

**University of Tennessee Research Council**  
**November 23, 2009**  
**University Center, Executive Dining Room, Room 337**  
**3:30 p.m.**

**FINAL**

**Members, Ex-officios, & GSS Representatives Attending:**

Ken Stephenson, Chair	Jun Lin
Mary Bartolini	Brent Mallinckrodt
Bob Cargile	Lynne Parker
Matthew Fleisher	Greg Reed
Michael Handelsman	Joan Rentsch
Yuri Kamychkov	

**Guest Attending:**

Thomas Handler	Laurie Rees
Barbara Piskur	

**Welcoming**

Ken Stephenson thanked everyone for attending.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Yuri Kamychkov and seconded by Joan Rentsch to approve the October 26, 2009 minutes. Minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

**Opening Remarks – Ken Stephenson**

Ken Stephenson's asked for a volunteer to be Vice Chair of the Research Council. Research Council members may nominate themselves or nominate someone else.

**Update from Office of Research – Greg Reed**

Greg Reed announced that the Research Annual Report for fiscal year 2009 is now available. Additional copies are available. This report includes joint faculty because the campus receives these funds to do research. If it is not funds to the spent here it is a sub-contract. Greg Reed explained how funds are reported in the annual report.

Greg Reed discussed the plans for the ORU Budget Hearings which will be during the spring semester - mid to late April. Deans and Vice Chancellor will meet with the Chancellor, get feed-back, and then give a formal budget request. This will probably happen late March or early April. Requests for funding are not limited to centers and institutes. Groups of faculty who want to get funding to move a research theme forward, do not have to have an existing center to request funds.

The Office of Research requests that members of the Research Council, which should include Associate Deans, set in on the ORU hearings. They will be given an evaluation

sheet to help make the funding decisions. The Office of Research's website (<http://research.utk.edu/orus/>) shows last year's requests, what was funded, and a copy of each proposal submitted. It is an open website page.

The Office of Research is continuing to add to the funding opportunities website. A new site is going up for new faculty. This will be announced in the Office of Research's newsletter.

Training and certification for Responsible Conduct in Research is a new requirement for some federal grant opportunities. There are two online training options: CITI and UT Knoxville RCR. Links to this training is available at this website:

<http://research.utk.edu/training/>

This training is required for undergraduate students, graduate students, and post docs.

Mentoring of Post-Docs Workshops has gone into effect. The first workshop will be December 2, 2009. Some agencies require this training.

There is a state wide effort for exposure for undergraduate research. The TN Posters-at-the-Capitol has been organized for undergraduates and our legislature which will be held in Nashville. The Office of Research is coordinating this event for this campus.

The Office of Research has an institutional membership with CUR which permits any faculty or student to join. More information can be found on the Office of Research's website at this link: <http://research.utk.edu/undergrad/>

### **Presentation on new IRIS ledgers for PI's by Laurie Rees and Barbara Piskur from IRIS Administration Support**

Laurie Rees thanked Ken Stephenson for permitting herself and Barbara Piskur the opportunity to present the new IRIS ledgers for PI's. These ledgers will be state wide. The ledgers are for sponsored project accounts only – not for gift and E01 accounts. Laurie Rees explained how to read various IRIS reports and the financial capabilities of the ledgers. The ledgers will be available this coming January.

Barbara Piskur explained the Leave Balances and Longevity Obligations Report. This report is in IRIS and will be available in December. Training will be provided for these new reports. For additional information or questions you may contact them by e-mail: Barbara Piskur, [bpiskur@utk.edu](mailto:bpiskur@utk.edu); and Laurie Rees, [lrees@tennessee.edu](mailto:lrees@tennessee.edu).

The Research Council applauded their accomplishment on the improvement of IRIS reports. Ken Stephenson thanked them for their presentation and helpful information.

### **Outline of opportunities/issues for involving undergraduates in research: foundation for a future discussion.**

Yuri Kamychkov distributed and discussed an outline which he had prepared on undergraduate research. He discussed the various sources for undergraduate research; and improvement issues. He suggested that faculty get credit for working on undergraduate research. Greg Reed stated that OIT has been asked to design a website for undergraduate research to make it open to anyone on campus. The website would be for faculty to post

undergraduate research opportunities and for students to look for undergraduate research opportunities. Reed also stated that the online journal for undergraduate research will come out in March, 2010.

Ken Stephenson and Yuri Kamychkov will get together and discuss steps the Research Council can take.

**The RC requests that the Provost and VC for Research initiate a planning process for RGE (our Research and Graduate Education mission).**

Ken Stephenson presented a draft of a letter from the Research Council to Susan Martin, Provost, and Brad Fenwick, Vice Chancellor for Research. The letter was requesting a UTK initiate, as soon as possible, a strategic planning process for our research and graduate programs that parallels the intense process currently underway for our academic programs. The Research Council members discussed the letter, various ways to word it, and different ways to approach this issue. Ken Stephenson will make a list of the suggestion and ask for a vote by e-mail

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Taylor