

Research Council Meeting

February 10, 2016, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Blount Hall, Room A004

Attendees

Ramki Kalyanaraman (chair)	Terry Hazen
Benjamin Auerbach	Rebecca Klenk
Matthew Cooper	Robert Muenchen
William Dunne	Janet Nelson
Taylor Eighmy	Christian Parigger
Alexander Freire	Shellen Wu

Guests

Louis Gross, Kelly Steele

Welcome by the Chair – Ramki Kalyanaraman

Ramki Kalyanaraman thanked everyone for coming to today's meeting. Ramki Kalyanaraman recognized Jane Taylor for her significant contributions and efforts towards the success of the Research Council.

Presentation “NIMBioS: How did this wind up at UTK” – Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Mathematics Louis J. Gross, UTK

Prof. Gross presented the beginnings of the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS), a National Science Foundation supported center, focusing on collaborative interdisciplinary research. Specific information is available at the website “nimbios.org” describing the successful symbiosis of Mathematics and Biology. Particularly positive were the flexibility and support provided by UTK to establish interdisciplinary activities that are challenging to implement.

Vote on approval of minutes for January

A quorum of faculty senators was established. Ramki Kalyanaraman presented the January 13, 2016, minutes. No amendments were noted. Senators Cooper and Hazen first and seconded the motion to approve the minutes and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes, no abstentions.

Chancellor's Awards Committee – Benjamin Auerbach

Benjamin Auerbach summarized progress on this year's awards and hinted on work in progress regarding various award and applicant categories. Various aspects were discussed during this Research Council meeting, the committee is scheduled to meet the week following February 10, 2016.

Office of Research and Engagement (ORE) – Janet Nelson

Janet Nelson pointed out that the summer research assistantship announcement was posted, with the so-called Organized Research Units (ORU) to be released soon. Various inputs will be needed by the Research Council in the future, for instance, input on Scholarly and Research Incentive Funds (SARIF) distributions. In discussion, proposal submissions (including limited competitions) for funding and improvements to core facilities such as the so-called Newton computational cluster were communicated.

Center Review Committee (CRC) – Matthew Cooper

Matthew Cooper summarized work in progress by the review committee to include 2 upcoming reviews. Discussions topics included distinctions of Centers/Institutes/Bureaus and improvements on documents to guide center directors in their preparation of summaries to be reviewed by the CRC.

Announcement – Rebecca Klenk

Rebecca Klenk announced that March 8, 2016, will be lobby day for UTK campus unions to travel to Nashville for the purpose of being heard at the General Assembly. The specific link can be utilized for sign-up: "ucw-cwa.org/content/lobby-day"

Priority for presentations during the remaining AY 15/16 Research Council meetings

By consensus of the research council attendees, the following order of presenters is tentatively established pending schedule commitments of the guests.

1. March 9, 2016: **Louis Nuttle**, Director of Faculty Development Team;
2. April 13, 2016: **Gene Mercer**, Office of Sponsored Programs, or **Rachel Radom**, Scholarly Communication Librarian;
3. May 11, 2016: **Stacie Patterson**, Associate Vice President of Research.

Modify/update requirements for Chancellor's awards

Communication exchanges occurred on matters of categories and who can apply in these categories for recognition of outstanding research efforts. This will be debated in upcoming Research Council meetings subsequent to the awards committee meeting following the week of February 10, 2016.

New Business

No further new business was presented for discussion.

Meeting commenced at 3:40 pm, adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian Parigger.