University Research Council
Approved Minutes
December 2, 2015

Present: Jeffrey Arterburn, Jamie Bronstein, Henry Cathey, Vimal Chaitanya, Heejung Chun, Maria Gurrola, Kathryn Hanley, Cathy Kinzer, Hongmei Luo, Julie Rice, Manoj Shukla, Mingjun Wei, Karin Wiburg

Absent: Susan Beck, Sam Fernald, Stephen Hanson, Clint Loest, Frances Nedjat-Haiem, Mihai Niculescu

1. Draft Minutes for November 4, 2015

Minutes were approved as presented.

2. STEM Institute’s Current Grants Update – Karin Wiburg

Dr. Wiburg provided URC with a presentation on STEM to help researchers become aware of the strength of NMSU’s STEM education and how it reaches across the colleges with partnerships. She also requested URC to endorse the listing of STEM education as a research strength of NMSU on the Vice President for Research website. VPR Chaitanya agreed to have STEM listed. Dr. Wiburg’s handouts included a brochure for STEM Research and Partnerships; a sheet that listed Mathematically Connected Communities: MC2-LIFT, Math Snacks, Math Snacks Marketplace, SUMA, Gadsden Math Initiative, and NMSU STEM Outreach Center. She also provided a bound database for STEM related research and outreach projects for 2014-2015.

3. Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Membership – Heejung Chun

Dr. Chun asked members their opinion on the best way to request funding for the ICPSR membership cost. She was hoping the VPR could assist however, VPR Chaitanya said the cost is prohibitive with budgetary constraints his office is currently experiencing. Chair Hanley suggested Dr. Chun could approach the College of Education Dean, or perhaps through the Council of Associate Deans for Research (CADRe) to try and get multiple college buy in. Another suggestion was for Dr. Chun to find out which departments would be helped most by the membership and get their support as well. Chair Hanley asked Dr. Chun to provide impact stats so she can visit with CADRe.

4. URC Fair Rubric

Chair Hanley provided an updated rubric with tracking changes to members to review. She asked everyone to send it back to her with tracking changes and/or suggestions.

5. Other

Chair Hanley mentioned that she was attempting to submit a subcontract on a grant and it came back because she had to strike the graduate student budget from the contract due to NMSU not having a graduate student development plan. For many granting agencies, and for the welfare of the graduate students, institutions are required to have on-line resources available for individual development, including institutional specific forms and links for on-line tools for these plans. This allows the
graduate student to forecast through their graduate training and optimize their training for the actual jobs they want. In most cases, the Graduate School is responsible for putting this web page together. Chair Hanley is hoping this will be in place before next semester because it will impact researchers. For NIH, it has to be a university-wide plan. She was fortunate to have another university she is partnering with, notice that NMSU was lacking this.

Minutes by Frances Schumacher