

**Research Council Minutes
November 11, 2015
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Blount Hall, Room A004**

Attendees

Ramki Kalyanaraman (chair)	Shellen Wu
Benjamin Auerbach	Rebecca Klenk
Chris Boake	Robert Muenchen
Holly Merce	Jonathan Phipps
Matthew Cooper	Christian Parigger
Terry Hazen	Steven Smith
Tina Shepardson	Micheline Van Riemsdijk
Janet Nelson	Alex Freire
Marisa Moezen	Bill Dunne

Welcome by the Chair – Ramki Kalyanaraman

Ramki Kalyanaraman opened the meeting at 3:40 and thanked everyone for coming to today's meeting. A quorum of faculty senators was established.

ORE update Janet Nelson reported on staffing updates at ORE.

3 searches for ORE staff complete

Jane Taylor retiring April 1.

Steven Smith reported on VolVision 2020 (original plan 2009/2010) Updated goals and metrics are currently under examination. Google VolVision website for latest.

In addition to the current five core areas (Undergraduate, Graduate, Faculty/Staff, Infrastructure/Resources), adding a sixth (Diversity) is being considered. Three questions were posed to the assembled faculty: (i) What has gone well? (ii) What sets us apart? (iii) What hasn't gone well?

Comments under (i): Core Facilities, grant writing 'boot camp', increase in UTK members on national societies, in graduate student research fellowships, in undergraduate awards.

Comments under (ii): Humanities Center, NIMBios, JIAM, Engineering Research Center, MARCO, ORNL, Smokies NP.

Comments under (iii): GTA support not competitive; more UG research support needed; Supercomputing support; more international and out-of-state students; number of PhDs awarded has hardly changed; higher quality publications; more grant \$ and support; PhD

placement (most in some colleges go to industry); Nuanced investments; differences in disciplines – different investments.

Approval of minutes from October 14 meeting - vote to approve the minutes of the previous meeting (moved, seconded, passed.)

Presentations by Jon Phipps - Director of the UT Core Facilities Program. UTCRFP aims to enable sharing of major research facilities by different departments, on a fee or cost reimbursement basis (meant to be self-sustaining), moving away from the model based on “Recharge Centers”. There are currently three Cores (Biological/Small Molecule Mass Spectrometry, Genomics, Microscopy), with seven new ones under consideration. Benefits are: visibility, administrative support, internal funding opportunities. Powerpoint of his presentation is attached.

Presentation by Marisa Mozen - Director of UG research. She gave an update of developments since her presentation to the committee in April, in particular: creation of Summer Research Semesters, the Discovery LLC housing unit for research-oriented freshmen, a second attempt to include a UG research fee (\$5) in a SGA bill. Powerpoint of her presentation is attached.

Business

Discussion (led by the Chair) on limiting the number of presentations in the future, with broad consensus that one per meeting would be reasonable. There was also agreement on starting future meetings at 3:30.

Comments on acknowledging Jane Taylor’s service to the Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00PM.