

COMMISSION ON RESEARCH MINUTES

March 27, 2013

President's Boardroom

3:30pm – 5:00pm

Attendee: Mike Akers, Sue Teel for Leslie Thornton-O'Brien, Anita Puckett, Martin Daniel for Bob Walters, Dennis Dean, Terry Herdman, Jesus De La Garza, William Knocke, Tom Inzana, Iuliana Lazar, Amanda Shea, Tim Long for Lay Nam Chang, Heather Moorefield-Lang, Monica Rich (recorder).

Absent: Guru Ghosh, Chris Lawrence, Chris Zobel, Kevin Davy, Randy Wynne, Angelica Melvin, Bradley Martens.

Guest: Sandra Muse, Peggy Layne, David McGarry, Janaki Srinivasan

- I. Approval of the Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda as presented was offered, seconded and was carried.
- II. Announcements
 - a. Approval and Posting of the Minutes of February 13, 2013 - A motion was made to adopt the Minutes of February 13, 2013 with minor revision to section IV. a., the motion was seconded and carried.
- III. Unfinished Business
 - a. Report of Ongoing Activities
 - i. University Library Committee – H. Moorefield-Lang - Lauren Pressley is now working at the Library. The scale up classrooms is complete.
 - ii. Centers and Institutes Update – W. Knocke – No Update
 - iii. Research Faculty Initiatives
 1. Postdoc Survey Sub-committee – M. Akers reported a meeting was held to discuss possible suggestions for designing the postdoc survey. Following a meeting in the coming week, recommendations will be brought back to the Commission for discussion.
 2. Annual Postdoctoral Association Conference – S. Muse gave a brief overview of the speakers and current sessions given during the meeting. A few of the topics included diversity and inclusion, communication, mentorship, developing a postdoc office and/or a postdoctoral association, and data on postdocs in the United States. Office of Research provided travel funds for three Virginia Tech postdoctoral associates to attend.
 - iv. Research Administration – M. Daniel – No Update

- b. Second Reading of Revisions to Policy on Intellectual Property No. 13000 – W. Knocke reported that five entities had formally voted to endorse the proposed changes to Policy 13000: the Commission on Faculty Affairs, the Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs, the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies, the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies, and the Staff Senate. The Faculty Senate did not have a quorum at its last meeting and was conducting an email vote among its members (Note: Subsequent to the March 28th COR meeting the Faculty Senate did vote to endorse the proposed changes to Policy 13000. Two specific wording changes were recommended to the Commission on Research regarding Policy 13000:
 - i. The Staff Senate endorsement of the revisions to Policy 13000 was predicated upon the phrasing of the “Obligation to disclose” section (Page 5) to include staff as well as faculty in the language.
 - ii. University Legal Counsel had also recommended modifying paragraph 3 (page 4) related to student/visiting scholar/volunteer IP issues to read “In the event the following condition(s) apply, students, visiting scholars and volunteers do hereby assign any IP rights to the University when.... (continuing with the three conditions listed in this paragraph). A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed by the Commission to approve the proposed new version of Policy 13000 with these two wording changes. The Commission then reviewed the draft resolution language that had been prepared by S. Muse for transmission of the new Policy 13000 to University Council. After minimal discussion the Commission unanimously voted to approve the language associated with the resolution.

IV. New Business

- a. 2013 Annual National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) Meeting Experience - Janaki Srinivasan reported on her experience being a new postdoc of two months and attending the NPA meeting. It was reported to have been of enormous benefit to develop contacts in different institutions, strategies adopted by different institutions to form a strong postdoc community that have access to mentorship and resources, and the economics of the postdoc trajectory. A question and answer period followed.

V. Adjournment – 4:59