

## Research Council Meeting

April 9, 2014

Blount Hall

Room A004

### Final

### Attendees

Tina Shepardson, Chair

Chris Boake

Matthew Cooper

Ian Down

Taylor Eighmy

Martin Griffin

Joanne Hall

Tom Handler

Sadie Hutson

Tom Ladd

Robert Muenchen

Stephen Paddison

Ken Phillips

Greg Reed

Yeager Kenton

### Guests

Mitch Goldman, Lee Han, Carol Malkemus, and Kelly Steele

### Welcome

Tina Shepardson welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming.

### Presentation on Joint Directed R&D – Lynne Parker

Tina Shepardson introduced Lynne Parker, Assistant Director of Science Alliance Joint Directed Research & Development Program (JDRD), which began in 2006. Lynne Parker discussed the JDRD's mission and goals. The JDRD program is an internal (UTK) research program to encourage collaborative research with ORNL which provide funds to UTK faculty. A call for a three-page proposal is announced with a deadline identified. Typically, six weeks are allowed for UTK faculty to apply. All UTK faculty are eligible, but higher priority is given to assistant professors and new UTK/ORNL collaborations. Funds are typically spent on research ideas and people who can do research. A review panel scores proposals, and a review panel meets and ranks the proposals. Faculty are encouraged to apply, especially new faculty. Parker explained the process to participate.

Lynne Parker discussed a new program called The Science Alliance-Liane B. Russell Fellowship Collaborative Cohort Program, which was developed through STEM in conjunction with ORNL. The purpose of this program is to develop future thought leaders for UTK and for ORNL for underrepresented groups. Fellows will be awarded a two-year fellowship.

To learn more about the JDRD program and the Collaborative Cohort Program, contact Lynne Parker at [leparker@utk.edu](mailto:leparker@utk.edu) or visit Science Alliance's website: <http://scialli.utk.edu/jdrd/>.

### **Presentation on Research Development Team – Charlie Senn**

Tina Shepardson introduced Charlie Senn, Research Development Team Director. Charlie Senn explained that the Research Development Team (RDT) works with PIs and teams to develop successful research funding proposals. He explained and gave an example of each RDT staff's role. RDT's mission is to help faculty form competitive research teams and collaborations to identify and pursue large strategic opportunities. This includes multi-million-dollar opportunities, multidisciplinary centers, and projects with extensive arrays of external partnering, both institutional and corporate. The goal of the RDT is to increase the number of major awards by forming faculty research teams early and leveraging our campus research strengths and partnerships. The RDT is centrally focused on PIs and collaborative teams. The RDT engages as early as possible with the creation of the proposal to relieve the PI and team of as much of the paperwork as possible. The RDT tracks opportunities coming up to contact PIs before announcements come out. The RDT staff will be happy to meet with units to present how the RDT can be of assistance. The RDT wants to make faculty successful at the larger proposal level.

### **Report from Office of Research and Engagement – Taylor Eighmy**

Taylor Eighmy distributed a handout and gave a presentation on the proposed vision and mission of the Office of Research & Engagement (ORE) Action Plan, which was previously called the ORE Strategic Action Plan. The proposed vision will foster excellence in research, scholarship and creative activity across all disciplines; promote transdisciplinary discovery; and facilitate external partnerships to enhance the discovery enterprise and its impact to society. The mission is to facilitate an environment that fosters intellectual discovery; creative problem solving; and the generation, dissemination, and application of knowledge. The proposed responsibilities and services of each administration group in ORE were explained: Office of Sponsored Programs, Faculty Development Team, Research Development Team, Responsible Conduct of Research, Undergraduate Research, Research Investments, Research Informatics, Science Alliance, External Relations, Community Engagement, and Research Finance & Administration. The floor was opened for questions, answers, and suggested changes. Changes to the handout will be made as discussed.

Taylor Eighmy distributed a handout and discussed ORE Action Plan Items (Draft 2, 4-8-14). The floor was open for questions and comments.

### **Business**

#### **Approval of minutes from March 12**

The March 12, 2014 minutes were unanimously approved.

#### **Proposed Revisions, Bylaws Committee – Martin Griffin**

Martin Griffin presented the proposed revision of the bylaws. He explained revisions that had been made and asked for comments. Research Council members requested an additional change to the effect that the immediate past Chair of the Research Council will serve as an ex-officio member of the Council for the next academic year. Lee Han made a motion to accept the bylaws as amended; seconded by Joanne Hall; and unanimously approved. The presented document will be updated to a final draft to be presented to the Executive Council by Tina Shepardson.

#### **Report of Center Review Committee – Kenton Yeager**

Kenton Yeager, Chair of the Center Review Committee, reported that the committee has reviewed the Center for Applied Research and Evaluation, Planetary Geosciences Institute, and the Early Learning

Center this semester. All three were approved to continue for five years. The committee is in the process of reviewing the Institute for Environmental Modeling. Kenton Yeager reported that the Anderson Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation was scheduled to be reviewed in Spring 2013. They have been contacted numerous times but have not submitted their report. Tom Ladd, Associate Dean for Research in the College of Business, will follow up on this.

#### **Reports of other RC Committees, as needed**

Tina Shepardson thanked all of the committees for all their hard work.

#### **Vote on 2014-2015 Research Council Chair**

Tina Shepardson asked if anyone was interested in being Chair of the Research Council next year. No one spoke up. Tina Shepardson stated that she is willing to be the Chair for one more year. Tina Shepardson stepped out of the room and Lee Han presided over the vote. Martin Griffin made a motion for Tina Shepardson to be the Chair next year, seconded by Lee Han, and unanimously approved.

#### **New Business**

Lee Han presented Greg Reed with a plaque from the Research Council, wishing him well in his next endeavors and thanking him for the constant support he has given the Research Council during his term as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research & Engagement. The plaque was circulated for everyone to see.

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Jane Taylor