Faculty Senate Committee on Research  
January 28, 2014  
Minutes

Present: Chet Ray (Chair), Neil Sharkey, Ron Huss, Kit Hume, John Hanold, Doug Whalen, Kim Steiner, Joseph Pitts, Frantisek Marko, Kent Vrana, Chris Forest, Robert Loeb, Ron Wilson

Absent: Melik Demirel, Blair Hedges, Karen Peters, Amit Sharma, Steinn Sigurdsson, David Spencer, Candice Yekel

Guest: Padma Raghavan (Associate VP for Research, Director of Strategic Initiatives)

I. Welcome  
8:35 a.m. meeting begins.

II. Approval of minutes  
Motion to approve – Kent Vrana, Second – Kim Steiner, minutes unanimously approved.

III. Remarks from Chair  
Chair reminded members to bring up issues, suggest speakers for future meetings.

IV. Remarks from the Interim VP for Research  
a. Introduction of Padma Rahgovan, Director of Institute for Cyber Science, Assoc. VP for Research
b. Sponsored Research  
   ▪ Income from grants and contracts year to date running about same as last year, $382-383 M, 2.4% off from this time last year. With several significant grants pending, optimistic that may actually end year with more income than previous year.
   ▪ NIH funding not as bad as feared, but still below 2013 appropriation.
   ▪ Department of Energy received slight increase in appropriations. Penn State receives about $10 M from DoE.
   ▪ Army 5-year Collaborative Technology and Research Alliances – Two at Penn State. New award of approximately $50 M focused on information security.
   ▪ Applied Research Laboratory –rebounding, awards ahead of last year at this time.
   ▪ College of Medicine – research awards up 22% over last year.
c. Penn State Research Foundation  
   ▪ PSRF filed a lawsuit last week against Samsung for patent infringement. University General Counsel working with law firm in Dallas TX with hope to have business settlement with Samsung.
   ▪ Settlement dollars, currently around $7M, dispersed following model for licensing revenue, i.e., 40% shared with inventors, 20% to College of Engineering, 40% retained by Penn State Research Foundation.
d. Computational resources initiatives  
   ▪ Data Centers  
      – Hershey data more critical to bring on line and is further along in development. Approximate cost $30M.
      – UP data center lesser priority therefore more time to do. Approximate cost $60M. Committee appointed to re-evaluate project and exploring how best to proceed
with UP center, taking into consideration rapidly changing technology and mix of disciplines who will use resource.

- Building the computational Infrastructure for current and new faculty.
  - Will have dedicated personnel and provide services to all campuses.
  - Developing effective governance (primarily faculty; oversight committee and steering committee) and management.
  - Proposing four cores – a) earth systems, b) life sciences – genomics, personalized medicine, cyber health, c) networking and security, d) general computing.
  - Will be self-sustaining. Hardware and personnel primarily funded by grants. Second funding stream from F&A costs, perhaps 5% directed to infrastructure.

- Research Computing and Cyberinfrastructure
  - Currently a unit of Information Technology Services
  - Beginning Jan. 29, 2014 will become a Research managed service. Anticipate smooth operation by summer. Will re-evaluate governance and management with goal of making a more cohesive, faculty centered and research centered service.

V. Remarks from Kathryn Hume – Graduate Council
   a. Wording on dissertation acceptance, 2/3 of doctoral committee, supervisor does not need to be one of approvals, 2/3 of Graduate School, and head of program
   b. Phase out and replacement of ISIS by LionPath by AY 2015/2016. An Oracle-based system customized to PSU. More information can be found at http://projectlionpath.psu.edu/.

VI. Update on Indirect Cost

   University Planning Committee wants to know what the indirect rates at each campus are and how indirects are used. The Research Accounting is probably the better source for this information. Altoona campus uses the same rate as UP. Hershey and UP negotiate rates with ONR. 12% of indirect is redistributed across the colleges at UP.

VII. Update on Principles of Scholarly Intellectual Property

   No report.

VIII. SCoR research survey results

   SCoR conducted survey last year of research expectations at campuses excluding UP and Hershey. Faculty are requesting results of the survey. A Powerpoint summarizing the results of the survey is available as part of the March 12, 2013 minutes on the SCoR ANGEL site. Results should be summarized, evaluated and interpreted and shared at future Senate meeting. Will need input from Intra-University Relations and Faculty Affairs.

IX. New business

   a. Report on engaged scholarship to be presented at afternoon Senate meeting. Some questions may come up regarding intellectual property and undergraduates. Faculty
 Faculty Senate Committee on Research  
January 28, 2014  
Minutes

want clarity on IP and confidentiality for undergraduates in research positions. Topic for a future SCoR meeting?

b. Undergraduate research portal (currently hosted by Student Affairs) – subpar, can be improved, may require more resources.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn – Kent Vrana, Second – Chris Forest
Meeting adjourned 10:05 a.m.

Minutes Submitted by Chet Ray, Committee Chair