

University of Tennessee Research Council
September 28, 2009
University Center, Executive Dining Room, Room 337
3:30 p.m.

FINAL

Senators, Ex-officios, & Associate Deans Attending:

Ken Stephenson, Chair	Yuri Kamychkov
Toby Boulet	Jill Keally
Bob Cargile	Greg Reed
Bill Dunne	Joan Rentsch
Brad Fenwick	Jon Shefner
Joanne Hall	Timothy Young
Mike Handelsman	

Guest Attending:

Ray DeGennaro	Glenn Graber
Carol Malkemus	Ken Phillips

Welcoming

Ken Stephenson welcomed everyone to the 2009-2010 Research Council. Everyone was asked to introduce themselves and tell a little about their area of expertise.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Tim Young and seconded by Yuri Kamyshkov to approve the April 13, 2009 minutes. Minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Opening Remarks – Ken Stephenson

Ken Stephenson's discussed the Research Council's responsibilities according to the bylaws. The Research Council is going to adhere to the bylaws. The Research Council is a standing committee of the Faculty Senate intended to promote and support the research mission of the University – and interpret “research” in the broadest sense of research, both funded and unfunded, creative achievement, academic scholarship, and research dissemination. The Research Council is an advisory body to the chief university officer for research and the Research Council co-administers certain activities of the Office of Research, but the Research Council's principal goals is to facilitate communication between those doing the research, the faculty and graduate students, and those who administer and set agendas for the research effort. The Research Council acts as an advisory body to the chief university officer for research.

Ken Stephenson explained the bylaws for someone to be a member. Membership shall consist of no fewer than 12 appointed faculty or faculty/administrator representatives chosen by the Committee on Nominations and Appointments. Official votes will be from

these 12 members of the Research Council. There shall be three graduate students selected by the Graduate Student Senate. Ex-officio members shall include the chief academic officer responsible for research, the Associate Vice President of the Office of Research, the Dean of Libraries and college-level administrators with responsibility for research (or their designees). The Research Council co-administers some programs of the Office of Research as requested by the chief university officer for research. Different views and ideas of research and what should be done on the Research Council are encouraged from members and guest. That is why we will have guest who are not Research Council members. Volunteers are also needed for committees and subcommittees as subcommittees are identified.

Members for the following committees are needed now: SARIF Equipment and Infrastructure Fund – committee meets once a year and the deadline for proposals is October 16, 2009; SARIF Exhibit, Performance and Publication Expense Fund (EPPE) – committee submits recommendation via e-mail as requests are received; SARIF Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA) Fund- committee meets once a year and the deadline for proposals is February 19, 2010; Chancellor’s Honors Awards which are the Professional Promise in Research and Creative Achievement Award and the Chancellor’s Awards for Professional Promise in Research and Creative Achievement and the proposals are due January 29, 2010. Sign-up sheets were passed around at the meeting for volunteers for each committee. The following people volunteered:

SARIF Equipment & Infrastructure Committee:

Bill Dunne
Yuri Kamyshkov
Jon Shefner
Tim Young

SARIF EPPE Committee:

Ray DeGennaro
Yuri Kamyshkov
Jill Keally

SARIF GRA Committee:

Ray DeGennaro
Michael Handelsman

Chancellor’s Honors Awards Committee:

Bill Dunne
Joan Rentsch

Update from Office of Research – Brad Fenwick and Greg Reed

After several years of decline, scholarships, performance, grants, and contracts have started turning around. There has been a tremendous growth – 104% growth in awards. Faculty have performed remarkably with no new facilities and not much additional funding. The campus has a lot to be proud of. The quarterly report shows a gradual increase in almost every category. Brad Fenwick also discussed the present research statistics, expectations of the future, and expectations of the economy. The Research Office is trying to be clever in

decisions they make and how they use their funds. Faculty do a lot of administrative duties. Research Office is always looking for things they can do to help faculty and to free up faculty time so they will have more time to do their research. The Office of Research has hired Bob Porter to help build a faculty development program.

Greg Reed commented that the Office of Research has added a considerable amount of information on their website particularly in the workshop area. All publication formats have been achieved. Staff, Jim Lloyd, is available to assist in finding research opportunities.

Brad Fenwick commented that there is more attention on undergraduate research. Office of Research is working on an Undergraduate Journal and better communications with faculty.

Ken Stephenson commented on the number of fellowships the campus has received in the past couple of years. Alan Rutenberg, Director of Proposal Development, can assist with applying for fellowships.

Ken Stephenson stated that the Research Council can advocate at times on what the Research Office is doing. The Research Council is also obligated to let the Research Office know what is needed out there and to help the process work better. Brad Fenwick commented that the Research Office is always looking for things to do differently to help scholars be more successful. He encouraged everyone to submit ideas.

There was a discussion about F&A rate compared to other institutions. Brad Fenwick commented that the campus is better than some but not as good as it should be. The campus is not as aggressive as we should be.

Toby Boulet, President of the Faculty Senate, thanked the Research Council for their support.

Ken Stephenson explained that the Chair for the Research Council is appointed by the Faculty Senate. There is a need for a Research Council Vice Chair. Yuri Kamyshkov made the motion to accept nominations by e-mail and self nominations are acceptable; seconded by Michael Handelsman. None opposed. Nominations are to be sent to Ken Stephenson. Research Council Meetings are open to all and attendance is encouraged. Committee assignments will come before members to vote on.

Ken Stephenson led a discussion on how to get faculty input so the Research Council can be more effective. One suggestion was to have a survey for faculty to complete. Carrie Springer from OIT gave an example of how to do a faculty survey. Another suggestion was to have a few faculty meet with Ken Stephenson to determine what faculty's concept is. Another suggestion was to ask Deans and Department Head to collect information. Bill Dunne suggested getting faculty's perspective on Tennessee Electronic Research Administration (TERA). Ken Stephenson encouraged everyone to talk to their colleagues.

Research Council suggested agenda items were: UT Research Foundation and Cherokee Campus.

Joanne Hall complimented Ken Stephenson's approach he is taking trying to reach out to more experienced faculty.

Brad Fenwick commented that the Chancellor's Office has purchased a share with Hanover Group for 18 months. Hanover Group has a library of about 500 studies. The Research Council could request information on various studies that has been conducted on various institutions to compare to UT campus from Hanover Group.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Taylor