MINUTES

September 23, 2010

Members Present: Kelly Fan, Henry Gilbert, Zach Hallab, Yi He, Derek Jackson Kimball, Nidhi Mahendra, Carl Stempel, Diana Wakimoto (chair), Rhea Williamson, Lan Wu

Members Absent: None

Venue: LI2250

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. Approval of agenda

   Motion by Kimball, Fan seconded, unanimous approval

2. Approval of minutes

   No minutes to approve

3. Report of the chair

   1) All of the senate chairs have met with Dianne Rush Woods to go over the charges for each committee.
   2) Provost Houpis is committed to initiate more funded and non-funded research activities on campus.
   3) One of the charges for the Research Committee is to have Eileen Barrett, Director of the faculty development, to visit the committee and talk about the learning communities and other research support on campus for both teaching and research. Another charge is to have someone from MATS to visit the committee to talk about how their unit can support faculty research.

4. Introductions

   All committee members introduced themselves. Yi He will be substituting for Jed DeVaro for Fall Quarter 2010. Henry Gilbert is substituting for Andrew Wong for Fall Quarter 2010.
5. Review of Committee Policies and Procedures

Committee reviewed access to Sharepoint and the Committee Policies and Procedures document. Everyone on the committee has the access. The chair offered to send meeting related documents via email attachments in the future.

6. Review of the Committee on Research 2009-2010 Annual Report

Committee has access to the 2009-2010 Annual Report via Sharepoint. The chair briefed the committee on the report. The discussion that ensued covered the following points:

1) The Research Poster Exhibit is a good research initiative on campus. The next one is going to be held in March, 2011.
2) Conflict of interest issues: a) Suppose a student supervised by a Research Committee member submits an IRB proposal, is it considered as a conflict of interest? It is not because the members of the committee, other than the chair and Rhea are not on the IRB committee. B) Is it considered as a conflict of interest if a committee member has a student s/he supervised submit a poster proposal? Again, it is not a conflict of interest, but the member should recuse him/herself from judging the student’s poster proposal.
3) Williamson emphasizes that faculty/students need to obtain IRB approval if they use human subjects or animal in their research.
4) The procedure of finding a committee member replacement: one needs to find a replacement from his/her college (not limited to department) with Dean’s approval, inform the committee chair, and the chair will forward the name to ExCom for approval.

7. RSCA Funding Status for 2010-2011

No funds this year, according to the Chancellor’s Office.

8. Faculty Survey on Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities

The chair provided the committee with a research activity survey (2002-2003) used by CSU, Long Beach (CSULB). In order to evaluate the status quo of research activities on campus, the chair suggested the committee develop our own CSUEB survey, using the CSULB survey as a sample. Changes will be made through Google doc, before the next meeting on Oct 14th. This survey will be submitted to the Research Strategic Planning Task Force to be used in its review of faculty research activities and research support for faculty on campus.

Williamson offered to send the chair a more recent version of the CSULB survey.

The committee had the following discussions:

1) It is important to assess: a) how the faculty perceive research, b) the value of research in a teaching institution, c) what faculty try to accomplish by conducting research, d) what
faculty need in terms of research support, e) how faculty work with various sectors on campus in their research effort, f) do they do funded research, why or why not.

2) The committee discussed the member selection process for the Research Strategic Planning Task Force. It was recommended that faculty have more input in the process in the future.

3) What is the best way to have access to what other faculty members on campus are doing in research? Williamson suggested that Fresca, a database through which one can locate colleagues via research keywords, will be an option once it is available to all faculty.

4) Committee discussed use of “Faculty Profile” to disseminate their research interests and potential research collaboration.

5) Is there any technical division on campus for statistical support (e.g., SAS and SPSS)? Right now there isn’t. The committee suggested a few possible ways to reach that end: a) providing release time for faculty, b) including budget for statistician in grant proposal, and c) encouraging collaboration among different departments on campus.

6) Williamson suggested to the committee that the ORSP office can help faculty to search for funding opportunities on individual basis.

9. Adjournment

Motion by Kimball, Fan seconded, unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Lan Wu, Secretary