

University of Tennessee Research Council

March 2, 2009

University Center, Executive Dining Room, Room 337

3:30 p.m.

FINAL

Attending:	Joanne Hall, Chair	Wes Hines
	Ken Stephenson, Vice Chair	Yuri Kamyshkov
	Mary Bartolini	James Larson
	Jim Conant	Carol Malkemus
	Ramon DeGennaro	Stefanie Ohnesorg
	Brad Fenwick	Thandi Onami
	Greer Fox	Ken Phillips
	Glenn Graber	Gina Pighetti
	Doug Hayes	Greg Reed
		Timothy Young

Approval of Minutes:

The February 16, 2009 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Opening Remarks – Joanne Hall

Joanne Hall thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Joanne Hall discussed a letter she received regarding the Faculty Senate Research Council subcommittee on Policies and Procedures. The subcommittee is requesting the outlining of the history and the charge of committees. Joanne Hall will send an e-mail to the Committee on Senate Effectiveness and ask if subcommittees need to be reorganized. The Faculty Senate Research Council is also interested in collecting some of the current policies toward research incentives for faculty and also poll the Research Council to see if this is an appropriate area for effort. The Research Council members discussed the lack of incentives for faculty to go out and get more research. A committee was formed to prepare a statement for the Faculty Senate Research Council. Greg Reed will request examples of the incentive plan used at the Agricultural Campus and the Memphis Campus.

Joanne Hall discussed the need for research in the TVA hazardous waste spill area. Researchers may send e-mails to her with ideas on what research can be done.

Brad Fenwick distributed a document titled “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (\$787B)” and sub-titled “STIMULUS “FRENZY” --- to --- STIMULUS “ENVY. He discussed some issues in the stimulus package which may have a big impact on research such as: allocations to different areas; federal agencies receiving funding;

state and federal distribution; and timeline. Brad Fenwick encouraged faculty to be prepared to submit proposals when opportunities come. Agencies cannot spend these funds in the time-line given. They will have to subcontract a portion of the funds.

Brad Fenwick distributed a handout titled “2009 Stimulus House-Senate-Conference Comparison” which listed the programs/policy where stimulus funds will be spent.

Brad Fenwick distributed and discussed a handout titled “Federal S&T Budget Outlook” which gave an outline of the Omnibus FY 09 (\$410B) package. Agencies will have to figure out how to distribute these funds which will provide faculty another opportunity to submit proposals. Brad Fenwick encourages faculty to be prepared to submit proposals because there will be a little window to take advantage of this opportunity. If we don’t take advantage it will probably be very difficult to compete in the future.

Brad Fenwick commented that a lot of information will be coming in the near future regarding the stimulus package and the budget. As information becomes available it will be posted in the Office of Research’s newsletters and on the Office of Research’s website.

Greg Reed discussed some issues with Grants.gov. “timing out”. This is caused by a “heavier than usual” server load at Grants.gov. Proposals are not recorded the time you attempt to submit them. They are recorded the time they are actually received by Grant.gov. He encouraged people not to wait until the last minute to submit.

Joanne Hall and Stephanie Ohnesorg commented that the Graduate Student Senate presented their survey to the Graduate Council. The Graduate Council was very interested in the survey and would like for it to be done involving more students.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Taylor