University Research Council
Approved Minutes
April 17, 2009

Present: Vimal Chaitanya, Sam Fernald, Mohammed Hussain, Linda Lacey, Kevin Melendrez, Rachel Navarro, Michele Nishiguchi, Igor Sevostianov, Meghan Starbuck, Rosanne Thompson (Abbas Ghassemi), Karl Wood, Michael Young

Absent: Brenda Benefit, Steve Leask (Shaun Cooper), Everett Egginton, John Mexal, Azadeh Osanloo, Elizabeth Titus, Myriam Torres, Enedina Vazquez, Patricia Wojahn

1. Minutes from February 20, 2009 and March 20, 2009 were approved as presented.

2. Nomination Committee / URC 2009-2010 Chair Elect

Sam Fernald told members that Meghan Starbuck had been selected by the executive committee to be a candidate for URC Chair for academic year 2009-10. He asked if there were any other nominations from the council. None were forthcoming so a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to elect Dr. Starbuck.

3. URC Creative Scholarly Activity Awards Update

The awards committee reported on their review of candidates’ packets for the URC awards in creative scholarly activity. They determined that there was only one clear distinguished career candidate and possibly three early career candidates. Vimal Chaitanya said he would take their suggestions and meet with the executive committee to determine who should receive the awards.

4. Charter Update

Chair Fernald will take the URC Charter to Faculty Senate for their meeting scheduled for April 30th.

5. URC / VPR Road Show Update

Chair Fernald provided an update regarding the URC / VPR road show along with meeting notes for those that have already taken place. To date, the Colleges of Ag, Engineering, Health and Social Services, and Arts and Sciences have been held. Mohammed Hussain said HSS appreciated the road show and were glad that Nellie Quezada, VPR Director for Compliance, was able to attend one of their symposiums to discuss the Human Subject/Institutional Review Board issues which HSS deals with on a regular basis. Michael Young said HSS is combining their publications and other research productivity to provide to the VPR. Meghan Starbuck told URC that software
called Digital Measures is being used in the Business College and has been approved at Academic Deans Council for use among all the colleges by the fall semester. The software which tracks publications will be a useful tool to help figure research productivity especially for the soft sciences.

6. IRG Outcomes

This meeting’s handout had an incorrect document for this topic. See correct handout at end of these minutes. Please send suggested changes/comments to Frances Schumacher. Dr. Chaitanya would like to use the form to analyze the return on IRG funded research.

7. Joint URC / Graduate Council Minutes

These minutes were provided as a handout at this meeting. Since these minutes have been approved by URC and the Grad Council, Chair Fernald will provide these minutes to the Provost.

8. Small Research Grant Program

A review committee made up of Michele Nishiguchi, Patti Wojahn, Karl Wood, and Meghan Starbuck will assist with final revisions and provide the RFP to the VPR office for distribution prior to the start of summer. Changes to the document included naming the grant program the “Rising Star Awards” and making the awards $3,000 instead of the original $5,000 so that there would be more awards available. Also added was electronic submissions with a deadline of May 4th, and that an announcement will be made by June 1st.

9. URC Fair

The announcement for the Ninth Annual URC Research and Creative Activities Fair was provided as a handout and is scheduled to go out via all-faculty and abcd-distribution list serves before the end of the semester. It has been determined that this helps faculty members by having the summer to work on their poster presentations. The registration site is http://www.nmsu.edu/~nmamp/urc/.

Minutes recorded by Frances Schumacher
DRAFT

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH GRANT (IRG)

Return Investment Information

Name of the funded proposal:

Start date:

Names of PI and Co-PI's:

______________________     _____________________
______________________     _____________________

Names of students who work(ed) on this project and how much of their funding was provided through IRG funds:

Name:    Amount Funded:

______________________    _____________________
______________________    _____________________
______________________    _____________________
______________________    _____________________

Research Accomplishments (less than 2 pages)

- Scientific advancement
- Proposals submitted and being prepared based on this seed grant (with full details)
- Awards received
- Publications/presentation arising out of this funding (with full details of authors and venue)
- Details of partnerships created