University Research Council
Approved Minutes
October 15, 2010

Present:  Jeffrey Arterburn, Derek Bailey, Joseph Berning, Vimal Chaitanya, Phillip DeLeon, Shanna Ivey, Pierre Orelus, Cathy Ortega-Klett (Wood), Lambis Papelis (Stochaj), Collin Payne, Cindy Pierard (Beck), Igor Sevostianov, Meghan Starbuck, Patricia Wojahn, Jack Wright

Absent:  Wanda Borges, Katherine Giles, Kevin Melendrez, Curtis Monger, Enedina Vazquez, Michael Young

1. Minutes from September 17, 2010 were approved as presented.

2. ARGIS Demonstration – Bill Harty and Steve Barkes

The grants and contracts software system, ARGIS, was demonstrated by Bill Harty and Steve Barkes from the VPR office. This was a follow-up comparison to the COGNOS demonstration presented at the URC meeting held in September. It was noted that ARGIS is not fully functional due to not having “read only” access to Banner. It appeared that the ARGIS system is more user friendly for researchers wanting to access their award information. ARGIS does not reveal indexes belonging to others as COGNOS does. Chair DeLeon suggested a subcommittee be formed to conduct a GAP analysis. Meghan Starbuck, Patti Wojahn and Shanna Ivey volunteered to support this and Bill Harty agreed to work with them to provide needed information. One of the topics they will be looking at is credit share by percentage of effort.

3. URC Welcome to Provost Wilkins on November 2nd

The URC has been asked to meet with Provost Wilkins regarding international student recruitment on November 2nd. Since she will not be available for a URC welcome at the November 19th meeting, it was decided to prepare a welcome presentation for her for November 2nd.

4. Research Processes Issues Committee

Vimal Chaitanya briefly described the Research Processes Issues Committee (RPI) which was formed as an ad hoc committee by President Couture. He provided a handout that lists the issues which are categorized by accounting, procurement/purchasing, human resources, system/procedural/policy, and other. Research into the issues is moving along as the committee meets weekly.

Jeff Arterburn who serves on the RPI suggested that “delays with inter-library loans” should be considered for inclusion on the issues list. Dr. Arterburn contacted the library and provided URC with a summarization. At his request, the library initiated a quick analysis and found they receive 50 to 120 requests for inter-library loans a day. Per the library guest representative Cindy Pierard, they tend to take the easiest first and work with the more
difficult as they can, to try and keep the number down. They may stagger requests if a faculty member has multiple requests. Dr. Pierard told URC that Susan Beck will be providing URC with statistics and detail at the November meeting at which time the URC can assist with suggestions.

5. Foreign Student Credentials

VP Chaitanya updated URC on the issue of foreign students’ credential evaluation. He said that it appears the cost will be between $100-200 and that a college department’s evaluation could be used to facilitate the hiring by picking up the cost. Data from Student Success suggests that the evaluation cost to students has not curbed the graduate student enrollment; however some URC members disagree according to their particular department’s student enrollment. VP Chaitanya said that Arizona, Colorado and Texas universities that he has queried do not have the university evaluation process. It is hoped this issue will be resolved before next Fall Semester enrollment starts.

Minutes by Frances Schumacher