

**Research Council Meeting
September 11, 2013
Blount Hall
Room A004**

FINAL

Attendees

Christine, Shepardson, Chair	Ramki Kalyanaraman
Benjamin Auerbach	Tom Ladd
Chris Boake	Holly Mercer
Bill Dunne	Robert Muenchen
Martin Griffin	Kim Newkirk
	Greg Reed

Guest

Gale Furton, Mitch Goldman, Yuri Kamyshev, Carol Malkemus, and Kelly Steele

Remarks by the Chair - Shepardson

Christine Shepardson welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Shepardson thanked Lee Han for all the work he did as Chair of the Research Council the past two years. Shepardson discussed her goals to broaden the spectrum on campus and across disciplines to create more balance. She also thanked Greg Reed for his support through the Office of Research and Engagement and Jane Taylor for taking the minutes.

Shepardson explained that the Research Council is a subcommittee of the Faculty Senate. The Research Council currently consists of 13 senators (may add more), representatives from colleges, Associate Deans, and still missing three graduate students who will be appointed by the Graduate Student Council.

Shepardson has recently updated the Research Council's website with her goals. There is a link on the website for the bylaws, minutes, and meeting dates.

Approval of Minutes from April 10, 2013

Approval of the April 10, 2013 minutes was postponed due to not having a quorum.

Update from Office of Research and Engagement by Greg Reed

Greg Reed stated that the Office of Research and Engagement's (ORE) website has been updated to the new university template. Reed explained how to drill down to the internal home page, how the blog works, how to locate archives, and presentations given by Taylor Eighmy. Reed explained the ORE organizational chart and pointed out the Research Development Team and Faculty Development Team has been split into two teams. The Research Development Team and Research Centers and Institutes now report to Eighmy. Communications, Sponsored Programs, Faculty Development Team, Research Informatics, and Business Office reports to Reed

Eighmy will be giving another Top 25 presentation at the November meeting. One of the topics will be what can be done that hasn't been done to improve research.

Reed gave an update on the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement position search. Four candidates have been interviewed and expect to hire someone by the end of September. This position will be responsible for compliance issues which have increased due to federal government compliance regulations.

Reed mentioned that during the budget process ORE held back some money in case of sequestration. So far it has not been affected too much. The 4th quarter end of year report is: proposals down 8%; awards down 3%; and expenditures up 3%. ORE is still working to find ways to be more competitive. Reed mentioned that it is the first time in five years that awards of more than \$1M were not required to be in the Top 20 which indicates major or large programs compared to a year ago. Nursing has two awards in Top 20 which is very good for a small college.

iThenticate is a software program provided by the Library and ORE which is now available. Jeanine Williamson, Professor in the Library, is the specialist for this software. There is a website link on ORE's website and on the Library's website. The website provides directions on setting up an account for this service.

A question was asked about how many Summer Undergraduate Internships (SUI) and Summer Graduate Research Assistantships (SGRA) were supported this year. There were 174 SUIs applications received and 78 awarded. There were 46 SGRA applications received and 25 awarded.

Old Business

Shepardson discussed the status of the Center Review process from last semester. One center scheduled to be reviewed last semester has been granted permission to provide their report this semester.

The Faculty Senate revised their Bylaws to allow non-tenure track faculty to be senators. The Research Council Bylaws need to be revised. An ad hoc Bylaws Committee will be added to the Research Council's committees.

Shepardson mentioned health insurance eligibility for external funding for graduate students. In that case, students are not UT employees. Reed stated that this issue was raised with Chris Cimino, and the issue is being worked on. A resolution has not been announced.

New Business

The Research Council has six committees and a Bylaws Committee has been added. Sign-up sheets for committee members were circulated. Shepardson requested that each senator sign up for at least two committees and encouraged ex-officios to sign up also. A notice will be sent out requesting committee members for committees lacking members.

The committees are:

ORU Review Committee

Centers Review Committee

Chancellor's Awards Committee

SARIF Graduate Research Assistantship Committee

SARIF EPPE Committee

SARIF Equipment & Infrastructure Committee

By-Law Committee

Shepardson asked for suggestions for guest speakers for the year. The speakers recommended should be from around campus and have research experience that might be of interest to the Research Council. E-mail Shepardson with suggestions.

Chris Boake discussed waiver forms that are required for all students on R accounts who work in labs. Carol Malkemus confirmed that this is required to meet federal regulations. Reed commented that a Minors Implementation Committee has been organized which is developing a policy and forms regarding minors. The policy and forms will be available by the end of the year. University students are exempt from this particular policy.

Kalyanaraman suggested inviting Jim Brown from UTIA as a guest speaker. Shepardson will follow up on this.

Shepardson asked that suggestions, ideas, and faculty issues be e-mailed to her. She will prioritize them and discuss at future meetings.

Meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Jane Taylor