

Senate Research Committee Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2014; 3:00 PM
315 Dahlberg Hall

Attendees: Amber Amari, Pam Barr, Andy Butler, Laura Fredrick, Susanna Greer, Beth Jones, Paul Katz, Shelley Linens, Unil Perera, Sushil Prasad, Vincent Rehder, Ed Rigdon, Mary Ann Romski, Laura Salazar, Lionel Scott, Rose Sevcik (Chair), Kelly Stout, Jelena Subotic, Dan Weiskopf, Jim Weyhenmeyer and Leslie Wolf

Absentees: Tim Bartness, Brenda Chapman, Sarah Cook, Dabney Dixon, Baotong Gu, Joseph Hurley, Shih-Yu Lee, Carrie Manning, Don Reitzes, William Robinson, Anna Stewart, Mary Stuckey, Kris Varjas, Yichuan Zhao and Alan Ziobrowski

Minutes: Rose Baldwin

1. The April minutes were approved.
2. Chair Sevcik delivered an update on the call for proposals for research initiation and scholarly support grants related to the internal grants program. Handouts were provided. There is a subcommittee assigned to oversee the various activities of this program. Dr. Stout described the changes that will be in place for the coming year. Some changes include additional justification for project scope, timeline changes, and the use of funds for faculty summer salary. Overall, this effort will improve fiscal accountability and the management of the program while assuring researchers are funded. The research committee approved the changes with friendly amendments.

Chair Sevcik briefly presented on the standard operating procedures related to the internal grants program and a handout was provided. This proposed document acts as a guideline for researchers. Dr. Stout stated this document will be disseminated to researchers and those who manage their accounts. The committee approved document with minor edits.

3. Dr. Stout discussed proposed changes to the limited submission policy. The first element is to require the investigator to submit information about the proposal to be submitted eight weeks prior to agency's deadline. This is especially necessary to conduct a fair internal competition. The next element is providing additional information on the potential impact of the proposed research project. The last element is to establish a better procedure for how potential applications are reviewed. The Associate Deans for Research are notified of the limited submission grants and they disseminate announcements to faculty in their respective colleges. The committee approved changes with friendly amendments.
4. Dr. Weyhenmeyer gave a status update on the following items:
 - a. Currently, we are undergoing an overhaul of the research website.
 - b. We are staging the next identification of the associate vice president. By early next calendar year, we will form a search committee to fill this position by June 2015.
 - c. Dr. Weyhenmeyer and Dr. Stout will work closely with the Associate Deans for Research to ensure the process is as fluid as possible in the interim.
5. Dr. Weyhenmeyer discussed the following URSA updates:
 - a. FY14 was the best year for GSU in a very competitive environment. As of June 30, we closed at \$81.7 million dollars in total grant and contract activities; a 15% increase from FY13. 71.3% came from federal sources. The top three sponsors were NIH, Dept. of Education and NSF. In whole, our research portfolio value increased 43%. The highest awarded college was Arts & Sciences and the two areas that

showed the most significant change were the School of Public Health and University Research Centers. Above all, we are on track to reach the \$100 million by 2017.

- b. Currently, we are piloting the new distributed structure of the research administration with colleges; implementation begins with Arts & Sciences and Public Health.
6. Chair Sevcik announced there are several internal subcommittees of the Senate Research Committee and a handout was circulated. If interested in serving indicate it on the sheet or contact her of your interest.
7. Chair Sevcik stated that Dr. P.C. Tai resigned from GSURF Board and therefore a replacement representative is needed. Dr. Tim Bartness was nominated and the committee voted to approve him to join the GSURF Board.
8. Dr. Katz addressed a concern on providing detailed budgets for federal grant applications while in the *pre* award stage. Dr. Weyhenmeyer responded that he has been in ongoing discussions with Dr. Packman about it and fully supports eliminating this administrative burden to researchers.
9. Dr. Weyhenmeyer noted that the new F&A rates have taken effect for the new academic year and stated that budgets must be adjusted accordingly.

The next meeting will be held on September 15 at 3:00 PM in the Vice President's Conference Room 522, Centennial Building.