

Research Council Meeting
March 2, 2011, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
University Center, Executive Dining Room, Room 337

FINAL
Revised 04/26/11 (See Italicized)

Members, Ex-officios, & GSS Representatives Attending:

Ken Stephenson	Yuri Kamyshkov
Chris Boake	Clea McNeely
JoAnne Deeken	Bob Muenchen
Martin Griffin	Steve Oliver
Joanne Hall	Stephen Paddison
Lee Han	Greg Reed
Thomas Handler	Steven Yen
Wes Hines	

Guest Attending:

Carol Malkemus and Kelly Steele

Opening Remarks by Ken Stephenson, Chair

The February 2, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved as submitted and will be posted on the web page.

Ken Stephenson presented on behalf of Jennifer Hendricks, Chair of the Responsible Conduct of Research Committee, a “Working Draft” of the Policy on Misconduct in Research and Service. Joanne Hall summarized and explained the draft. Research Council members were asked to review it and send their comments to Jennifer Hendricks before the next meeting. It will be presented to the Research Council at the next meeting for a vote. This draft will be presented for legal review after the Research Council approves it.

January 18, 2011 NSF released a policy regarding maintenance of data research data. Discussions are underway regarding the best way for UTK to implement the storage and success for research data.

Ken Stephenson stated that the Research Council Chair position will be open in the fall and the Faculty Senate is looking for someone to fill the position.

Ken Stephenson encouraged members of the Research Council to attend the Faculty Forum Panel discussion on NRC Ranking Data at the Library on March 9, 2011 at 3:45 p.m.

Update from the Office of Research

Wes Hines and Greg Reed

A sign-up sheet was passed around for the ORU Budget Hearings on March 7 & 8, 2011 which will be held in Room 440, West Wing Haslam Building. The Office of Research is requesting the Research Council Members, the Associate Deans, and the Office of Research's Proposal Development Team to attend as much as possible and provide feedback to Greg Reed and Wes Hines on the presentations. Greg Reed explained that each center and institute that receives funding from the Office of Research is reviewed yearly at the ORU Budget Hearings. All other centers and institutes under the Office of Research are reviewed on a five year cycle.

There are three candidates being interviewed for the Vice Chancellor for Research position. They are Morris Foster, James Coleman, and Richard Hichwa. Susan Martin has announced the date and time for each candidates Open Forum which will be held in the Toyota Auditorium of the Howard H. Baker Center. The open forums are being webcast if you cannot attend. Greg Reed encouraged the Research Council to attend if possible and to provide their comments on the candidates.

The Fall 2010 Research Centers Review Committee has completed their review and submitted their recommendations. Their recommendations were approved. Greg Reed has contacted the Dean for each Center reviewed and talked to the Center Directors. Greg Reed thanks the committee for a thorough and well done job and coming up with good recommendations. The recommendations of the reviews were: The James L. Clayton Center for Entrepreneurial Law was approved for 5 more years; the Tourism Institute is no longer classified as a center and will reapply as a service center; and the Nutrition Institute will be disbanded and merge into the UT Obesity Research Center. These recommendations have been implemented and put in place.

Greg Reed explained how the budget cuts will affect ORU funding. The ORU Budget Hearings constitutes a review for the centers who present. The purpose of ORU funding is to help establish groups to get started and is not intended for long term support. ORU funds should support new groups as other groups graduate. You do not have to be a formal center with a formal administration group to request and receive funding. Campus Joint Institutes compete for funding on a yearly basis. There is a five year chart on the Office of Research's website that shows who has received funding, the PI, and how their funding is being phased down.

The reduction in funding will affect SARIF funding and the operating budget in the Office of Research. There was a discussion about more of the F&A funding being returned to the Office of Research, units and centers. Yuri Kamyshev will draft a motion regarding a certain percentage of F&A that is currently going into the general fund should be returned to the Office of Research. The draft will be presented at the next Research Council Meeting. Wes Hines discussed how Chris Cimino is evaluating how F&A should be distributed and increase the Office of Research's budget.

There was a discussion on what impact HR1 will have on research at UTK. Wes Hines suggested that UTK have one common voice to meet with the legislature and explain to the legislature what is needed at UTK.

Wes Hines discussed the Faculty Research Incentive Plan. This plan is to provide a one-time bonus to faculty who meet expectations in all areas: research, teaching, and service. Each department would make the decision if they participate and who should receive the bonus. *The model must be equally applied to all faculty in the department. The department head will determine where the funds to cover the bonuses will come from, but are expected to come from RIF and salary recovery. This could be used as an incentive tool and a recruitment tool. The Chancellor likes this plan. He has presented it to the Associate Deans for Research and to the Council of Deans for comment and given them till March 4th to comment.* The plan is to give the bonuses in October or November. Steve Oliver explained how this program works on the Agricultural Campus.

Wes Hines discussed the Top 25. There is no UT money in it and no funds will be added. There will be a re-allocation of funding where funds are needed. Some of the Top 25 initiatives do not require funding. The goal to be a Top 25 university should trickle down to each department. Each unit should benchmark themselves with the Top 25 expectations.

Greg Reed announced Research Week will be the week of March 27, 2011. It will end with the EURECA event on Mar. 30 & 31, 2011.

Greg Reed thanked the Chancellor's Awards Committee for an excellent job in selecting nominees. The announcement for these awards will be made at the Chancellor's Honors Banquet. Tom Handler, Chair of the Chancellor's Awards Committee, discussed the announcement wording/criteria on the Office of Research's website for these awards. He will work with Greg Reed on this. The department heads should be encouraged to really look at the rules. There was also a discussion regarding giving more awards next year. Tom Handler will word a motion regarding this for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Taylor