Senate Research Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 26, 2015; 3:00 PM  
522 Centennial Hall

Attendees: Amber Amari, Pam Barr, Justin Brightharp (SGA), Brenda Chapman, Sarah Cook, Dabney Dixon, Baotong Gu, Joseph Hurley, Beth Jones, Shelley Linens, Unil Perera, MaryAnn Romski, Rose Sevcik (Chair), Mary Stuckey, and Jim Weyhenmeyer

Absentees: Tim Bartness, Andy Butler, Joan Cranford, Laura Fredrick, Susanna Greer, Paul Katz, Carrie Manning, Sushil Prasad, Vincent Rehder, Don Reitzes, Ed Rigdon, Bill Robinson, Laura Salazar, Lionel Scott, Anna Stewart, Kelly Stout, Jelena Subotic, Kris Varjas, Dan Weiskopf, Leslie Wolf, Yichuan Zhao, and Alan Ziobrowski

Minutes: Rose Baldwin

1. The November 17 minutes were approved.

2. Dr. Chapman delivered the following URSA updates:
   a. The implementation of iRIS-IACUC module was postponed until version 10.2 is released. The revised rollout date is the end of this spring semester. Currently, this version is undergoing tests prior to merging it into the IRB protocol management system.
   b. The expedited IRB review board has a current approval rate at 80%. A copy was provided. Overall, the review board is progressing well.
   c. The assistant director resigned from the Expedited Review Board last month and a replacement is currently being sought.

3. Dr. Weyhenmeyer reported that the award activity for second quarter of FY15 closed at $53 million dollars in total grant and contract activities. It represents an increase of 30% from the previous year.

4. Dr. Dixon made a request to approve a five-year refresher course for Responsible Conduct Research CITI training that will apply to students. There is nothing stipulated in the current policy regarding renewals of this training. Further, an external review revealed universities that have research training policies with five-year renewals. A handout was provided. There was discussion among committee members regarding the implication of such action and the committee offered its full support of amending the time period for renewal. Dr. Dixon was asked to obtain more information using Cornell University as a model.

5. Chair Sevcik discussed recent news of Georgia Perimeter consolidating with Georgia State and the potential issues that could affect current research operations. The newly formed implementation committee should guide us through the merge efficiently. Dr. Weyhenmeyer stated Georgia Perimeter has a small research portfolio, largely in the social sciences, that is under $2 million dollars. Dr. Romski commented on the critical importance to maintain and expand our research profile during this period. Mr. Hurley raised a concern of rising fees for library services. There were discussions led by members of the committee that included the topics of tuition, fees, management of educational resources, and promotion and tenure.

6. Chair Sevcik also raised the topic of ensuring that the policy in place for graduate students’ embargo of their theses and dissertations continue to be communicated with the
colleges. The example of the process put in place by COAS was described.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 16 at 3:00 PM in 522 Centennial Hall.