

## Research Council Minutes

The Research Council met on Tuesday, **March 25, 2008** @ 1 pm in the University Center Cardinal Room.

<b>Members present:</b>	<a href="#">Thomas Ford</a> , <a href="#">Hal Herzog</a> , <a href="#">Mark Holliday</a> , <a href="#">Peter Bates</a> , <a href="#">Sean O'Connell</a> , <a href="#">Christopher Cooper</a> , <a href="#">Paul Jacques</a> , <a href="#">Sue McPherson</a> , <a href="#">Krista Schmidt</a> , <a href="#">Scott Higgins</a> , <a href="#">John Hawes</a> , <a href="#">Michelle Hargis</a> , <a href="#">Phil Sanger</a> , <a href="#">Michael Smith</a> , <a href="#">Roger Lirely</a> , <a href="#">Reginald Rogers</a>
<b>Members absent:</b>	<a href="#">Meagan Karvonen</a> , <a href="#">Jane Eastman</a> , <a href="#">Karen Cooper-Duffy</a> , <a href="#">Linda McIntosh</a> , <a href="#">Erin Tapley</a> ,
<b>Others present:</b>	David Butcher
<b>Approval of the Minutes</b>	The minutes from the February 26, 2008 meeting were approved as distributed.
<b>Announcements</b>	
Graduate Research Symposium	Scott Higgins thanked everyone for encouraging participation in the GRS. So many signed up that some who were not quite ready to present were turned away.
Stipends	Payroll does not breakout sources of stipends on pay statements. Letters should come down from deans for summer salary stipends. Breakout of these funds may be available in RAMSeS.
Medical Fringe	Issue still being research, clarification in writing has been requested.
IDC on the Web	It is visible under FAQs on current site and will be more easily accessible with new web site format
IDC to Colleges	Still a high priority issue that is being worked at all levels
<b>Follow-up Business</b>	
IACUC	Chris Coburn is in Atlanta for training
Undergraduate Research	David Butcher distributed a briefing he has given regarding undergraduate research. He explained that he was part of a committee of faculty members from many disciplines working to establish policies and procedures for undergraduate research at WCU. Some of the issues the committee is addressing include research with students as part of faculty portfolio, faculty load factoring, funding through QEP, and other internal/external funding opportunities. WCU is first in the UNC system in undergraduate research, spending \$17,000 this year, but graduate research has received zero dollars. Most faculty members are involved on both graduate and undergraduate research and there should be some parity between the programs. Phil Sanger said that one source of funding would be multidisciplinary research projects funded by the NSF. WCU does not have a PhD program to drive research, but closer affiliation with R1 institutions might help. Other issues include what reports will come from the undergraduate research committee, what kind of load credit can undergraduate research mentors get, what will be future sources for funding and when will the differences between research and creative scholarship be documented.
Internal Awards	The research council will continue to be key player in selecting internal award winners. This year, each chair will present winner with certificate and graddy at the April 9 <sup>th</sup> reception. Criteria for awards and guidelines for selection need to be formalized and carried forward. Chairs can serve for multiple years if they wish to help maintain continuity in selection criteria from year to year. A key issue about the internal awards is their purpose. A great deal of discussion took place regarding whether the awards were to stimulate external funding or to fund research that would have difficulty getting funded externally. After hearing all concerns, Scott Higgins said he would send an email out clarifying this issue. It was also suggested that a page on WCU web site be created that lists all awards and sources of funding that are available on campus.
<b>New Business</b>	None
<b>Other Business</b>	None
<b>Action</b>	
Fringe Costs	Reggie Rogers will follow up for request of written clarification of WCU procedures
Internal Awards	Scott Higgins will send out an email clarifying purpose of awards
	All should provide comments/suggestions to selection criteria to John Hawes. He will compile for discussion at next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Submitted by JD Hawes

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