

**Research Council Meeting
March 12, 2014
Blount Hall
Room A004**

FINAL

Attendees

Tina Shepardson, Chair	Sadie Hutson
Benjamin Auerbach	Ramki Kalyanaraman
Chris Boake	Holly Mercer
Matthew Cooper	Robert Muenchen
Ian Down	Kim Newkirk
Bill Dunne	Greg Reed
Taylor Eighmy	Dixie Thompson
Martin Griffin	Ahmad Vakili
Joanne Hall	Yeager Kenton

Guests

Lee Han, Carol Malkemus, and Kelly Steele

Welcome – Tina Shepardson

Tina Shepardson thanked everyone for coming. She thanked the various Research Council Committees who have been involved in overseeing various competitions.

The November 13, 2013 minutes were unanimously approved.

The January 8, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved.

Presentation on Faculty Development Team – Suzanne Lodato

Suzanne Lodato, Director of the Faculty Development Team (FDT) in the Office of Research & Engagement, gave a presentation explaining the mission of the FDT. The FDT helps UTK faculty build the knowledge, skills, and abilities they need to obtain external funding for their research and creative activity. Services provided by FDT include:

- Proposal review and editing – close personal attention
- Graphics
- Advice on funding opportunities
- Coordination of award nominations
- Facilitation of interdisciplinary Communities of Scholars
- Training in grant writing

FDT service areas include:

- Faculty Fellowships – Proposal Review and Editing
- Faculty Awards – Proposal Review and Editing
- Grant Proposal Advice, Consultation, Editing
- Communities of Scholars
- Workshops and Presentations

FDT Activities – Coordination and consultation with the Research Council, Associate Deans, and Directors of Research

Presentation on the faculty elements of the Strategic Plan – John Zomchick

John Zomchick, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, held an open discussion about the faculty elements of the Strategic Plan. Top 25 Strategic Plan recognizes that the campus does not have good data in all disciplines. The campus is currently considering a software called Elements which is a database made by faculty for faculty and is a research managerial system. The College of Business will be the first college imported into the system. OIT is working with Elements to design the software to collect information on faculty such as: courses taught, number of students, annual reports, engaged scholarships, etc. Elements currently does not have a lot of reports, but OIT can program it to produce reports. The goal is to find a way to help departments enter historical data and for individual faculty to keep it updated. Elements will be tested by faculty on the committee. Access to Elements will be available to faculty members, department heads, and deans.

Report from Office of Research & Engagement – Taylor Eighmy

Taylor Eighmy distributed four documents regarding the Progress Report on the Strategic Action Plan for ORE. The documents distributed were titled: Progress Report on the Strategic Action Plan for ORE; Opportunity for input and Feedback; Handout 1: Attendees of All Listening Sessions; Handout 2: Listening Session Summary Notes – Top Items; and Handout 3: SAP Action Items (Draft 1, 2-14-14) Funding & Facilities. Eighmy explained that the handout titled Progress Report on the Strategic Action Plan for ORE came from information collected from Handout 1: Attendees of All Listening Sessions; Handout 2: Listening Session Summary Notes – Top Items; and Handout 3: SAP Action Items (Draft 1, 2-14-14) Funding & Facilities. Common questions were asked to the groups attending each Listening Session. All the information on handouts will be embedded in a handout that will be posted on the Office of Research & Engagement's website. Eighmy asked the Research Council members to look at items in the Progress Report on the Strategic Action Plan for ORE to see if anything was missing or any changes should be made. Eighmy will e-mail the handouts to the Research Council members so they can return it to him with their edited remarks.

Eighmy will come back to the Research Council for further discussion.

Business

Report of Chancellor's Awards Committee – Ramki Kalyanaraman

Ramki Kalyanaraman recommended this committee as a great one to be on. Kalyanaraman thanked the committee for their commitment to this committee: Ben Auerbach, Chris Boake, Bill Dunne, Tom Ladd, and Holly Mercer. There are three Chancellor Awards: Research and Creative Achievement (13 nominations received/4 recommended); Professional Promise in Research and Creative Achievement Award (22 nominations received/4 recommended); and Success in Multidisciplinary Research Award (3 nominations received/1 considered). The committee ranked each candidate and met to discuss before their recommendations were sent to Greg Reed, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research & Engagement. Shepardson thanked the committee for a fine job.

Update of Bylaws Committee – Martin Griffin

Martin Griffin explained that the Bylaws Committee was asked to propose appropriate revisions for Article J of the Faculty Senate Bylaws. The committee hopes the revisions will be minimal. The revisions will be presented at the April 9, 2014 meeting.

Update on SARIF GRA Committee – Kim Newkirk

Kim Newkirk reported that 46 Summer Graduate Research assistantship applications were received. The SARF GRA Committee has reviewed and ranked them and sent their recommendations to Greg Reed for the top 15 applicants. Shepardson thanked the committee (Benjamin Auerbach, Chris Boake, Kim Newkirk, Bob Cargile, and Tom Handler) for their hard work.

Update on ORU Review – Stephen Paddison

The ORU Budget Hearings are scheduled for the afternoon of March 24th; afternoon of March 25th; afternoon of March 27th; and morning of March 28th. Reed explained that he is contacting Research Council Members requesting their participation in reviewing at least one ORU Budget Hearing session and trying to match up reviewers with disciplines of interest. All sessions are open for the Research Council members to attend. The ORU proposal and the ORU Budget Hearing schedule is posted on the ORE website. Taylor Eighmy explained that reviewers should consider starting new things that can become self-sustaining.

Update on Research Compliance – Robert Nobles

Robert Nobles, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research, Responsible Conduct of Research & Research Integrity Officer, gave an update on software that will be available in the near future for compliance. The software company, iMedRIS, is based out of California and has been used by UT Health Science Center in Memphis since 2006. The UT System leadership recently removed restrictions for incorporating non-enterprise software for compliance administration. Nobles anticipated functionality of the system for the IRB by September 1, 2014.

Nobles discussed increase compliance coordination with Sponsored Programs and Sponsored Accounting in efforts to facilitate enhanced proactive outreach activities with faculty submitting projects and requiring compliance approvals.

Nobles informed the group of the national movement for expanded open access data requirements, which has already been observed within requirements from the NIH and NSF. The availability of TRACE (Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange) on campus was highlighted as a potential option for data storage. More information will be forthcoming to the group as additional federal regulatory requirements are released.

Nobles announced that Brenda Lawson, IRB Compliance Officer, is retiring June 30, 2014. A search committee for her position has been formed and coordination with the Research Council is expected as the prospective IRB Compliance Officers are interviewed and selected.

New Business

Shepardson reminded everyone that the next Research Council Meeting will be on April 9th. There will be a discussion about who will be the chair of the committee next year.

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Jane Taylor