and reporting
 - i. Indirect Costs
 - ii. BCIC, NRC
 - iii. Grants and Contracts
 - b. Main focus for 2010-2011: Structures to improve practice
 - i. Research Manager
 - ii. Research Management System
 - iii. Financial system
 - iv. Expediting contract review
 - v. HR issues related to research
 - vi. Finishing policy review and development
 - vii. Research workshops and handbook
 - c. New Policy: External Research Funding Agreements
 - d. Biohazards Policy—to President's Council
 - e. Undergraduate Student Research and Innovation Conference: March 19-20.
 - f. Workshop on Contracts: Tamsin Miley, March 11, 2010 3:30-6:30
 - g. SSHRC and NSERC workshops are scheduled for May

- h. Funding through BC Knowledge Development Fund, anticipating announcement April 9th
 - i. Western Vice Presidents Academic and Research, March 3-6. Annual meeting. Main areas of interest to research: NSERC Engage grants, and new structure for SSHRC grants.
 - j. Research Enhancement Fund: next week
 - k. Award for Excellence in Scholarship—nominations to Senate
 - l. U-REAP for summer—released, applied for next year’s funds to CUEF committee
 - m. USRA’s nominations
 - n. EEG—successfully located to Psychology—good news story
 - o. Successful Engage Grant: Van Hamme, Church, and EnWave
 - p. VanHamme and student presented at downtown Rotary
5. Old Business
- a. The U-REAP award: The Research Committee agreed to form a subcommittee to review the U-REAP award in terms of the amount of the award, timing of the award, and quality of output. The first task of the subcommittee is to recommend the terms of reference of the review and involve at least one student in the considerations. The subcommittee is:
 - i. Ehsan Latif
 - ii. Jim Hu
 - iii. Will Garrett-Petts
 - iv. Cheryl Zawaduk
 - b. Policy on external grants (Nancy Van Wagoner): A draft policy on research funding agreements was tabled. The following concerns were raised:
 - i. Item 2 under “policy”: What is meant by “outside the university”. Should we re-word as follows: “which does not involve university resources, facilities, time or students”?
 - ii. Regulations A1: could this present a stumbling block if the Chair or Dean does not support research
 - iii. Regulations A4: Change the word “supervise” to “oversight” as supervise does not sound collegial.
 - iv. A9: Can this be reworded as follows: If normal responsibilities to teaching and other institutional obligations will be impacted, acceptable adjustments have been made and budgeted for in the proposal, and the related faculty or departmental budget as appropriate.
 - v. Discussion will continue during next meeting
6. Carry forward items for next meeting:
- a. Continue discussion on “b” above
 - b. Infusing research as a part of the undergraduate curriculum (Nancy Van Wagoner).
 - c. Workshops for deans and chairs (Nancy Van Wagoner)
 - d. Award for Excellence in Scholarship: amendments (Nancy Van Wagoner).
 - e. Research Enhancement Fund: amendments (Nancy Van Wagoner)

- f. Review of the University Strategic Plan (Nancy Van Wagoner)
- g. Undergraduate Research Mentorship Award (Nancy Van Wagoner)

7. Adjournment: 5:10 PM